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

**PRAYER**

Reverend Kyle Wright II, Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, Collinsville, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, amen. I thank and praise You, Heavenly Father, for moving each and every one of these men and women to serve this country which You sustain in Your mercy. Watch over them this day that Your will be done in their discussions, decisions, and, most of all, their actions.

You are the God of all power and might who, out of love for Your creation, established order from chaos, peace from discord, and life from death.

For the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord, forgive us of our pride, our disobedience, and our poor stewardship of what You have placed into our care. According to Your mercy, open the eyes and hearts of Your people so they may know the depth of Your love found only in Christ Jesus.

Dear Lord, I commend to Your care our Congress, our government, and our Nation, as You judge and keep us according to Your just mercy.

In Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

**THE JOURNAL**

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

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STAUBER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

**WELCOMING REVEREND KYLE WRIGHT II**

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank and welcome Pastor Wright. Pastor Wright serves as pastor of my home congregation, Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School in Collinsville, Illinois.

He received his undergraduate degree from Concordia University in Austin, Texas, and a master of divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is currently pursuing a master of sacred theology at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.

He has served as a pastor for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod since 2006. During that time, he has also served as a resource hospital chaplain, hospice chaplain, and on multiple boards.

His wife, Keri, is the help, support, and love of his life. They have four beautiful daughters. Katie is 12; Gwen, 10; Lilli, 10; and Magie, also 10.

Yes, you heard it right, triplets.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER**

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

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2018, MERRIMACK VALLEY GAS EXPLOSIONS

(Mrs. TRAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of a tragic anniversary that the residents of the Merrimack Valley will never forget. Tomorrow marks 1 year since a cascade of explosions in Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover, Massachusetts, damaged over 130 homes and businesses, burning several to the ground.

At least 20 people were sent to the hospital. A Lawrence police officer, Ivan Soto, lost his home while aiding his community. Shakira Figueroa was seriously injured, and a young man, Leonel Rondon, lost his life.

An NTSB investigation revealed a series of failures by the gas company as it replaced pipelines in the area. Over sights allowed the full flow of high-pressure gas to enter a low-pressure distribution system.

In April, I introduced the Leonel Rondon Pipeline Safety Act to prevent this type of disaster from ever happening again. We owe it to the Sotos, the Figueroas, the Rondons, and the many other families who suffered on September 13 to pass strong pipeline safety legislation this year.

THANKING THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the St. Louis County Volunteer Rescue Squad, located in northern Minnesota, and their quick response to an emergency that took place in my district a little over a month ago.

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.
At the end of July, a group of Girl Scouts traveled to northern Minnesota to experience the beauty and magnificence of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Their trip unexpectedly hit a rough patch when severe thunderstorms rolled in and lightning struck close to their boat. A few of the girls reported feeling something from the ground, potentially a ground current, and needing precautionary medical attention.

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area is very remote, making any rescue attempt more complex and rigorous. Nevertheless, the St. Louis County Volunteer Rescue Squad members immediately sprang into action, navigating five portages by motorboat and then canoe, escorting the girls back to safety.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful that the Northland has such a capable and well-trained group of individuals dedicated to the safety of our neighbors and visitors. Due to their hard work over the years, many emergencies have been averted and lives have been saved.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARCA BRISTO

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, we lost my dear friend, Marca Bristol, an inspiring civil rights activist from Chicago.

Marca had a diving accident when she was young that left her paralyzed from the chest down. She never allowed her disability to define her. Instead, her disability became her superpower.

Marca dedicated her life to changing laws and bringing attention to the disparities faced by people with disabilities in the most basic services. She was instrumental in bringing wheelchair ramps to Chicago public buses.

She didn't do this by just writing letters or holding meetings. Marca went far as chaining herself to a bus to force the city to make mass transit more accessible.

She worked with the broader civil rights communities to pass key legislation like the Americans with Disabilities Act. The organization she founded, Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago, will carry on with her legacy.

I send our heartfelt thoughts to her son and her daughter. Rest in power, Marca Bristol.

HONORING THE SIMPSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Simpson County Historical Society and its long-reaching influence on Simpson County and the surrounding communities.

Since its founding in 1959, Simpson County Historical Society has been a valuable asset to the First District of Kentucky. Through the collection and preservation of historical property and genealogical records, the society has been able to maintain an extensive archive for the benefit of future generations.

I applaud the work the society has done over the last 60 years, and I am pleased to say that, as of Thursday, September 12, they will have expanded to a newer, larger facility enabling them to increase their research capabilities and broaden their effect on local education and cultural development.

I join with the residents of Simpson County and the local community, as well as those who have benefited from the work of the Simpson County Historical Society, in honoring their incredible dedication to the preservation and promotion of history. I wish the historical society the best as they begin a new phase of their own history and express my gratitude for their service to the First District of Kentucky.

WE NEED A RESET

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, we have a crisis in housing, in homelessness, growing wealth inequality, and it is all not an accident. It is the result of deliberate discrimination and policy failure.

The Federal Government, for years, intervened in housing for White veterans, for middle-class homeowners, for developers and property owners, but shut out poor and, especially, people of color—African Americans. Most notably, Trump is making it worse.

Tonight, 550,000 people will go to sleep homeless. We have a gap of 7 million affordable rental units, and income inequality grows. We need a reset.

Last week, I released this report, “Locked Out: Reversing Federal Housing Failures and Unlocking Opportunity,” which details solutions for our most vexing housing policy challenges. It is available on blumenauer.house.gov website.

We must be bold, transformative, and ambitious in solving these challenges. We can't afford another generation of small-scale thinking and large-scale failure.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Jefferson County Courthouse in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District.

Since its opening in 1869, the Jefferson County Courthouse has undergone serious renovations and changes, but its impact on the community remains steadfast. County Commissioner Jack Matson said: “You really can’t be a resident of Jefferson County and not have the courthouse affect your daily lives.”

Tomorrow, the Jefferson County community will come together to celebrate this milestone on the courthouse grounds in Brookville. The programming will include tours of the courthouse, a performance by the Punxsutawney Area High School marching band, a reenactment of the trial of abolitionist Judge Elijah Heath, and the dedication of a World War II monument. The evening will conclude with the lighting of the bell tower and a special rig designed by students at the Jefferson County-Dubois Area Vocational-Technical School.

Jefferson County Commissioner Jeff Pisarcik said it best when he said: “It's not our building; it's everybody's building that lives in Jefferson County.”

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TOM FERRARESE

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my longtime friend and Monroe County Board of Elections commissioner, Tom Ferrarese, as he begins his retirement.

For more than two decades, Tom has served our community with distinction at the Board of Elections, working tirelessly to expand access to voters, safeguard our elections, and uphold the democratic process.

Tom has been a passionate political and community activist, working diligently to advance the ideals of the Democratic Party, not just through his work at the board, but through his extensive volunteer advocacy on behalf of LGBTQ individuals.

It has been a true privilege to work alongside Tom, and our entire community is grateful for his many years of service. I wish him nothing but a well-deserved rest, relaxation, and best wishes in retirement.

RECOGNIZING U.S. SPACE COMMAND

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

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our newest combatant command: U.S. Space Command, which was stood up on Monday in Colorado Springs.

President Trump's decision to stand up SPACECOM could not be more timely. In recent years, Russia and China have reorganized their militarys and
pursued capabilities to threaten our space assets. Fortunately, our Nation has no shortage of innovative and brilliant men and women in uniform.

Our newest combatant command will harness the creative dynamo of these space warfighters. Congress will give them the facilities and funding they need to triumph in this newest contest of arms. With the infrastructure, industrial base, and personnel already located at Peterson and Schriever Air Force Bases in Colorado Springs, SpaceCOM can seamlessly transition into a fully functioning combatant command immediately. This is a great and exciting milestone for our Nation.

ARTIC CULTURAL AND COASTAL PLAIN PROTECTION ACT

GENERAL RECOGNITION

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous materials on H.R. 1146.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 548 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1146.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

\[0916\]

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1146) to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes, with Mr. CASTEN of Illinois in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in section 2 of House Resolution 548, and shall be of an hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today the House of Representatives will take a historic vote to roll back one provision of the Republican tax law that was rammed through the last Congress on a party line vote. In addition to the tax breaks to millionaires, billionaires, and multinational corporations, there was a provision that mandated oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Today we take up bipartisan legislation to repeal this drilling mandate, protecting, not just the Arctic Refuge, but the wildlife and the indigenous people who depend on this sacred natural landscape.

I introduced H.R. 1146 earlier this year with my Republican colleague BRIAN FITZPATRICK because we believe, as do 182 other cosponsors of this bill, that there are some places that are simply too important, too special, too sacred to be spoiled by oil and gas development. This is the same basic proposition that we were presented with yesterday when the House passed bipartisan legislation to protect our coasts from offshore drilling. Because the north coast of California is too special a place for the fishing and coastal economy put at risk for the profit of big oil. Because places like the Lowcountry of South Carolina are too special to be spoiled by oil spills.

Today we are here to show that the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the largest wildlife refuge in the United States is also too special.

The refuge is home to more than 200 different wildlife species, and that includes the Porcupine caribou herd that is special to be spoiled by oil spills. We are here to show that the Arctic Refuge has the right people. The refuge is a special place where veterans recovering from PTSD find themselves again. We have heard these voices and many others during Natural Resource Committee deliberations on this bill in a hearing earlier this year. And I thank all of those who testified and have spoken out to help us bring this bill to the floor today.

The question before us is: Will the Federal Government protect this special place and the communities that depend on it or will our Federal Government be responsible for its destruction by auctioning it off to big oil? During this debate, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are going to ask us and ask the American people to trust this administration to do the right thing.

They are going to say that drilling can be done responsibly. They will ask us to trust this administration to have the 1002 explored. They will ask us to trust the administration tax laws drilling mandate.

We need to reject this agenda of big oil and protect America’s Arctic from oil and gas drilling. It is time to pass H.R. 1146 and repeal the Trump administration tax laws drilling mandate.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YOUNG asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I listened to the presentation of the author of this bill. I have been in this House 48 years. We have been arguing about this Arctic Refuge for 40 of those years. We have passed it out of the house 14 times. And by the way, it was established by a Democrat President and a Democrat House to allow the 1002 areas to be explored if Congress said so. And that is what we have done.

We have a sponsor from California who doesn’t know beans about this business talking about big oil and about Trump. This has been a policy of this Nation to allow drilling there if the Congress spoke, and we did so. Under the tax bill, yes, but 13 times before that this House passed the legislation to have the 1002 explored.

Just keep in mind, we are talking about an area of a 19-million-acre refuge and areas left inside, the 1002 area—the map behind me, if anybody can see that little tiny red dot, 2,000 acres, less than the size of Dulles Airport, less than the size of the Capitol grounds. And yet, we are trying to say, no, no development. We are trying to say that is not right, this is the last pristine area. May I say again, it is not the last pristine area.

We have had approximately 30 years of development in Prudhoe Bay, the same type of terrain, same species of animals, same amount of caribou. In fact, we have more now than we had before after we started drilling. So this bill is a sham. And I listened to this with great interest. I always understand what they are trying to do, and they are saying there’s a bill, yes, but it’s this. This Congress spoke. It is a sham to this Nation. We are taking time away from what should be done in this Nation. We have sat, frankly, 2 years in this House and have done nothing.

Unfortunately, we have heard also this is a cultural bill, and the Gwich'in in supposedly is all this gentleman listens to, doesn’t listen to the Inupiats. That to me is important. The people that live there want the drilling. The people that live there want the drilling, but that is who are listening to.

So, again, my colleagues, this bill is the wrong step forward for this Nation.
It is not about big oil. It is about the State of Alaska. It is about my constituents, not California; they have enough problems of their own. Just read the papers. So I am suggesting, with respect, this bill should not go anywhere. It may pass today, because there are a lot of people on that side who don’t believe in oil. I understand that. But it is wrong to undo what Congress has done. And now I will suggest, respectfully, it is dead. You are wasting our time. It will not go anywhere, that life refuge. And maybe you are going to get very excited and go over there and—never mind.

I would suggest, respectfully, I am going to see the death of this bill a long time before this gentleman is ever in this House again.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his restraint.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. Mr. Blumenauer, I appreciate your comments.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), my friend and great champion of our public lands and of the Arctic refuge.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman from Alaska for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle proclaim that they are concerned about the environment, but that does not mean that I am not concerned about the environment or that my colleagues on this side of the aisle are not concerned about the environment.

One of our earliest and most recognized conservationists, Gifford Pinchot, stated that when conflicting interests must be resolved that we should strive to do the greatest good for the greatest number for the long run. Pinchot also wrote that conservation is the application of common sense to the common problems for the common good.

Mr. Chairman, this bill today lacks common sense. I have been to the North Slope of Alaska. We can develop clean, safe, low-cost energy in the world and conserve our public lands and the environment. I would argue that because of our technology and innovation and using clean fuels like natural gas that has allowed the United States to decrease our global greenhouse gas emissions more than any other country in the world.

As we look at this bill today, and we look at the history of what has happened, in 1980 a Democratic-held Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and President Carter signed it into law. That act set aside more than 1.5 million acres for responsible oil and gas development in ANWR itself, nearly 20 million acres in total.

Such a large commitment less than a decade after the Arab oil embargo made logical sense at the time.

Mr. Young. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN).

Mr. HERN. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. Chairman, this bill today lacks common sense. I stand with the Gwich’in, speak up for the Porcupine caribou herd, which has sustained tribes for centuries and centuries for short-sighted, destructive fossil fuel production.

Americans want a smart approach to sustainable energy development, not a careless rush to sell off one of our most iconic and sacred places for short-term, myopic, short-sighted, destructive fossil fuel production.

Mr. Young. Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to stand with the Gwich’in, speak up for the animals that live in the refuge, and support this important proposal.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this important proposal.

The American public opposed it. It is the wrong thing to do. We need to be moving in the other direction in terms of keeping the oil up there in the ground for climate, but also, for the environment. I had a chance to visit that area with Governor Inslee and other colleagues and am really impressed with the nature of that. I saw that caribou herd.

This is a treasure. It is much more fragile than one would think, and we are bound and determined to work to support the environmental values, the desire of the American people, our challenges for climate, and to unwind this egregious provision in the Republican tax scam.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Alaska for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle proclaim that they are concerned about the environment, but that does not mean that I am not concerned about the environment or that my colleagues on this side of the aisle are not concerned about the environment.

One of our earliest and most recognized conservationists, Gifford Pinchot, stated that when conflicting interests must be resolved that we should strive to do the greatest good for the greatest number for the long run. Pinchot also wrote that conservation is the application of common sense to the common problems for the common good.

Mr. Chairman, this bill today lacks common sense. I have been to the North Slope of Alaska. We can develop clean, safe, low-cost energy in the world and conserve our public lands and the environment. I would argue that because of our technology and innovation and using clean fuels like natural gas that has allowed the United States to decrease our global greenhouse gas emissions more than any other country in the world.

As we look at this bill today, and we look at the history of what has happened, in 1980 a Democratic-held Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and President Carter signed it into law. That act set aside more than 1.5 million acres for responsible oil and gas development in ANWR itself, nearly 20 million acres in total.

Such a large commitment less than a decade after the Arab oil embargo made logical sense at the time.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman is expired.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Chair, in the face of increasing belligerence from Russia and China across the Middle East, Members of this House have a choice. We can choose dirtier foreign energy over responsibly developing a tiny parcel of land already set aside for production.

Mr. Chair, how long must we rely on foreign adversaries for fuel? Utilizing...
our domestic resources is essential to a strong economy. Energy dominance on the world stage is our end goal. We will never get there if we continue to cut off access to our own resources.

The truth is, oil and gas production in Alaska protects our country as a whole, but it is also a key industry for the people of Alaska.

The community of Kaktovik sees the energy sector as a significant source of employment, revenue, and reliable energy. The people, including the local Tribe of Alaska Natives, are incredibly supportive of the continuation of oil and gas production in their community. These people were never consulted by my colleagues at any point in the development of this bill.

Neither was our colleague DON YOUNG, who has represented the needs of the people of Alaska for more than 40 years, who has more experience than everyone who wrote this bill combined. DON YOUNG, the dean of the House, the longest serving Member in Congress, should have been the first person consulted about this legislation was never sought out. Instead, they consulted a Tribe that has nothing to do with oil and gas in ANWR.

To put this in perspective, I live in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Omaha, Nebraska, is about 380 miles away. Can anybody tell me who would matter more in Omaha, Nebraska? I don’t spend time there. I don’t know what the people there want.

The only assumption we can make as to why a Tribe over 350 miles away was consulted by the local community is that my colleagues knew they wouldn’t find support in Kaktovik.

This should be an easy decision. There is no reason to vote “yes” on this bill.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to think about the future of our country and vote “no” today on H.R. 1146.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, I know the gentleman does not mean to disrespect the interests of an indigenous tribe that for hundreds and hundreds of years has depended on the Porcupine caribou herd, where its calving grounds and the heart of its migratory road is right in the refuge we are talking about. I know the gentleman doesn’t mean to disrespect them by suggesting that their voices don’t matter, but we believe that the Gwich’in people’s voice does matter. Mr. Chair, you are going to hear us stand up for the interests consistently on this issue.

Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 1146, the Arctic National and Coastal Plain Protection Act.

After almost 40 years of protection, the Trump administration and the fossil fuel lobbyists that have taken up residence at the Department of the Interior opened up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas development. The timing of this decision could not be more irresponsible.

The last thing we should be doing is expanding fossil fuel development in the Arctic, where temperatures are rising twice as fast as the rest of the United States. But we know that this administration isn’t concerned about our planet and is addressing the climate crisis, so it is not surprising that it is willing to sacrifice the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge’s diverse habitat in an attempt to help its Big Oil friends turn an even bigger profit.

The American people disagree. The vast majority of Americans oppose drilling in this iconic landscape, and I am proud to stand with them.

We should be reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, embracing renewable energy, and leading the world in combating climate change, not going backward.

Mr. Chair, I strongly support the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Protection Act and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMMORI).

Mr. Chair, environmentally responsible development of ANWR will increase America’s energy security and independence, create jobs, and provide affordable, reliable energy for consumers while providing much-needed revenue to both the State of Alaska and the Federal Government.

While congressional authorization is required by law for any leasing in ANWR, I, along with my Republican colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee, believe that Alaska Natives should be able to exercise their right to develop minerals on their lands if they so choose.

As the gentleman from Alaska has pointed out, Native Alaskans who actually live within ANWR fully support responsible development of their local energy resources.

Who do we listen to? The people who actually live within ANWR or the environmental activists here in Washington?

The oil and gas sector has historically served as a significant source of employment, revenue, and reliable energy for Alaska and Alaska Natives, and supports over 110,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to oppose this legislation, which, fortunately, will never become law.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield myself as much as I might consume.

Mr. Chair, listen to “the people who actually live there.” I wish we had seen that same concern yesterday when we had a chance to vote on banning offshore drilling in places where Governors and mayors overwhelmingly want to keep their pristine coastlines and their coastal economies despoiled by oil and gas development.

I am afraid that my friends sometimes have a selective sense of hearing, but the one consistent voice that always seems to be heard is that of Big Oil.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL), my friend and the chair of the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chair, I thank Representative HUFFMAN for his leadership on this very, very important bill.

I would like to discuss briefly one idea, and that is the idea that you hear around that if we are going to protect ANWR, that somehow it is going to hurt our ability to become energy independent, that we cannot be energy independent unless we open up ANWR, and that right now, we have to really worry because we are going to become, by not opening ANWR, more beholden to oil questioners, to what we are hearing today.

This is all going to be whether we open up ANWR or not? This is absolute nonsense.

Republicans and this administration no longer care about energy independence. Let’s be clear. They do not care about energy independence, and they haven’t for years, ever since they voted to lift the oil export ban.

For so many years, we said that we could put an end to energy independence, and we are not going to export our oil and gas. If energy independence was the goal, we wouldn’t be letting companies send American-produced oil all over the world, particularly when we are still importing from other countries, yet that is exactly what is happening today.

We export over 3 million barrels a day. Yet at the same time, we are importing 7 million barrels a day.

If oil development, what we are hearing today, is really about making America energy independent, instead of exporting those 3 million barrels, we could keep them here at home.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Chair, I rise to the question of whether we are hearing today, is really about making America energy independent, instead of exporting those 3 million barrels, we could keep them here at home.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN).

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Chair, I stand in opposition to this legislation, as it hamstrings U.S. energy production and goes against the will of the people.

Tax reform not only delivered on the tax cuts for the country and propelled our record-breaking economy, but it paved the way to further energy dominance by authorizing the development of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Specifically, there is an area in the NPR that has reserves designated in 1980 by a Democratic Congress to be opened up for gas and oil lease sales.

Before tax reform and the opening of ANWR, 92 percent of the 19.5 million
The Republican Party was not content with merely giving trillions of dollars of tax cuts to the wealthiest companies and individuals in this country. Tax cuts that have driven us deeper into debt without any of the positives the bill sponsors promised; at the same time they were handing out trillions of dollars to their friends and donors, they threw in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for their oil and gas buddies. They promised that this would be done right, as if destroying a pristine wilderness and threatening the survival of an entire Tribe’s way of life could be done right.

But then the Trump administration took over. Since then, we have had rushed environmental reviews so they could try to get a lease sale done in 1 year, 2 years quicker than the schedule laid out in the tax bill.

We have seen evidence of the concerns of career scientists being ignored or overridden, and we have seen the Assistant Secretary in charge of making this lease sale happen jump ship and, after a long 3-day cooling off weekend, start at an oil company that has leases right next to the refuge.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge should never have been opened, and even those who want to see it developed respectfully oppose the idea that this is now in the hands of Donald Trump and his buddies.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge has nothing to do with national security, has nothing to do with gas prices, and has nothing to do with energy independence. It has to do with greed, plain and simple.

This administration simply can’t stand the idea that there are some places that the oil and gas industry shouldn’t be allowed in. They can’t believe that there are some places that deserve to be protected. They can’t imagine there being anything more important than profits. I don’t agree. At some point, we have to say: Stop. You have enough. We are the number one producer of oil and gas in the world, and production is going up.

The administration is repealing regulations left and right and reduced land or wildlife protections on over 150 million acres of public land. The oil and gas industry has enough. They shouldn’t get the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as well.
Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to this Democratic messaging bill, H.R. 1146, a harmful attempt to undermine responsible energy development.

Throughout the history of our country, we have observed a pattern of politicians in Washington and the East and West Coasts legislating based on what they think is best for the folks in the rest of the country. As we have listened to debate today, we can clearly see that this Washingtonian habit is alive and well.

My good friends on the other side of this issue think they know better than the Alaska Natives living within ANWR; they think they know better than those who would benefit from job growth and economic development; they think they know better than the unions; and they think they know better than the people closest to the project.

I urge my colleagues to take a step back and look at the unsettling trend that is playing throughout this country of outsiders with a tenuous grip on the truth imposing their will on the people really impacted by these local projects.

For instance, in my home State of Michigan, the same thing is happening with the replacement of Line 3. People from the Twin Cities who are unimpacted by this project are launching efforts right here in this Chamber to stop the replacement and stop the job growth and economic development that would accompany it. Instead of putting our laborers, operating engineers, teamsters, and construction workers to work, they support legislation that is undermining these jobs.

The replacement was meant to develop our natural resources to ensure our energy independence and not reduce our reliance on foreign and hostile nations to this country. We responsibly develop our energy with the strongest environmental standards and labor standards in the world.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill. Let’s listen to those affected directly by these projects and do what is right.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from California, for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I am proud to rise in strong support of this bill as someone who has had the privilege of spending 2 weeks in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge 15 years ago. It was a life-changing trip.

ANWR’s beauty and majesty are almost beyond description. Paddling down the Kongakut River and along the shore of the Beaufort Sea, my companions and I experienced an astounding wealth of plants and animals in a mix unique to the region, a truly iconic corner of our Earth.

Anyone who says it is an empty place or that there is nothing there is committing a sacrilege as far as I am concerned. It is a sacred place to me, and it is no wonder that it is a sacred place to the Gwich’in people.

The Arctic is warming twice as fast as the rest of the United States. Drilling in ANWR would exacerbate that regional effect as well as hastening catastrophic warming of the rest of the United States.

In short, we must prevent this administration’s reckless effort to open up ANWR to oil and gas development to prevent dangerous biological, cultural, and climate impacts. We simply cannot allow this to happen on our watch.

I would point out that, when I paddled down the Kongakut River, I visited these places that are planned for drilling. We were literally hiking along the plain and we came upon these drill pads. It would be outrageous to drill in these places where there are nesting grounds for birds and homes to other animals that just don’t exist anywhere else.

I invite any of my colleagues who have the ability to travel on their own power padding and hiking to join me in going back to ANWR. I don’t think they would want to drill there if they did.

Mr. Chairman, I thank Congressman HUFFMAN for his leadership on this, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, it is an honor now to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. Cheney).

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague from Alaska for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation.

I wish I could say that I am surprised by the bills that are being brought before us this week, but I am not. The Democratic war on our economy, on America’s families, and on fossil fuels continues.

Mr. Chairman, energy independence is crucial for our economy and our security. I stand in strong solidarity with my friend and colleague from Alaska, someone who is a mentor not just to me, but to all on our side of the aisle.

Partly, I stand in solidarity with him because I, like Mr. YOUNG, represent my entire State. Like Alaska, Wyoming is no stranger to outsiders thinking they know what is best for us.

The legislation we have before us today echoes the majority’s goal of making the Green New Deal a reality, fundamentally changing our way of life by making us increasingly dependent on foreign sources of energy.

Yesterday, Mr. Chairman, I joined my colleagues Whip Scriver and the House Committee on Natural Resources ranking member, Mr. BISHOP, to introduce the American Energy First Act.

Our bill would end unnecessary overreach from Washington bureaucrats and enable States to manage energy production on lands within our borders. Our all-of-the-above pro-energy legislation would help put our families to work, further our energy independence, and enable States to manage energy on lands within our borders.

Wyoming prides itself on our fossil fuels. We know that our economy and that our security depends on these. We consider our fossil fuels to be national treasures, and, Mr. Chairman, we thank God for our fossil fuels.

Mr. Chairman, I stand here today to oppose this misguided anti-energy independence and anti-national security agenda that the Democratic majority has continued to put before us, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this is not about energy independence. If my friends across the aisle were concerned about energy independence, they certainly wouldn’t have lifted the crude oil export ban in the previous Congress.

If they wanted to talk about putting that crude oil export ban back in place, we would have something to work together on and we could actually take a step towards energy independence.

But the truth is we are awash in oil right now. We are exporting millions of barrels of oil a day while we continue to import all that big bad imported oil that sometimes my friends across the aisle are concerned about.

What this is really about, is money and profits for Big Oil. They make a lot more money when they can export that oil on the world market. That is why, when we talk about developing the coastal plain of the Arctic refuge, no one should be confused by these claims that that oil would go to American consumption. It would go to China.

It will find top dollar on the global export market because that is where Big Oil can make the most money, and that is what the agenda we have heard about is really all about. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I am happy to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the Representative from Alaska for yielding to me the time.

I want to say it again. I want to thank the gentleman from Alaska, the sole Member representing all Alaskans in the House of Representatives who joins with his Senators, the entire Alaska delegation, in opposing this bill.

I heard Mr. STAUBER come down earlier and talk about how we don’t need people from other States, from California coming in and imposing their beliefs on Alaska. We have a Constitution. We have a structure here where...
Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We just heard some pretty high sanctimony about the need to listen to the people who actually live there. That might be convincing but for the fact that just two days ago, folks from California sit there and all the time ask for exemptions, ask for exceptions, ask for their own conditions or rules in California, and then they get up and vote against it, meaning they know better, and they need to tell Alaskans what needs to be done.

I just heard allegations that this was about oil company profits and other things. This is about what the citizens of Alaska want, what their elected Representatives are doing to represent their own constituents.

Now, to give you an idea of how much of a farce this whole thing is, do you realize that this is the third bill that is using the loophole in the Clean Air Act for everything? We have taken $1 and we paid $3 with it. How do you do that? This entire thing is a farce.

To take it a step further to let you know what a farce this is, when this bill came up in the Natural Resources Committee, I offered an amendment that said that if this bill results in greater greenhouse gas emissions, then this bill doesn’t take place. It is not enacted.

Do you know that my Democrat friends voted against it, meaning they want greater emissions and greenhouse gases, my environmentalist friends? This whole thing is a farce. This is going to result in greater dependence upon foreign oil imports.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Chair, I thank Mr. YOUNG for yielding me more time.

This is going to result in greater dependence on imports of energy. We have seen it over and over again. We had career officials sit right in front of us in the Natural Resources Committee and testify that when you stop domestic production, that you become more dependent.

Look upon my friend’s own State of California. Governor Brown has become increasingly dependent upon oil from Saudi Arabia, increasing their imports of oil from Saudi Arabia. Look at our friends in the northeast that had to import natural gas from Vladimir Putin’s Russia and burn heavy heating oil to help to warm the homes in the northeast because they similarly cut off their energy supplies.

This makes no sense whatsoever. We are doing it under the auspices of an environment that this very bill threatens.

Mr. Chair, I urge rejection of this legislation, and rejection of this entire farce process.
Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, I re-
serve the balance of my time. I am pre-
close to close.
Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I yield my time to Mr. Mc
counsel. Mr. Chair, I insert in the RECORD a State-
ment of Administration Policy on this bill which indicates that the Presi-
dent’s advisers would recommend that we veto it, even though it is unlikely that it will reach his desk.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY
H.R. 205—PROTECTING AND SECURING FLORIDA’S COASTLINE ACT OF 2019—REP. ROONEY, R-FL, AND 12 COSPONSORS
H.R. 1146—ARCTIC CULTURAL AND COASTAL PLANNING ACT OF 2019—REP. HUFFMAN, D-CA, AND 18 COSPONSORS
H.R. 1941—COASTAL AND MARINE ECONOMIES PROTECTION ACT—REP. CUNNINGHAM, D-SC, AND 10 COSPONSORS

The Administration opposes H.R. 205, the Protecting and Securing Florida’s Coastline Act of 2019, H.R. 1146, the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act, and H.R. 1941, the Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act. These bills would undermine the Administration’s commitment to a pros-
erous American economy supported by the responsible, efficient, and safe development of our nation’s abundant nat-
ural resources. Development of our resources enhances our energy security and energy domin-
ance, and produces high-paying Ameri-
can jobs which provide increased revenue to the Treasury, States, tribes, and local commu-
nities; and is a critical source of conserva-
tion funding.

H.R. 46 would prohibit the Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Land Management from admin-
istering an oil and gas leasing program in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in Alaska. The bill would repeal a provision of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 that directed the Secretary of the Interior to establish a pro-
gram for the development of the Coastal Plain that would allow the use of no more than about 0.01 percent of the total acreage of ANWR for oil and gas development along with protect-
ion and support facilities. The Administra-
tion supports environmentally responsible energy development in the Coastal Plain, also known as the coastal area, of ANWR, for which development is expected to increase Amer-
ica’s energy security and independence, cre-
ate jobs, and provide affordable, reliable en-
ergy to consumers while providing much-
needed revenue to both the State of Alaska and the Federal Government.

Similarly, H.R. 205 and H.R. 1941 would both prohibit oil and gas development in the Federal waters of the U.S. Outer Con-
tinental Shelf (OCS). H.R. 205 would amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) to permanently ban the temporary leasing moratorium on offshore leasing in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico, off the west coast of Florida, H.R. 1941 would amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) to permanently remove from con-
sideration acreage for offshore leasing on both the Atlantic and Pacific OCS. Both of these bills would undermine OCSLA, which es-
tablished a periodic, multi-stage planning process involving State and tribal consulta-
tion and a thoughtful comparison and bal-
ancing of economic and environmental impacts to the regions of the OCS. These bills would perma-
nently constrain this careful administrative process. Under the bills, large swaths of the OCS would be undermanned for resource develop-
ment without the benefit of periodic assess-
ments of the potential economic, social, and
environmental effects of development, as re-
quired by existing law. Excluding these areas from leasing consideration could place more pressure for development on other OCS areas and constrain our nation’s future energy needs as required by OCSLA.

Additionally, each of these bills would elimi-
nate the potential for future direct rev-
ues that otherwise be provided to the Treasury, and through revenue sharing, to the States, tribes, and counties where the de-
velopment activities occur. In Fiscal Year 2018, energy development on Federal and In-
dian lands and waters generated approxi-
ately $9 billion in direct revenue from roy-
alities, bonus bids, and rents. Of that rev-
ue, $1.78 billion was distributed to States. The top States receiving Fiscal Year 2018 revenues were New Mexico ($343.9 million); Wyoming ($563.9 million); Colorado ($112.5 million); Louisiana ($91 million); and Utah ($76 million). Additionally, more than $1 bil-
ion was disbursed to Indian tribes and indi-
vidual Indian mineral owners; $1.22 billion to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF); $150 million to the Historic Preservation Fund; and $3.5 billion to the general fund of the Treasury.

Prohibiting energy development in new Federal areas would hinder future adminis-
tration’s efforts to make up for revenue lost as production declines, including increasing aging energy fields. Such restrictions will tie the hands of future administrations and reduce their ability to enhance energy security through strong domestic energy production and to ensure affordable energy for American families.

If these bills were presented to the Presi-
dent, his advisors would recommend he veto them.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I also insert in the RECORD a letter in strong opposi-
tion to this bill signed by over 20 enti-
ties, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Consumer Energy Alliance.

U.S. CONGRESS
September 5, 2019.
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: We rely on Ameri-
can made energy to power our daily lives, communities and to grow a more prosperous future. Americans deserve clean, safe, reli-
able energy for our families, communities and businesses that our futures can afford to grow and prosper. Losing our energy advantage. That’s why we ask you to oppose legislation being consid-
ered by the U.S. House of Representatives next week that would slow scientific surveys and prevent access to new sources of Ameri-
can offshore energy in the Outer Conti-
nental Shelf.

For more than seven decades, energy develop-
ment in the Gulf of Mexico has worked collaboratively alongside tourism, fishing and Defense Department training activities. But H.R. 205 would permanently extend the eastern Gulf of Mexico moratorium on oil and natural gas activities. The Congressional Budget Office conservatively estimates that this could cost taxpayers $400 million in rev-
ue over the next 10 years. Similarly, H.R. 1941 would block offshore energy develop-
ment in the Pacific and Atlantic planning areas, and off Alaska and the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

Congress should support progress. Modern energy technologies have enabled an impres-
sive growth in living standards, energy ef-
ficiency and innovation. But when the government chooses to arbitrarily and permanently close off areas to exploration and potential devel-
oment, we simply increase our dependency on foreign sources. This reality is visible in places like California and Massachusetts. Despite abundant offshore and coastal gas resources, California imports 57 percent of its oil supply, a staggering 37 percent of which comes from Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, to close off areas we used to benefit American families, create high-wage jobs, strengthen the U.S. economy and protect our environment.

Next week, the House of Representatives is expected to consider legislation undercut-
domestic energy security and economic opportunity by limiting American energy ac-
cess. We urge you to reject these bills and in-
stead stand up for energy produced in Amer-
ica, by American workers for the benefit of American families.

Sincerely,
American Chemistry Council, American Council of Engineering Companies, American Gas Association, American Iron and Steel Insti-
tute, American Petroleum Institute, Ameri-
can Pipeline Contractors Association, Con-
tinentals Pipeline Contractors Association, Pipe-
line Contractors Association, Energy Equip-
ment and Infrastructure Alliance, Inde-
pendent Petroleum Association of America, Inter-
national Association of Drilling Contractors, Interna-
tional Association of Geophysical Contractors, Laborers’ Interna-
tional Union of North America, National Association of Manufacturers, National Ocean Industries Association, National Utility Contractors Association, Offshore Marine Contractors Association, Offshore Pipe-
line Contractors Association, U.S. Chamber of Com-
merce, U.S. Oil and Gas Association.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I also insert in the RECORD a letter of opposition from the Laborers’ International Union of North America.

LIUNA!, September 9, 2019.
Hon. NANCY PRALSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PRALSI AND MINORITY LEAD-
ERS MCCARTHY: On behalf of the 500,000 mem-
bers of the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LIUNA!), I want to express our opposition to H.R. 205, which would per-
mance extend the moratorium on oil and gas leasing in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; H.R. 1146, to once again prohibit oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Ref-
uge (ANWR); and, H.R. 46, to prohibit off-
shore drilling along the Atlantic and Paci-

coasts.

Once again, jobs of LIUNA members who work in the energy sector are being targeted for elimination by environmental radicals for purely political purposes. There is abso-
lutely nothing in these “message bills” to be enacted into law this Congress. So, in-
stead of working to enact real job creating infrastructure legislation, union members see good jobs once again being denigrated and belittled.

Energy independence is central to the fu-
ture of the American economy and our stand against the powerful enemies of job creation continue to try to wall off and strand our domestic energy resources
from development; killing jobs, prolonging our energy dependence on unfriendly foreign regimes, and saddling middle-class and lower-income families with rising energy costs.

LUENA members, in Alaska and elsewhere, know first-hand that when done responsibly, with union-trained workers, energy development can create good-paying jobs that provide the knowledge and skills they need to work safely and productively while constructing energy and other infrastructure to the highest standards.

For the hard-working members of LUENA and other building trades unions, these jobs put food on their families’ tables and roofs over their children’s heads. People who put their children through college, to save for retirement, and to spend money in business establishments that employ others. I urge you to vote against these ill-conceived bills.

With kind regards, I am
Sincerely yours,
TERRY O’SULLIVAN
General President.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I insert in the RECORD a letter a previous to the voice of the Arctic Inupiat, which is in strong opposition to this legislation.

Voice of the Arctic Inupiat
Point Hope, AK, March 20, 2019.

Congressman JARED HUFFMAN,
Washington, DC.

Representative Huffman, Voice of the Arctic Inupiat (VOICE) strongly opposes H.R. 1146 amending Public Law 115-97 to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) oil and gas leasing program. It reinforces the notion that the wishes of the Inupiat people have fought for decades to achieve, we are struck by the lack of knowledge displayed in this legislation, which completely ignores the existence of the Inupiat people, and especially the people of Kaktovik. The Native Village of Kaktovik is a federally recognized tribe and the Kaktovikmiut have occupied the Coastal Plain for at least 11,000 years.

The Coastal Plain is home to more than just oil of the Coastal Plain is wilderness. It is not a place without people; it has always—been used to be continuously occupied by the Inupiat people and our ancestors. And we find it hard to fathom that you fail to acknowledge this history. Currently, the Coastal Plain is the home of a community of over 200 people. People who live, hunt, fish, raise their families, and hope for a secure economic future for their children. People who walk in the footsteps of their ancestors all over the land that Congress, in our intervention, designated as the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge People that you have completely disregarded because they generally do not agree with you. Congress’s concern about human rights seems a bit pale.

When we, Indigenous peoples, use terms like self-determination, sovereignty, economic equality, cultural survival, and traditional lands, they are more than just buzzwords. These are objectives that have long been denied us and for which we have had to fight for generations. It is not for you to ignore these ideas, nor the people fighting for them, in favor of those who are more aligned with your political agenda. To us, this issue goes beyond politics to the very sustainability of our communities, culture, and economy.

The Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act undermines the wishes of those of us living closest to ANWR and negate years of work by local stakeholders toward ensuring a sustainable economy for the people and communities of our region. We hope this bill is not consumerist.Understand the realities of life in the Arctic. H.R. 1146 preaches a “moral responsibility to protect this wilderness heritage as an enduring re- source for future generations of Americans”, but fails to acknowledge the basic needs of future generations of Arctic Inupiat. Our regional governments, our communities, and our families are responsible for more territory than any other local government in the nation. The NBS re- sponds to the environmental regulations. The NBS provides housing, housing, housing, and other critical community services. The Inupiat People that you have completely dis- missed “the integrity of the National Wildlife Refuge System,” which in itself operates on the misconception that Indigenous peoples are incompetent at managing their own lands.

The Arctic Inupiat who call ANWR home are frequently ignored, and your bill reinforces the perception that the wishes of people who live in and around the Coastal Plain are less important than those who live hundreds and thousands of miles away. Mr. Huffman, you do not have to tell the Inupiat people, who have lived on this land for genera- tions, the importance of our homeland—which we see it, we know it, we depend on it, we are a part of it. We have something very important in common, that often gets lost in this debate—this false dichotomy of “for” vs. “against”, republican vs. democrat, economy vs. environment—all we share a commitment to protecting this land and we would welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with you and the Gwich’in people, to whom we have extended many invitations for discussion, to protect this balance be- tween development and environmental protections that is integral to our way of life and the long-term sustainability of our culture. These people have existed, and even flourished, in one of the most severe climates in the world for generations. We un- derstand the balance needed to sustain our way of life and our communities; this priority is currently dependent on success and safe oil and gas developments. We are confident that the health of the Porcupine caribou herd can be maintained in the success in maintaining the health of three other caribou herds that migrate within our region. We respectfully request that you re- move this bill from consideration, and come visit our communities to better understand the needs of our people and our communities. We would welcome this opportunity.

Taikuu,
SAVVAS Tzoyrulik,
President, Voice of the Arctic Inupiat.

Rick A. Stock Jr.,
Chairman.

John Hopkins Jr.,
Vice Chairman.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP), the former chairman of the committee and ranking member at this time.
Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Chair, I was hoping the gentleman would insert me as well.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate the opportunity of being here. We are here today on day two of the Democrat week of energy and once again, we will quote Earl Weaver when he went out to the umpire and said:

Is this as good as it gets, or are you going to get better?

I will say the same thing on this bill as we did yesterday. Is this as good as it gets or are you actually going to get better?

This is the same concept we had with the first bill that we did. We voted second, but we actually discussed it as the first bill yesterday, in which we did things that are basically illogical, not for science reasons. Science was essentially taken out and shoved into a trash can, but, actually, we did it for political reasons.

It is signified by the amendments that the chair has made, unfortunately, made in order in which we made amendments in order to have all sorts of studies on the issue.

In the real world, you would try and do a study, come up with results, and then come up with the policy. That is not what we did yesterday. We decided on a policy, and then we are going to institute a law of non-comprehensive, skewed studies to try and see if we can come up with arguments in favor of the policy we already have. It is backwards.

It is okay to do it. You have the votes to do it. That is fine. Just don’t have the audacity to say that this administration doesn’t trust science or that we don’t trust science over here, when you also put an amendment in there to deny any kind of seismic research, which would give you the data we haven’t had since the 1980s, but only some of that seismic data. It is a skewed approach to it.

But the most significant issue is the one that Mr. Huffman has raised several times today in which he was right—slightly off center with it—but he is actually right.

Yesterday, many of the arguments that were made were that the States and State populations in these areas want a kind of moratorium on drilling in their areas. I get that. Listening to those people is a good thing to do. But they are actually right.

Yesterday, many of the arguments that were made were that the States and State populations in these areas want a kind of moratorium on drilling in their areas. I get that. Listening to those people is a good thing to do. But they are actually right.

Once again, if you would allow me the ability to take control of what happens on Federal waters, which is not part of the States' it is backwards. They wanted the ability to control what happens on Federal waters, which is not part of the States' it is backwards. They wanted the ability to control what happens on Federal waters, which is not part of the States' it is backwards.

Once again, if you would allow me the ability to control of what happens on Federal lands in my State, in the State, we might have an apples-and-apples situation, but that ain’t it.

There is also the concept that there was not consultation with Native Americans who live in Alaska and that, once again, is actually inaccurate.

There have been consultations going on since the gentleman was playing volleyball in college. And they will continue to go on from that side.

In fact, that is where the difference comes. The people in Alaska who live there don’t want this bill. And, once again, they don’t want it because it is impacting their State, their property, their land, which is not what was happening yesterday, where States were trying to impact what was happening on Federal waters.

It was sad that when we had the hearing on this bill, the Democrats did not invite those residents of this area to testify. We did. And when they came in March to testify, the Tribal leaders from the only village in this coastal plain, the one that is closest to this area, simply said they were against this bill.

Their exact words were: “The Arctic Inuit will not become conservationists. We are wise to the incredible efforts to turn our homeland into one giant national park, which literally guarantees us a fate with no economy, no jobs, reduced subsistence, and no hope for the future of our people.”

That is what they want in their area. When some of the other speakers said there is no consultation, that is not true.

Mr. Young is saying exactly what the constituents want in their area. Even though this land is controlled by Fish and Wildlife, the mineral resources are not Federal. I see the gentleman sitting with the policy to turn our homeland into one giant national park, which literally guarantees us a fate with no economy, no jobs, reduced subsistence, and no hope for the future of our people.

Mr. Young is saying exactly what the constituents want in their area. Even though this land is controlled by Fish and Wildlife, the mineral resources are not Federal. I see the gentleman sitting with the policy to turn our homeland into one giant national park, which literally guarantees us a fate with no economy, no jobs, reduced subsistence, and no hope for the future of our people.

That is where the difference of yesterday and today is significant, and the gentleman is glossing over that. That is significant.

These people need to have the ability to control our own destiny. They are not trying to control something that is not within the State. It is their resources. It is their area.

We have had this debate before. We had it when I first came here. It is going to continue on ad nauseam.

The problem is this is not a good energy position for the future. What we produced yesterday as Republicans is a program that decreases the economy, makes this country stronger. The stuff the Democrats are putting on in their energy week is disjointed, discombobulated, and doesn’t actually help anyone at all.

Once again, Mr. Chair, I agree with Mr. Young. Trust his people on what they want to do with their resources— not Federal— their resources.

Mr. Huffman. Mr. Chair, it is important to remember that we are talking about a Federal wildlife refuge, America’s Arctic refuge.

Mr. Chair, you would lose sight of that, perhaps, listening to the pretzel logic we just heard from my friend who at the end of the day cannot square the selective concern for local voices when it comes to drilling in a Federal refuge and yet the flouting of local voices when it comes to drilling, in the Federal, in the Arctic refuge, in the Outer Continental Shelf on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. The disconnect is dizzying.

Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DeGette), who is one of the Members of Congress who has actually spent some time in the Arctic refuge.

Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chair, in 2017, with little debate, the Republican-led Chamber quietly approved a provision to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling. ANWR is not our Nation’s largest wildlife refuge, and it is the ancestral home to the Gwich’in people and current home to more than 250 species of wildlife, including threatened species like polar bears that raise their cubs there.

I will quote Earl Weaver when he went to this special place. I have met with the Gwich’in people. I saw the pristine beauty of the coastal plain, and I saw thousands of Porcupine caribou in their annual migration process. I know how important this refuge is to our entire ecosystem.

Instead of protecting this important environment, this administration is going to open it up to drilling and allow it to be destroyed for an indeterminate amount of oil. Why? The American people are overwhelmingly opposed to this plan. They want this land preserved, not destroyed.

This bill, H.R. 1146, will block the administration’s disastrous plan and protect the refuge.

Mr. Chair, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Young. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Gosar).

Mr. Gosar. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in opposition to this unwarranted legislation. Like the two bills we debated yesterday, this bill is another attempt to hinder American energy dominance and our national security.

As someone who has visited the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, I know the support that responsible energy production in section 1002 has among the local population.

Responsible energy production will provide much-needed employment opportunities to the local population as well as critical tax revenue for local government services. Not only does energy development in section 1002 have the support of inhabitants in the region, but it also has the support of our colleague, Congressman Don Young, and Alaska’s two Senators. In addition, the majority of Alaskans support it; every Alaskan Governor since 1980 has supported it; the vast majority of Alaska’s congressional delegation since 1980 has supported it; and the Natives who live right there, the village of Kaktovik,
the Inupiat, the proper Tribe that is closest to them and the only Tribe within section 1002, support it.

This bill follows a bad pattern of how Democratic members on the Natural Resources Committee operate. They do not care that local representatives and residents oppose this legislation. They believe that Washington, D.C., and extremist national environmental groups know best and everyone else should just go along with their extremism. And it double-crosses the tax bill passed just last year.

Section 1002 has the potential to benefit greatly our country’s energy security. Estimates from the U.S. Geological Survey believe section 1002 contains more than 12 billion barrels of oil, not to make mention of natural gas.

Once again, Mr. Chair, we have an example of the other side putting left-wing extremism and their environmental donors ahead of local voices, our national security, and the needs of the Alaska Natives. I am a firm believer in an all-of-the-above approach to responsible energy production and multiple use. Our public lands, like section 1002, have nearly unlimited potential to power our country.

Funds all this while protecting the environment. Section 1002 is a small sliver in this area, 2,000 acres, in fact.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

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

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, does the gentleman from California have the right to close?

The CHAIR. The gentleman from California has the right to close.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, this is a sham bill. I have heard people say there was no consultation. There has been consultation. The people from California have driven a wedge between two groups of Alaska Natives, one that lives there, resides there, and is directly affected, and the other one is 400 miles away. We had testimony from that group.

By the way, I am a Gwich’in. I may not be one, but my daughters are. My wife was. She would turn over in her grave right now if she heard this nonsense about the Gwich’in.

You invited a group in Alaska. This used to be the House of the people. In stead of people putting their nose in my business, I am going to put it in your business. I will figure out a way to do that because this is wrong. This has been debated for 40 years, an area set aside by this Congress for exploration.

By the way, we gave the Alaska Natives who live there at Kaktovik 70,000 acres of land for their social and economic well-being, and you are taking it away from them. You talk about a cultural aspect. You are hurting those people, and you don’t care. I remember who you represent, and I understand that. You are a lawyer.

To me, to have this type of bill on the floor is not only a waste of time for this House body but a bad thing for this Nation, but worse than that is going back on their word.

I represent the whole State of Alaska. People, you live on the Arctic slope, want this legislation, not the Gwich’in. Yes, they are being, very frankly, shilled and used for a sham, and that is a shame.

You can be what you want to be. You can stand there holier-than-thou. You can do things wrong to this Nation, the Alaska people, and the Alaska Native. You listen to one side.

Mr. Chair, I urge a “no” vote on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, I have a lot of respect and affection for the dean of the House. I am sorry that we are on opposite sides of this issue. I am also sorry that it seems when it comes to oil and gas development in the Arctic refuge, he is listening to only some of the voices in the Alaska community.

Mr. Chair, this week, dozens of indigenous oil companies flew all the way to Washington, D.C., as they have done many, many times over the years, long before I started working on this bill. They do that because the Arctic refuge is not simply a policy issue for them. It is not about energy supplies, geopolitical profits, or scoring political points. It is about their entire way of life.

Those of us on the floor today don’t worry that our entire history and our entire culture hinge on the outcome of this vote. But for the people in the gallery today, the Gwich’in who are in the gallery behind me right now, that is exactly what is at stake.

For those on the other side who would have us destroy this wild and sacred refuge for a permit to drill, I would ask them this: Why now? Why do we need to do this now? Because once it is done, it is done. The coastal plain will never be the same again after the drill rigs roll in.

If we wait, if we conserve, if we protect, and if we treat this special area with the care it deserves, then it will still be there, wild and undisturbed for future generations to enjoy. Or maybe my grandchildren will still be debating Congressman Young’s great-great-grandchildren over this same issue on this very floor.

Do you know what? That is fine. I don’t mind the debate. That is what this country is all about. But reck lessly throwing open one of the most special places in this country because a few oil companies want even higher profits and President Trump wants a win? That is not fine. That is not worth it.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to protect the Arctic, stand with the Gwich’in people, and vote “yes” on the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act.

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

The CHAIR. The Chair would remind Members to avoid referencing occupants of the gallery. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources, printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-30, modified by the amendment printed in part C of House Report 116-206, shall be considered as amended, as amended, shall be considered as an original bill for purpose of further amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 1146

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act shall be cited as the “Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act”.

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE OIL AND GAS PROGRAM.

Section 20001 of Public Law 115–97 (16 U.S.C. 3143 note) is hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. INSPECTION FEE COLLECTION.

Section 22 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1348) is amended by adding the end following:

“(g) Inspection Fees.—

“(1) Establishment.—The Secretary of the Interior shall collect from owners of facilities subject to inspection under subsection (c) non-refundable fees for such inspections—

“(A) at an aggregate level equal to the amount necessary to offset the annual expenses of inspections of outer Continental Shelf facilities (including mobile offshore drilling units) by the Secretary of the Interior; and

“(B) using a schedule that reflects the differences in complexity among the classes of facilities to be inspected.

“(2) Ocean Energy Safety Fund.—There is established in the Treasury a fund, to be known as the ‘Ocean Energy Safety Fund’ (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Fund’), into which shall be deposited all amounts collected as fees under paragraph (1) and which shall be available as provided under paragraph (3).

“(3) Availability of Fees.—Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, all amounts deposited in the Fund—

“(A) shall be credited as offsetting collections;

“(B) shall be available for expenditure for purposes of paying out inspections of outer Continental Shelf facilities (including mobile offshore drilling units) and the administration of the inspection program under this section;

“(C) shall be available only to the extent provided for in advance in an appropriations Act; and

“(D) shall remain available until expended.

“(4) Adjustment for Inflation.—For each fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2020, the Secretary shall adjust each dollar amount specified in this subsection for inflation based on the change in the Consumer Price Index from fiscal year 2020.

“(5) Annual Fees.—Annual fees shall be collected under this subsection for facilities that are above the waterline, excluding drilling rigs, and are in place at the start of the fiscal year. Fees for fiscal year 2020 shall be—
“(A) $25,300 for facilities with no wells, but with processing equipment or gathering lines;

“(B) $40,700 for facilities with 1 to 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells; and

“(C) $75,900 for facilities with more than 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells,

(6) FEES FOR DRILLING RIGS.—Fees shall be collected under this subsection for drilling rigs on a per inspection basis. Fees for fiscal year 2020 shall be

“(A) $73,700 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of 500 feet or more; and

“(B) $40,700 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

“(7) FEES FOR NON-RIG UNITS.—Fees shall be collected under this subsection for well operations conducted via non-rig units as outlined in subparts D, E, F, and Q of part 350 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, on a per inspection basis. Fees for fiscal year 2020 shall be

“(A) $29,172 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths of 2,500 feet or more; and

“(B) $25,366 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths between 500 and 2,499 feet; and

“(C) $9,834 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

(8) BILLING.—The Secretary shall bill designators of operators under paragraph (5) annually, with payment required within 30 days of billing. The Secretary shall bill designated operators under paragraph (6) within 30 days of the end of the month in which the inspection was completed, with payment required within 30 days after billing.

SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part D of House Report 116-200.

Each further amendment printed in part D of the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. YOUNG

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider the amendment No. 1 printed in part D of House Report 116-200.

MR. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

On page 1, line 6, strike "Section" and insert the following:

(a) Section

On page 1, after line 7, insert the following:

(b) Tribal Consultation Requirement.—

The repeal made by subsection (a) shall not take effect until—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior completes a thorough consultation with the Inupiat people regarding the effect of this Act on the quality of life, human rights, and future of the Inupiat people; and

(2) by formal action Kaktovik Village approves of such repeal.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 548, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, we discussed before that this bill was written by the gentleman from California. It only impacts Alaska and impacts it only, and I am the only Congressman. I strongly oppose this legislation.

My amendment, very frankly, was to try to solve one of the problems, the lack of consultation with the people in Kaktovik, the Inuits, and only listen to one side, the Gwich’in.

This amendment says, yes, they will have to consult with the Inuits, and only the Secretary of the Interior — it would require them to understand that if they didn’t agree with it, very frankly, this would not go forth.

It is a good amendment. If the gentleman says this culturally real, you have to listen to both sides. You have divided us. This amendment solves that problem.

Adopt this amendment and make this bill a little bit better but not totally good.

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, I claim time in opposition.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, unfortunately, this amendment is a stall tactic to delay the bill’s protections for the Arctic refuge from taking effect until 2020 within the Interior—a walking conflict of interest who became the subject of investigations into ethical violations just 4 days into his job—has conducted a “consultation” process and received formal action from the village of Kaktovik. I wish that same concern for Native American community consultation had existed before the Republican tax bill was amended to insert this drilling mandate without any consultation with Native American Tribes, certainly not the Gwich’in people who may technically live a little further away from the drilling area, but we are talking about people who for millennia have depended on the Porcupine caribou herd that absolutely depends on this pristine beating heart of America’s Arctic refuge.

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, let’s do be careful about the facts.

More caribou than we have ever had before? That is certainly the case for the Porcupine caribou herd, precisely because it has had the benefit of the wilderness management of the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge so critical to its migratory pattern and its calving.

Throughout the rest of the Arctic, caribou are in real trouble. Herds are declining, and a very recent study has confirmed that. So let’s take note of the fact that we have one place where caribou are thriving. Let’s not wreck that place with oil and gas development.

Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico (Ms. HAA兰D), chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.

Ms. HAA兰D. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. As a 35th-generation American, it is well known that I am deeply committed to ensuring proper consultation with Indian Tribes about Federal policies and laws that impact them.

But this amendment isn’t really about Tribal consultation. If it were, Republicans would have insisted on this provision before the Arctic Refuge was added to the tax bill and opened up for drilling. Again, they would also be insisting on consultation with all Tribes, including the Gwich’in people, who get sustenance from the Porcupine caribou...
herd that will be directly impacted by drilling on the coastal plain.

Just because certain Alaska Natives don’t “live there” doesn’t mean they don’t have ancestral ties to the land. And, in fact, this land is imperative to their present and future existence. The real purpose of this amendment is to delay protecting the refuge until this administration is able to give it away to oil and gas companies, when it will be too late.

If we stop the leasing process first, I would fully support a thorough consultation with the Inupiat and Gwich’in people and would look for ways to improve the quality of life of the people of Kaktovik without drilling the Arctic Refuge. We can’t drill first and ask questions later, because there is no going back.

Mr. Chair, I urge a “no” vote on this amendment.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chair, I am urging a “yes” vote on this amendment and “no” on the legislation itself.

And, again, I think the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) has done a great disservice to the people of Alaska, especially the natives. He has divided us, and that is not right.

The floor of this House has divided a culture, different cultures, Alaska Natives, and it is for that I am deeply regretful. It shows what you can do when you interfere with other people’s districts.

This House used to be a House of the people. Now it is a House of what? What have they done in 2 years? Nothing.

Now they are trying to undo what was done legitimately in 40 years. And so I understand it. You have the votes. I understand that. It is not going to become law. I hope you understand that. And we are going to have a sale—I hope you understand that—and then my people that I represent will, in fact, get their just due. I know that.

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chairman, as I said, this amendment is a delay tactic to ensure that the current administration will lock in a lease sale before protections can go into place or before they are finally run out of office.

It does not require consultation with the Gwich’in people, many of whom are here today. These are the folks who consider the coastal plains sacred. They have relied on the Porcupine caribou for their cultural, spiritual, and physical sustenance, as well as food security.

There was no demand for Tribal consultation prior to this little provision being slipped in to the tax giveaway in the 2018 tax cuts. What we are hearing today is a very selective interest in consultation that would place the entire process in the hands of a Department of the Interior whose only interest is serving the interests of big oil.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment and “yes” on the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

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

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part D of House Report 116-200.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall not be effective until the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, finds that the repeal under section 2 will not adversely affect jobs available to Native Americans, other minority groups, and women.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. YOUNG) and a Member opposed the amendment.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment that allows the section 2 moratorium in this bill to go into effect when the Department of the Interior, in consultation with the Department of Labor, certifies that the anti-energy moratorium in the bill will not kill a substantial number of Tribal, minority, and women jobs.

We heard arguments from Democratic Members on the other side of the aisle against a similar amendment that the administration is running more time to jam through a lease sale.

We know that former Assistant Secretary Joe Balash said earlier this year that the leased sale will happen in 2019 and that the administration is running over all opposition in order to make that happen, ignoring concerns of wildlife biologists about impacts from seismic testing and oil development itself.

Now, I said “former Assistant Secretary” when I referred to Mr. Balash, because he left the Department of the Interior. Just days ago, he was a top official—remember—pushing for drilling in the Arctic Refuge, and he left to take a job with an oil company that stands to profit from the Trump administration’s oil giveaway bonanza.

You can’t make this stuff up, folks. Anyone who thought Teapot Dome was the high watermark of corruption at the Department of the Interior I hope is paying attention to the incredible craven levels of corruption that we are seeing today. These are the folks who this amendment would entrust with the authority to call the shots on whether drilling should proceed.

Unfortunately, this is not a serious proposal. I urge my colleagues to oppose it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, how offensive. How offensive that argument, particularly when you look at the Department of Labor. Hardly a bastion in regards to the corruption, at least in this administration.
Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk. The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment. The text of the amendment is as follows:

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall not be effective until the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, finds that the repeal under section 2 will not adversely affect Caribou herd populations.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 548, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

MODIFICATION TO AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, I ask unanimous consent that my amendment be modified in the form I have placed at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

Modification to Amendment No. 3 offered by Mr. GOSAR:

Strike “Secretary of Labor” and insert “Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service”.

The CHAIR. Is there objection to the modification?

The modified amendment allows section 2 of the bill to go into effect when the DOI, in consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service, certifies that section 2 of the bill will not harm the caribou herd population.

It has been proven that, over time, the caribou herds of the North Slope can coexist and even thrive with energy development that takes place there.

Many of my Republican colleagues and Members of the Western Caucus have seen this firsthand. We have seen the great lengths that industry and regional governments, Alaska Natives and others have gone through to protect the caribou.

Mr. Huff. Mr. Chair, this is, unfortunately, another delay tactic intended to enable this administration to...
rush through oil lease sales in the Arctic refuge.

And now I am afraid my friends across the aisle are really stretching. This argument that oil development is good for caribou is something we have heard before. It has been debunked every single time we hear it.

But, if you really want to see the craven nature of this proposal, focus on the fact that the person who would make the decision who would strike that balance between oil drilling and caribou protection, is none other than the Secretary of the Interior, David Bernhardt, an oil and gas lobbyist who temporarily left the payroll of the oil and gas industry for a little time in public service and has never stopped representing their interests. And we all know that, a year and a half from now, he will be right back on Big Oil’s payroll.

So this is not a serious argument. This is a delay tactic.

Mr. Chair, I urge a “no” vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, once again, we are going to debunk the flawed science that the other side looks at.

Mr. Chair, I have two different articles that have been peer reviewed, and I include them in the RECORD.

CARIBOU CALVES AND OIL DEVELOPMENT—DO THEY MIX?

(Parity Harper)

One thing’s certain about day-old caribou calves. They are incredibly cute, says Steve Del Vecchio, former biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks. Arthur and his research partner, Patricia Del Vecchio, have gotten up close and personal with newborn calves of the Central Arctic caribou herd each June since 2001, in an effort to address an important question: What is the effect of oil field development on wildlife?

Arthur says data they have collected suggest that when cows are displaced from preferred calving sites, their calves are less likely to survive at birth and may not grow as fast or survive as well. It’s an important finding because some of the calving and summer ranges of the Central Arctic caribou herd overlap areas of oil development on Alaska’s North Slope.

The herd’s size increased from approximately 5,000 caribou in 1975, about the time development began, to almost 32,000 in 2002. But Arthur says no easy answer can be gleaned about whether development has affected the herd from looking at changes in the overall number of caribou, because many factors affect growth or decline of caribou populations, including natural cycles, but one explanation biologists have for the increasing population of the Central Arctic herd is oil development.¿

In their recently published interim research report, “Effects of Oil Field Development on Calf Production and Survival in the Central Arctic Herd,” Arthur and Del Vecchio conclude that they have found no evidence that oil development harmed the Central Arctic caribou herd. Arthur and Del Vecchio explain it this way in their interim report: “If further increases in levels of anthropogenic disturbance cause caribou to reduce their use of preferred calving habitats, it may detect effects of these changes by measuring birth weights and growth rates of calves. If similar changes do not occur in less-disturbed areas, then this is evidence of possible effects of disturbance.”

Del Vecchio is headed back to the field this June to take final measurements on calves born in 2006, and to recover radio collars used in the study. Then, she and Arthur will take another look at the data and write their final report.

JUST LOOKED AT THE DATA. So, when they’re finished with the project report, Arthur, Del Vecchio and others will look at other ways to use that data. Arthur says the team is trying to analyze GPS data and what happened to calves during what could be a somewhat wintry period. The work was exciting, but it wasn’t easy.

The team had to hope for good weather during what was often wintry and blustery June. It was important, Arthur says, to measure calves within a couple of days of their birth. Having some older than others would make it difficult to compare data. Also, at three days old, calves can run pretty fast, making them difficult to catch. The newborns were caught by hand—the helicopter landed, Del Vecchio jumped out, grabbed a calf, collared and measured it, and then left as quickly as possible so its mother, watching from nearby, could return.

Netting rather than drug-darting was used to capture older caribou because animals from the herd are an important food source for residents of the area. Skilled net-runners leaned from low-flying helicopters to release the nets. Caribou caught in the nets were then hobbled and blindfolded to calm them and again, the process of collaring, weighing and measuring took just a few minutes before the calves were released.

And now I am afraid my friends across the aisle are really harsh conditions—and yet most of these little guys still make it.”

[From the ANWR Information Brief]

DO THE CARIBOU REALLY CARE?

Are caribou affected by oil development on the North Slope? It was based on the growing population of herds that use land in the existing oil fields in northern Alaska. The population of the Central Arctic caribou, which migrates north each summer into the oil fields near Prudhoe Bay, has been growing about 8.5 percent per year. Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologists counted 31,876 caribou in aerial surveys of this herd in July 2002. In July 2000, fish and game biologists counted 27,128. In 1997, the count was 19,730.

And new herd populations rise and fall with natural cycles, but one explanation biologists have for the increasing population of the Central Arctic Herd is good calf production and survival, and high survival of adults.

Pregnant caribou cows in the Central Arctic herd bear their calves on lands within or near operating oil fields. Some calves are born within a few hundred meters of oil field roads.

The Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game findings were backed by the Argonne National Laboratory. Argonne found no evidence that oil development harmed the Central Arctic Herd in the lab’s work on the Environmental Impact Statement of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System federal right-of-way.
Caribou herds rise and fall in natural cycles, and it is interesting that while populations have been rising in the Central Arctic Herd (see chart) which use lands in the North Slope oilfields, populations have been declining in the Porcupine herd (see chart) which do not use lands where there is oil and gas development. The Central Arctic Herd increased to 32,000 animals in 2002, up from 27,000 in 2000. The Porcupine herd was estimated at 123,000 in 2001, 129,000 in 1998 and 152,000 in 1996. In 1998, the population was counted at 178,000. Most recent survey taken in 2002.

There is now evidence that caribou mix between the slope caribou, the Porcupine, Central Arctic and Western Arctic herds. Using analysis of DNA, researchers from the University of Alaska, Texas A&M University and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture found that caribou in the three herds are genetically related. This reflects migration of animals between the herds over many generations.

**THE TRUTH ON ARCTIC CARIBOU**

Caribou use of the 1002 Area of ANWR varies dramatically from year to year. In 1995, 92% of the Porcupine Caribou Herd used this area that it did so.

In some years, the Porcupine Herd calved only in Canada.

Choice of calving area depends on snow melt and early growth of forage plants. Caribou live a boom and bust cycle, due to predation, weather, and overhunting. During the summer, caribou frequently use oil field roads and gravel pads as insect refuge habitat; they stand on the elevated gravel pads because fewer mosquitoes and flies harass them there.

North slope oil fields are specifically designed to allow caribou migration with elevated pipes to allow caribou to freely walk underneath and limited use of service roads.

With 30 years of contact with oil development to go by, the industry has shown that caribou and oil fields can successfully coexist. The Central Arctic Herd, which calves in the vicinity of the Prudhoe Bay, Kuparuk, and Point Unit oil fields, has increased 900% from an estimated 3,000 animals in the early 1970s to 32,000 in 2002.

**ANWR FACTS**

- Refuge totals 19.6 million acres.
- 8 million acres designated Wilderness.
- Coastal Plain, 1.5 million acres, set aside by Congress for study of oil potential.
- Only a small percentage of Coastal plain, about 2,000 acres, would be impacted by oil development.

**THE COASTAL PLAIN IS NOT A PRISTINE WILDERNESS**

About 40 guide outfits offer hunting and recreation services in the coastal plain; a community, Kaktovik, exists in the Coastal Plain; Military installations operate on the Plain and in the north.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, once again, we see the caribou herds that have been associated with oil and gas drilling actually expanding from 5,000 to 32,000.

Facts are hard to come by when they don’t benefit you in the discussion. It is simply untrue what they have been trying to narrate in this respect.

This truly shows that you can work hand in hand, being environmentally friendly and having energy independence, empowering local communities and Tribes, looking at this in a comprehensive fashion.

This is a commonsense amendment. This is not about delay. This is about proper orientation, whether it be jobs associated with it or whether it be the numbers of critical habitat and numbers of populations within that critical habitat.

Mr. Chair, among others, has stated that the facts just don’t stand up for the other side. Mr. Chair, once again, this is a very good amendment. Once again, when we want to start talking about facts, facts that are exploited by the other side that are truly false, we have to start looking at, didactically, the facts.

When a herd goes from 5,000 caribou to 32,000 when it is associated with oil and gas drilling in that area, where a herd declines by one third where there is no drilling there, there has got to be some kind of a prospect here. Heat doesn’t just rise. It is associated with the protection.

So, when you start looking at what industry and the individuals have to do to promote these herds, this is a stellar amendment.

Mr. Chair, I hope that everybody votes for this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Chair, well, again, this canard that oil and gas drilling is good for caribou is right out of the “thank you for smoking” playbook. It is just not true.

And rather than subscribe to these alternative facts, we need look no further than the latest credible science that we have—it is from the 2018 Arctic Report Card—which found that caribou populations across the Arctic have actually declined by 56 percent over the last two decades. Yet, there is one exception to that trend, and that is the Porcupine caribou herd, which has shown strength.

This is good news. It shows the importance of the National Wildlife Refuge system and the wisdom of protecting this area in the past.

There is one place in the Arctic where caribou are thriving. It is a place where we haven’t done oil and gas development.

Let’s not wreck the coastal plain of the Arctic refuge. If we care about caribou, then, by all means, absolutely vote “no” on this amendment and vote “yes” on the underlying bill.

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

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment, as modified, offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG). The amendment offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The amendment was recorded.

The amendment is a commonsense amendment, which further proceedings were postponed in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

Amendment No. 2 by Mr. GOSAR of Arizona.

Amendment No. 3, as modified, by Mr. GOSAR of Arizona.

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

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

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

Mr. GOSAR of Arizona. Mr. Chair, once again, this amendment is simply untrue what they have been trying to narrate in this respect. It is just not true.
Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ and Mr. TLEDY of California changed their vote from "aye" to "no." Mr. LONG changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR, the unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR: A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 184, noes 237, not voting 17, as follows:

AYES—184

...
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

The CHAIR (during the vote). There is one minute remaining.

So the amendment was rejected. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 3, AS MODIFIED, OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment, as modified, offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Gosar) on which further proceedings were postponed and an appeal was taken on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment, as modified.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment, as modified.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 187, noes 237, not voting 14, as follows:

ROLL NO. 528

AYES—187

Noes—237

NOT VOTING—14

So the amendment, as modified, was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollover No. 528.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEX of Illinois) having assumed the chair, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that the Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1146) to amend Public Law 115-97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 548, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. CURTIS. Yes, in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk reads as follows:

Mr. Curtis moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 1146, to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on August 31, 1980.

So the amendment, as modified, was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollover No. 528.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEX of Illinois) having assumed the chair, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that the Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1146) to amend Public Law 115-97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 548, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk reads as follows:

Mr. Curtis moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 1146, to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on August 31, 1980.

So the amendment, as modified, was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollover No. 528.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEX of Illinois) having assumed the chair, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that the Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1146) to amend Public Law 115-97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 548, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. CURTIS. Yes, in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk reads as follows:

Mr. Curtis moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 1146, to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on August 31, 1980.

So the amendment, as modified, was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollover No. 528.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BUTTERFIELD). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEX of Illinois) having assumed the chair, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that the Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1146) to amend Public Law 115-97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 548, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. CURTIS. Yes, in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk reads as follows:

Mr. Curtis moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 1146, to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 2 of this Act shall take effect on August 31, 1980.

So the amendment, as modified, was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Chair, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollover No. 528.
This week, many of my friends across the aisle sought to protect their coastlines by banning offshore energy development. They know what is best in their States. Apparently, the same standard of local control does not apply to Mr. YOUNG, who is the only person in this body elected by the residents of Alaska.

Not only is this bill opposed by the entire Alaskan delegation, it is opposed by the local Alaska Native population and written without their consultation.

As a Member who represents Bears Ears, I hear from my colleagues all the time how important it is to have Native American consultation, and they are right. However, with local Alaska Native opposition to this bill and no consultation, there seems to be a double standard.

In fact, just 3 days ago, I sat in a hearing where BLM was criticized for not working with the Native population. But I am told 11 hearings, 7 listening sessions—all not enough.

Unless I missed 18 trips of my colleagues to Alaska, we are working with a double standard.

Those of you from States with very little Federal ownership have a difficult time understanding what it is like being from a State or county with 90 percent Federal ownership. Imagine being a local elected official maintaining roads, police, fire, sewers, and parks, on only 10 percent of your property generates property tax.

At the end of the day, Mr. YOUNG and the native Alaskans, not the rest of us, should be determining the fate of Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard the argument that this development will contribute to climate change. Really? I am listening. This is one Republican who believes the climate is changing and man is influencing it, but I am baffled why my colleagues do not want to promote a pass to a human rights-violating dictator in China and deny the local native Alaskans the right to have a living off the land.

If we were serious about climate change, I have an idea. Let's take all the natural gas we are putting back into the ground in ANWR and send it to China and India. We would do more to reduce global carbon emissions than by implementing the entire Green New Deal.

I have heard the term “science denier” tossed around, but I ask, who is denying science the most? Those who ignore 85 percent of carbon coming from outside the United States, or those who think that impacting 0.1 percent of oil and gas will destroy the Alaskan environment?

Let's put this in perspective. ANWR is less than 5 percent of Alaska. This project is less than 0.01 percent of ANWR. For perspective, that is like taking a janitorial closet in the Capitol of 175 feet and putting HVAC in it to keep us warm and cool. That is the perspective.

When the other side is ready to fight climate change, Republicans stand ready. This is not one of those times.

To start, my friend GREG WALDEN and his colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee seem to have the ability to generate a bill almost daily that would truly impact the true problems with climate change.

Mr. Speaker, this motion to recommit will prevent the bill from taking effect until the President certifies that it will not result in a net increase of Russian oil and gas imports into the United States.

The answer to climate change is not making the U.S. more reliant on foreign fossil fuels. A vote for this MTR is a vote to support local Alaska Natives. I repeat, the answer to climate change is not making the U.S. more reliant on foreign fossil fuels. The last time I checked, Ryan Zinke was the only one riding a horse.

Mr. Speaker, I support the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, for those who have flights to catch and would like to get out of here, I think I have some good news. I think we can keep this pretty short and pretty simple because this is a simple bill. It reflects the proposition that there are some places that are simply too special, that are too unique, that are too environmentally vital, and that are too sacred to indigenous people to wreck them with oil and gas development. Surely, that is something that most Americans and even most people in this body, regardless of their party, could agree upon.

In fact, we saw bipartisan votes yesterday that reflected the same proposition that the pristine coasts of the Atlantic, the Lowcountry in South Carolina, and the beautiful California coast are places too special to wreck them with new oil and gas development. If my colleagues believe in this simple proposition, then, surely, it must apply to America’s largest wildlife refuge and to the beating heart of that refuge, the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. That is the simple thing that this bill is all about.

Unfortunately, this motion to recommit is an attempt to distract us from that, to delay protections against this drilling, so that this administration can rush a lease plan forward. Frankly, by that time, it is too late. You can’t go backward once you open a place like this up to drilling.

Now, my friends’ concern for the local voices, some of whom in Alaska want to see drilling, would be a lot more persuasive if yesterday, we hadn’t had a vote where my friends across the aisle thumbed their nose at the local voices in California, South Carolina, Florida, and other places that don’t want offshore drilling. So let’s be consistent about what local voices matter, and let’s acknowledge the reality that the only voice they really are hearing is that of Big Oil.

The truth is that we are, right now, the largest oil producer in the world. We produce over 12 million barrels of crude oil every single day, and we are going to be able to corner the market. I certainly don’t think, in light of that fact, that we should put at risk America’s coastal jobs or our biggest wildlife refuge in the Arctic under this misguided notion of so-called energy dominance.

Now, I want to just close with two things. First, for those who may still have some fiscal sensibility, I think there are still a few in this House who would like to talk about fiscal issues. Last week, Taxpayers’ Resource Center made the truth about drilling in the Arctic Refuge clear: “Drilling in the Arctic Refuge will be difficult and costs from mistakes high. Right now, oil and gas is plentiful and prices are low, so this isn’t the time to develop new areas. It’s not like the oil is going away. So without huge returns, this action will put taxpayers on the hook for a lot of risk with little potential reward. In the current fiscal and energy climate, if drilling proposals in the Arctic Refuge move forward, the joke’s on us.”

Let the joke not be on us, colleagues. Finally, I want to close by pointing out that there are some people who have traveled thousands of miles to be with us today, all the way from Alaska, the Gwich’in people, an indigenous community that since time immemorial have depended on the Porcupine caribou herd and its migratory routes and calving grounds that are absolutely in the heart of the coastal plain of the Arctic Refuge. Many of them are here today.

And, ladies and gentlemen, none of us here on this floor have to worry about what our ancestors and what our family depend on for our way of life, for our culture, for what is sacred for them, depending on the outcome of this vote. For Gwich’in people, that is exactly what is at stake.

So, colleagues, let’s do the right thing for the environment. Let’s recognize that some places are too special to wreck with oil and gas drilling. Let’s do right by the Gwich’in people. Vote “no” on this motion to recommit and “yes” on the underlying bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.
So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I was unnecessarily delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 529.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill. The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BUSH of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

The Speaker pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.
Resolved, That the House of Representatives, an audio backup file of the transcribed record of the interview of Roger J. Stone Jr. conducted by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on September 26, 2017, by the Department of Justice the transcript of Mr. Stone's interview, as well as any other Exhibits or other materials, the then-Chair and ranking member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence jointly sent the Department of Justice the transcript of Mr. Stone's September 26, 2017, interview, as well as an enumerated list of related materials;

Whereas on December 20, 2018, pursuant to a bipartisan Committee vote on that date, authorizing the release of Executive Session materials, the then-Chair and ranking members of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence jointly sent the Department of Justice the transcript of Mr. Stone's interview on September 26, 2017, as well as an enumerated list of related materials; and

Whereas the Department of Justice requested via letter on August 20, 2019, that the House of Representatives respond to the request of the gentlemen from Massachusetts;

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

There was no objection.

The House, Mr. Speaker, will consider a clean continuing resolution to fund the government past September 30. While the House did its work, and sent 10 appropriation bills to the Senate, funding 96 percent of the government—the first time that has been done in over three decades. So that while we were very successful, the Senate failed to move forward.

Therefore, as we wait for them to complete their work so that we can begin conference negotiations, a continuing resolution will be necessary to prevent another government shutdown like the one we experienced earlier this year.

The House of Representatives was called to order at 10:42 a.m. for morning-hour debate, and 12 p.m. for legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business, and last votes are expected no later than 3 p.m.

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

The House, Mr. Speaker, will consider a clean continuing resolution to fund the government past September 30. While the House did its work, and sent 10 appropriation bills to the Senate, funding 96 percent of the government—the first time that has been done in over three decades. So that while we were very successful, the Senate failed to move forward.

Therefore, as we wait for them to complete their work so that we can begin conference negotiations, a continuing resolution will be necessary to prevent another government shutdown like the one we experienced earlier this year.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 1423, Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act, called the FAIR Act, and the legislation would eliminate forced arbitration in employment, consumer, and civil rights cases so that Americans, as they have under the Constitution, would have the right to seek redress of grievances through the courts.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader the schedule for the week to come.

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

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the House will meet at 12 p.m. for morning-hour debate, and 2 p.m. for legislative business, and last votes are expected no later than 3 p.m.

On Wednesday and Thursday of next week, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate, and 12 p.m. for legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business, and last votes are expected no later than 3 p.m.

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

The House, Mr. Speaker, will consider a clean continuing resolution to fund the government past September 30. While the House did its work, and sent 10 appropriation bills to the Senate, funding 96 percent of the government—the first time that has been done in over three decades—I am disappointed that the Senate failed to pass a single appropriation bill. Not one.

Not only that, they haven’t filed any until just the other day when we got back from the summer break.

I am disappointed that the Senate failed to introduce a single appropriation bill for the fiscal year 2020. So that while we were very successful, the Senate failed to move forward.

Therefore, as we wait for them to complete their work so that we can begin conference negotiations, a continuing resolution will be necessary to prevent another government shutdown like the one we experienced earlier this year.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 1423, Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act, called the FAIR Act, and the legislation would eliminate forced arbitration in employment, consumer, and civil rights cases so that Americans, as they have under the Constitution, would have the right to seek redress of grievances through the courts.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.
This would restore access to justice for millions of Americans who are currently locked out of the court system and are forced to settle their disputes against companies in a private system of arbitration.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, as it relates to the funding of government, I know that it is important that as we finally got an agreement a few months ago to come up with a 2-year budget process where we agreed on numbers of funding, that’s why for the Defense Department which needs that certainty, they don’t want these short-term CRs. They need the long-term certainty so they can go out and acquire the kind of equipment we need to keep our men and women in uniform safe to effectively do their jobs in a safe manner.

One of the things I would point out, as the gentleman talked about the Senate process, let’s be clear that the House bills that were passed out moved on a 90 vote basis. There were no bipartisan agreements as you passed the bills out of the House.

The Senate does work differently. The Senate has to have a 60-vote margin to move things, and for years they have been in negotiations to try to get not a partisan agreement but a bipartisan agreement, and, unfortunately, so far, they have had a lot of problems with some of the Senate Democrats who try to put poison pills in those budget talks that would ultimately not yield something that can get signed into law and would not comply with the 2-year budget agreement that we reached.

So I would encourage both on our side, there should have been a bipartisan agreement on the bills that are moved through, and at least there are some talks going on, but they haven’t resulted in bipartisan legislation that can get signed by the President.

The Senate needs to do the same thing. And so we are beyond the time for partisan differences. Now is the time where we need to come together and all the things that they put in a bill that can get signed into law. Drop this idea of these poison pills that everybody knows will gum up the works. Let’s get the certainty that we deserve for a full budget process for the year.

We are not there yet. If we have to do a short-term budget agreement or short-term CR, then that is one thing that we may consider next week. We have to act reasonably. There is a lot of details of course. It would have to be clean with no poison pills attached to it. But, hopefully, that yields talks that are truly bipartisan, which we haven’t, unfortunately, seen to this point.

So I would hope that we can get beyond that next week. It gives us more time to have real negotiations that can result in something that can get signed into law and give certainty to our men and women in uniform and all of the other agencies that rely on us doing that work on a bipartisan basis.

I would like to shift gears and ask the gentleman about the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, USMCA. I yield to the gentleman if he has something to add to that.

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

I understand the gentleman said a lot of things about reaching bipartisan agreements and all of this sort of stuff, and the Senate needed 60 votes. They didn’t introduce a bill. Not a single appropriation bill was introduced.

□ 1215

They had the same 60-vote requirement last year, and they passed a lot of bills last year. The reason they didn’t pass bills is that the President of the United States wouldn’t come to the table and agree on caps. They could have done the same thing we did.

We are an independent branch of government. We are the Article I branch of government. We appropriate money. We spend money. But the Senate has not done its work.

If you brought the bills to the floor and couldn’t get 60 votes, we get it. But I will tell my friend that there is great frustration. For the first time since my friend has been a Member of the Congress, we passed funding for government by June 30, otherwise known as 3 full months before the end of the fiscal year, giving the Senate a lot of time.

But, no, we had to wait and wait and wait until the President sent down Secretary Mnuchin, and we finally made an agreement on 302(a)s, in other words, the caps, what we were going to spend.

With all due respect to all this talk about bipartisanship and that we need to work together, that is, of course, true. It was not true in the Congresses when my friend’s party was in the majority. The Republicans passed partisan bills, and they went over to the Senate. The Senate didn’t take them, and we went back and forth.

There has been no back and forth. We did our work, and although the Republicans disagreed with the numbers publicly, privately, very frankly, a lot of my friend’s Members told me the numbers were pretty good numbers, and they liked them, including defense. We passed a Defense bill with a substantial increase for our troops, readiness, operations, and training.

I say that to Mr. Whip not to criticize my friend but simply say that all of this verbiage about being nice to get together and do something, the regular order is we pass bills, the Senate passes bills, and then we have a conference. Unfortunately, we have gotten away from that, which I think is very bad for the House, the Senate, and the American people.

We cannot go to conference if the Senate doesn’t even pass a bill, doesn’t even introduce a bill, waiting on the President of the United States to say, “Simon says.”

We can’t get a bill supported by 90 percent of the American people, comprehensive background checks, which 90 percent, a majority of my friend’s party, a majority of my party, and a majority of independents thinks makes common sense. We passed it in February, and we can’t even have it on the floor in the United States Senate.

Not only are they not doing appropriations bills, but they are not doing any other bills either. They spend all their time on judges.

We are a little frustrated on this side because we have done our work. Ninety-six percent of government is funded, and, yes, there could have been differences of opinion. They should have passed bills and said, no, we don’t agree.

Mr. Speaker, the problem they would have had, I tell my friend, is that they didn’t want to have bipartisan bills because, yes, it would have required them to get 60 votes, and they didn’t want to make the compromises necessary to get 60 votes.

We are here, just a little more than 15 days before the end of the fiscal year, and the Senate has not passed a single bill while we have funded 90 percent of government, necessary. Nobody wants to shut down government, I hope. Hopefully, the CR will not have anything that either party will disagree with, and we will extend some things that need to be extended because we have done our work in a bipartisan way and try to reach agreement on each 1 of the 12 appropriations bills and either put them separately or in a minibus or omnibus and pass them to fund the government and not have the United States to be unable to do its work, resulting in a shutdown of government.

I appreciate the gentleman’s sentiment about doing things in a bipartisan way, but you can’t do things in a bipartisan way if they don’t come to the floor. If the leader over there doesn’t have 60 votes, then he needs to reach a compromise because we need to get our business done. We passed all of them. Yes, I am a little frustrated that not all of them were bipartisan, I think, in many ways, but there was a determination not to vote for them because we hadn’t reached a caps number. I think that was unfortunate because I think, as someone who served on the committee for 23 years, Mr. Speaker, we passed our bills in many, many instances—most instances—in a bipartisan fashion.

I didn’t want the comment to go not responded to, in terms of the Senate’s refusal and unwillingness to act and do its business. And here we are, not a single bill—not one—has been passed through the committee.
The gentleman's party has the majority on the committee. At least my friend could report them out of committee and then work on getting 60 votes.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, there were 46 number of items that my friend brought up. I will start with the government shutdown that the gentleman referred to last year. When we were in the majority last year, we passed bipartisan bills to fund over 70 percent of the government prior to October 1—no shutdown—more than 70 percent of the government that we worked with Democrats and President Trump to get an agreement on, including defense, so our men and women in uniform did not have that uncertainty and had that full year of funding. All of that was worked out.

Clearly, we had a difference of agreement over the Homeland Security Department because of funding for border security. The government shutdown was clearly over whether or not we were going to have a secure border and all the things that were involved, including physical barriers. We resolved it, and we were able to get over $4.5 billion of new money to continue putting that physical security in place to secure our Nation's border. That took a few more months, but we resolved it.

Keep in mind, over 70 percent of the government was fully funded prior to the end of the fiscal year, working with Republicans and Democrats in the Senate.

As the gentleman brags about passing over 96 percent of the bills out of the House, it has to be noted that the majority didn't work with Republicans to do it. The easy thing is just to say that we will just talk amongst ourselves, knowing it will never get signed into law. Of course, that is a partisan bill, it is not going to get signed into law when you have a President of the different party or when you have a Senate controlled by a different party.

That is different than us. We can have that debate for another day. We would probably both agree on a lot of the differences we have with how the Senate operates. But because of their 60-vote requirement, they know nothing is going to pass unless they have Republican and Democratic agreement in those negotiations.

Let's be clear about what is bottling up those negotiations. There are bipartisan Democrats in Democratic leadership on the Democratic side who are offering up things that everybody knows are poison pills that would not get signed into law.

There are still impasses. They need to break that impasse. That is their issue. But, Mr. Speaker, you can talk to some of the Senate Democrats who are trying to offer up things that everybody knows will not happen or become law or pass over there, but both sides need to come together.

Mr. Speaker, when you pass an NDAA bill—and the gentleman from Maryland knows this. The National Defense Authorization Act is a bill that a Republican-controlled House or a Democratic-controlled House, no matter who has been in charge, we have come together always. Every single year that we have moved an NDAA, it has been bipartisan. That year that the majority broke from that.

The majority passed a partisan bill on defense knowing it was never going to become law but not working with Democrats and breaking the tradition that every year we have followed, that is, Republicans and Democrats would come together and say that we have all of these other differences—and there are a lot of differences that we have that we need to work through. We might get some; we might not get others. But we put defense on the side and said that this is one where we will come together, Republicans and Democrats in every year we did it, including last year when we were in the majority.

This year, the majority did not. They broke that tradition. It is unfortunate because, again, that will never become law.

My friend can brag they got it done, but they got something done that will never get signed into law and broke a tradition that we have always had that bill was bipartisan, making sure that we work together to take care of our men and women in uniform in a way that they deserve and in a timely way.

I would hope that we would get those things done before October 1. But we all know what came out of this House is not what is going to be a final product.

Let's work better to get these addressed, working with Members of both parties and the President, who, by the way, did agree with us on the numbers. We are in agreement, The House, the Senate, and the White House have finally agreed on the numbers.

Now it is up to us in the Congress to come to an agreement. It is not just, hey, we passed our bill with just members of our party. It is going to have to mean people work together through those differences as we have done in the past.

Sometimes we disagreed. Seventy percent of government was funded last year prior to October 1. Ultimately, we got agreement on those.

Does the gentleman have anything else to say on that before I move on?

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the defense bill passed this House with almost every Republican voting against it. It was a bill that provided $733 billion, a figure that the Joint Chiefs of Staff suggested publicly. It was a figure that I know personally was a figure that was deemed acceptable by the leadership of the authorizing committee and the appropriating committee on the Republican side. The rhetoric was totally partisan.

We have now made a deal, and we are now going to save defense because we did $5 billion more. The figure last year, of course, was somewhere around $733 billion, a little bit less.

I will tell my friend that we believe on our side of the aisle that the opposition to the defense bill was totally partisan, no attempt at bipartisanship. Yes, the Republicans had some success in getting bipartisan bills through. Why? Because we were prepared to vote in a bipartisan way.

That is the difference. We were prepared to vote in a bipartisan way. We were prepared to accept my friend's party was the majority.

Mr. Speaker, we understand when you are in the minority you work to get the best objective you think is possible. We did that, and the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, says that they got bipartisan bills done because Democrats voted for them, including me. But I know the number was an acceptable number, and it was a number suggested by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Yet we heard rhetoric after rhetoric of how this was letting down the Defense Department.

What did they do? They made a deal, not $733 billion, $738 billion. My goodness, what an extraordinary difference. They voted against funding the men and women in uniform, funding operations, and funding overseas contingencies.

I hope that we get off this. If you want to talk bipartisan, act bipartisan, Mr. Speaker. Talk is cheap. It was clear that Democrats, in fact, when the Republicans were in the majority, did vote on a number of occasions, not every occasion, for bipartisanship. But you can't have bipartisanship if you don't introduce a bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have the majority in the United States Senate. The committee didn't need 60 votes in the committee. They don't need 60 percent. They don't need two-thirds. All they need is a simple majority to pass a bill out of committee, as the gentleman pointed out when he said we did fund some pieces of government before. Why? Because we got bipartisan agreement.

☐ 1230

And I have never seen, as I say, in three decades, the Senate fail to even introduce an appropriation bill prior to the end of July.

I hope the Senate will move with some degree of alacrity. I hope that we will pass these bills out of committee. I hope that we will fund the government and not have a shutdown, as we had the last time. The first time it has ever happened in a new Congress where the government was shutdown—all over the wall—which a number of Republicans have said is not a useful thing to do.

I won't name them. I am sure the majority whip, the Republican whip,
knows a lot of them. They served in this body. Some are chairman of committees over there now.

So I am hopeful that we will move together on the appropriations process and do our business, do it on time, as we have done here in the House so that the American people can be well-served.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, let's be clear on the funding of government. From day one, we did fund over 70 percent of the government, and we didn't play a partisan game with our Nation's defense.

This bill, the NDAA—NDAA, you can talk about what both sides should do.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCALISE. Let me make this point, because you have made some points that aren't completely accurate.

The number we agreed upon was 70 percent. If you say, Okay, we agree on a certain spending level, that is one part of the debate. But you then go put policies in the bill at that level that undermine, not only our beliefs of what is best for national security, but what the President needs to do to be able to do his job to secure our border. You did that in the bill knowing that that would make it partisan. It was a bipartisan bill, and then you added provisions, like things that undermined the ability to secure America's border in that bill knowing it was partisan.

If you took that out, you knew it would have been a bipartisan bill, but you left it in. And that is a pattern we have seen from Speaker PELOSI's majority this year.

We had a bill in the Committee on Energy and Commerce to lower drug prices—a major problem in this country. Republicans and Democrats worked for months and came up with a bill in the committee of jurisdiction to solve the problem and lower drug prices.

And you know what happened? It was a unanimous vote—unanimous vote.

People looking at Congress going, Wow, here in the year 2019, on a major issue like lowering drug prices, Republicans and Democrats came together and figured out a way to lower drug prices, and the vote was unanimous.

You would figure we would put that on suspension the next day to pass it out, so we could get it signed by the President as soon as possible and lower drug prices as soon as possible.

And what happened? It just happened a few months ago. As that bill came out of committee unanimously to lower drug prices, the Speaker made a decision that she was going to put a poison pill in it—after it came out of committee, before it was voted on on the House floor—knowing what that would do.

And it immediately became a partisan bill because you put something in that you knew was not going to get Republican support. And so the bill that you knew was not going to get Republican support. And so the bill that you knew was not going to get Republican support. And so the bill that you knew was not going to get Republican support.

And so you can talk about what you passed, but when there was a bill that was unanimous out of committee of jurisdiction, where doctors, people in the healthcare professions, people in business, people on both sides of the aisle knew that the committee figured out a way to put all of their differences aside and pass a bill to lower drug prices, you had to make that partisan after it came out of committee unanimously.

That is what has been done over and over that undermines the ability for us to get our job done. We could have gotten that done. It could be signed by the President today, and we could all hail that as a major accomplishment.

That is just one example, and it is happening again and again, and it shouldn't happen that way.

So, yes, we need to move this process along, but we move it along by working together. Defense could have been done in a bipartisan way. The things that were added—again, we should make it bipartisan shouldn't have been put in that bill. It had never happened that way before, ever.

We had always passed a bipartisan NDAA bill through the House, and this bill that didn't happen. That first year didn't happen. Drug pricing could be solved, but it hasn't happened yet. It should happen. I hope we get it done, but it should have been done in a partisan way when the committee figured out a way to do it unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

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

We can discuss all sorts of bills, but we discussed the appropriations process. And the gentleman expressed how they were able to pass 70 percent of funding of the government because they had the Defense bill and the Labor-Health, which are the two biggest bills, passed and signed by the President.

Why were they able to do that, Mr. Speaker, when it requires 60 votes in the Senate? They didn't have 60 votes in the Senate. Why did they get it done in a bipartisan way to affect that end?

This year, we have had no opportunity to do that. We have had no opportunity to conference on our bills. Republicans lead the Senate, passed your bills, and if you can't get 60 votes, yes, you would have to compromise in the Senate.

You didn't compromise when you were in charge, frankly, on an awful lot of things that had closed rules, more than any other Congress, so we didn't have an opportunity to even amend them.

But that aside, when you claim that you passed those bills you did, and the only reason you could do it is because the Democrats acted in a bipartisan fashion because you did not have the votes to pass them on your own, you needed Democratic votes. Democrats gave you those votes because we knew that in order to get things done you had to negotiate in a bipartisan fashion.

That is the only way we were able to do it. We have not been given the opportunity in the United States Senate because there are no bills yet to consider, except for the last 3 days the bills came forward.

But instead of the first months of the year, no bills came forward, Mr. Speaker, not one.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I would hope those Senators on both sides of the aisle, as they are having negotiations—and, yeah, they don't have a bill, but they are negotiating. And there are Senators that know that some of the provisions they are insisting upon are things that will not become law because they undermine our Nation's security. And yet, they keep insisting. And so they are not at an agreement, but they need to keep working just like we need to work in a bipartisan way on those issues. And they will get resolved if we do that.

And so I think we can look at the example of what the House Committee on Energy and Commerce did on lowering drug prices, it is a great model to follow.

That bill should have been brought to the Floor. That bill should not have been changed by the Speaker at the last minute to become partisan, and now it is not law.

I would like to move on to something that has been troubling that we have seen coming out of the Committee on the Judiciary, and that is this drumbeat towards impeachment. It seems like there is an infatuation by this majority to impeach the President of the United States, whether or not the facts are there. And so there was the Mueller report that went on for years.

And all of these members—chairs of your own committees—saying there was evidence that they had, and it was going to show the President colluded here and there. And then it turned out to be false; there was no collusion.

We know that. The report showed that. Russia tried to interfere with our elections when Barack Obama was President. Maybe they should be investigated. What did he do? But we didn't stop the Russians from trying to interfere with our elections, but there was no collusion.

So instead of saying, Okay, that is it, move on—as the American people would like to see us do—maybe that committee that has jurisdiction over the border, over immigration law, that has serious problems that should be worked out in a bipartisan way, and could be worked out in a bipartisan way, but it is not, because the committee has been infatuated with impeaching the President.

In fact, the chairman of the committee just said today: This is formal
Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Martinez, Mr. Scalise.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind words. Mr. Speaker, the committee has a responsibility to be focused on its job, the things it has brought forward allow the chairman to do things he can already do. It was a farce. It was a farce to try to appease the radical left base that wants to impeach the President, even though there is nothing to impeach him on. And instead of just giving it up and focusing on their job, the things they should be focused on, they are just going to keep meandering around on this witch hunt.

And I know some in your majority—maybe even the majority leader himself—are trying to distance themselves from it because they know the American people think that it is lunacy to be wasting time trying to impeach the President, even though there is nothing to impeach him on and just driving around on a witch hunt.

And so I guess the real question is, if the chairman of the committee—your chairman, Mr. Speaker—today, has decided that that requires further action, my presumption is it will pursue that as well.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, but I don’t think the question has been answered. Because the gentleman says the committee has a responsibility, and I agree. But the committee has a responsibility to be responsible, and it is highly irresponsible. It is reckless and dangerous for the committee to start impeachment proceedings when there is nothing to impeach the President on. The majority when the President of the United States was somebody we had a lot of disagreements with. We never filed Articles of Impeachment or talked about impeaching the President because there was nothing to impeach the President on. We never did that.

We might have disagreed with them on a lot of things, but there were no committee hearings where the chairman said: This is formal impeachment proceedings. He talked about, hopefully, by the end of the year they will vote on Articles of Impeachment—“hopefully,” by the end of the year.

There is nothing to impeach him on, and yet they are going to actually go out on a witch hunt and say, We are going to look for something, and by the end of the year, we hope to impeach the President.

So I would ask the gentleman: Are you all bringing Articles of Impeachment to the floor? Is the chairman rightly going down an impeachment road? And what exactly are those articles?

What are the Articles of Impeachment, if the committee today—your chairman of your committee—said: This is formal impeachment proceedings? What exactly is the gentleman planning on impeaching the President of the United States on? And are you, if he brings those Articles of Impeachment out of committee—blanks that haven’t even been filled in—if they bring them to the floor, or if they move them out of committee by the end of the year, as the chairman hopes, is the gentleman prepared to bring that to the floor of the United States House of Representatives?

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Hooyer.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the chairman of the committee spoke about their process. Their process has been a fact-finding process. That is our responsibility as a Congress. That is his responsibility and the committee’s responsibility. We were in the majority when the President of the United States was somebody who has done to be impeached upon.

I am not going to get into an argument, Mr. Speaker, about the premises in the Mueller report, other than to say I disagree with the characterization made by the Republican whip. That will be for another day to argue that.

The committee is doing its duty and it will continue to do so. And if it decides that that requires further action, my presumption is it will pursue that as well.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, but I don’t think the question has been answered. Because the gentleman says the committee has a responsibility, and I agree. But the committee has a responsibility to be responsible, and it is highly irresponsible. It is reckless and dangerous for the committee to start impeachment proceedings when there is nothing to impeach the President on.

And I know some in your majority—maybe even the majority leader himself—are trying to distance themselves from it because they know the American people think that it is lunacy to be wasting time trying to impeach the President, even though there is nothing to impeach him on.

But everybody else in America says, Do your job and focus on the things that are in front of you and drop this daily harassment and drumbeat of impeachment and witch hunts.

It is time to move on and do the work of the committee instead of focusing on impeaching a President, even though there is nothing to impeach him on.

If there is something, show us what it is. But to recklessly say in an open hearing that they are going to impeach the President and move Articles of Impeachment, to this House floor by the end of this year, on what?

This has to end. We have to focus on the things that need to be fixed by that committee and this Congress and drop this witch hunt.

At some point, the other side is going to have to figure out which way they want to go because some people in the gentleman’s radical base might want to impeach no matter what, but everybody else knows it is the wrong thing to do. Everybody else knows it is irresponsible for that committee to act that way.

I would hope that y’all would make the right decision and say that you are
going to move forward on the things that need to be addressed by the committee. If there is something that comes up, sure, they go look at it, but there is not anything. If there was, they would have filed it already. But to say they are going to file it even if there is nothing, that is dangerous, reckless, and irresponsible.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

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

I didn’t want to get into this debate, and I don’t want to prolong it, but I do not want the premises articulated by the whip, Mr. Speaker, to stand unchallenged.

In my view, Mr. Speaker, the Mueller report is replete with instances of cooperation by members of the Trump team with the Russians, page after page after page. As a matter of fact, one of the Page documents, the guy for collusion.

Now, “collusion” is not a legal term. “Conspiracy” is the legal term. Mr. Mueller said we didn’t look at collusion because it was not a legal premise. In reality, Mr. Mueller made it very clear that the reason they didn’t find criminal wrongdoing was because they believed, under Justice Department rules, a President cannot be indicted during the course of his term. They did not absolve him.

Whether it was obstruction of justice, using a foreign government that is, essentially, not our ally, not our friend, or meeting with Putin secretly and not allowing the American people or the Congress to know what was said, my friend’s premise that there is no smoke, no fire, is wrong.

Very frankly, as someone who has served here a long time and who has seen some of the most irresponsible attacks on the enemies of our country, the Obama administration—hearings, over and over and over again. A tragedy in Benghazi—seven hearings, seven hearings, all concluded nothing there, so they had an eighth hearing.

The American people are tired of those kinds of games—every single day, focusing their energies and taxpayer dollars on attacking the President, on attacking his family, on attacking his Cabinet members and people who did business deals with him 20 years ago who are getting subpoenaed and who have nothing to do with his Presidency just because they want to harass the President because they don’t like the fact that he was duly elected in 2016.

American people did duly elect him President, and he is doing his job. He is carrying out his mission despite all that.

Shame on that committee for continuing to abuse their power by going after something whether it is there or not. Every prosecutor knows you don’t try to go find something on somebody. You should follow the facts. If the facts lead you to a dead end, then you end. You don’t keep looking. It is not there. You want to keep doing it and abusing their power. But there is accountability that happens, too. That is why we have elections.

If that is what the committee wants to do, and if that is what the leadership of this House Democratic Caucus wants to do, people are watching.

I want to talk about one final thing, and that is USMCA, an opportunity for us to get something big done for this country.

I had a meeting yesterday with Ambassador Lighthizer, the U.S. Trade Representative, who I know has been meeting with Speaker PELOSI and her team. In fact, a few weeks ago, the Speaker, through her trade working group on USMCA, sent a letter to Ambassador Lighthizer, identifying some areas that they would like addressed in the USMCA trade agreement.

I understand that, last night, Ambassador Lighthizer sent a reply, including their position and the Democratic majority on, to try to address some of those issues and ultimately get this done.

I say this in the most sincere way: I really do think USMCA is something that we can do together, that we can get an agreement with our friends from the north and south. Canada and Mexico have both come to the table and agreed to make NAFTA work better for American workers, for American industries, for our dairy farmers that can’t compete with Mexico. We will see if that is possible, because I believe now that will be able to have better open markets, better working conditions.
Lighthizer is somebody who we respect. We want to say that Ambassador Lighthizer has been completely unable to enforce the rules that everybody else has to comply with, to finally get these tariff fights over so we can have an even stronger economy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have said all along that we want to get to yes on the USMCA. Frankly, we think it is an improvement over NAFTA, which needs improving.

As the gentleman may know, the Speaker and I were here when we voted on NAFTA. We both voted for it.

There were some promises made and side agreements that the rights of workers and the environment would be protected. Unfortunately, that did not turn out to be true, so that, in adopting a change to NAFTA, we want to make sure that the promises made in the agreement are promises that can be enforced.

As the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has often said, the commitments in a trade pact aren’t worth the paper they are written on if they can’t be enforced.

Mr. Speaker, that has been the posture of the Speaker, myself, and of so many others, that enforcement is critical. Unfortunately, the NAFTA enforcement mechanisms have been a failure.

In 25 years, as I am sure the whip knows, the U.S. has taken only one successful enforcement action under the NAFTA dispute resolution procedure, and none in the past 20 years. Not a single enforcement has prevailed. We have been completely unable to enforce its labor provisions, not one successful enforcement.

We want to get to yes. And, yes, I want to say that Ambassador Lighthizer is somebody who we respect and think is operating in good faith. We think he is a positive interlocutor. He is somebody who we can work with and have been working with.

On the other hand, we sent a letter 6 weeks ago, and as the gentleman pointed out, we got an answer yesterday. So, it is taking some time for our task force to get answers to questions and to determine how we can move forward to ensure that the matters included in the agreement become reality, not simply on paper works for reality.

That is important for workers. It is important for our environment. Very frankly, it is also important in terms of trying to contain drug prices, here and around the world.

The gentleman talked about prescription drugs. That is one of the items that is still in dispute. We want to get to yes. We think this is an improvement on what exists.

Therefore, I am hopeful that we will be able to get to an agreement. We believe it will require that the agreement be opened and that enforcement be included so that, as the chamber said, it can really be enforced.

If that happens, I am hopeful that we can pass that agreement, with the agreement of our friends in labor, with our friends at the Chamber of Commerce, and in a bipartisan way on this floor. Let’s hope that happens.

But we have made it very, very clear that, if it is just words on paper and not enforceable, it is not a good agreement for America or America’s workers.

But I hope that we can move forward and achieve an agreement on this issue so that we can pass it.

I would ask the gentleman if he has any idea of where that process is on his side, if there is any idea of a timeline to finally bring this to the floor, pass this important agreement that would send a message not only to our friends from the north and south, Canada and Mexico, but to our friends all around the world, to Japan and other countries that want to get trade agreements with America but this is holding back because they want to see if this can get done.

Then, ultimately, let’s shift our focus to China and all the countries around the world that want China to have to comply with the rules that everybody else has to comply with, to finally get these tariff fights over so we can have an even stronger economy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I share the gentleman from Maryland’s optimism about the ability to get there, to get this done, to get to “yes.” And with the provisions that are already in place on enforcement, there is a way to make them stronger, I know that that is something that Ambassador Lighthizer has been working with the gentleman’s team on.

That is why, while the letter was sent 6 weeks ago, Ambassador Lighthizer started going to work right away, sitting down with folks on both sides, including Democratic leadership in the House, to address those as best as both sides could get agreement; and that is what we are working on. I think, finally, lays out the remedies to those issues that were brought up.

It is my hope that, as that is reviewed, we get to a place where we can find agreement and then get it passed. Mexico has already passed it. Canada is waiting on us. And I think we would send a strong signal to the world that, not only is America the best place to do business, with the strongest economy in the world, but we are also able to reach better trade deals, both for Americans and our friends. Then there are a lot more folks in line waiting for us to be a part of those kind of deals, too.

So I look forward to the ability to keep working on that. I would love the ability to work with the gentleman as the Republican whip, the leader, laying out a floor schedule for when that comes, and we can celebrate something big for this country and the workers of America.

I thank the gentleman for his work and for this discourse, and I yield back the balance of my time.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is required:

S. 178. An act to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

The message also announced that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1790) “An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.”.

PERMISSION TO EXTEND REMARKS

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Record and to include therein extraneous material notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages and is estimated by the Director of the Government Publishing Office to cost $2,433.98.

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

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING ELKS LODGE

2639

(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. Mr. Speaker, Elks Lodge 2839, in greater Cape May, South Jersey, recently won first place in the Division IV ENF Chairman’s Challenge at the National Convention. It was also named number one in the entire State of New Jersey.

Anne Krause, the lodge’s ENF chairperson, is truly a dedicated member whose leadership has helped make this Elks Lodge the very best of its kind.

Elks Lodges help our community by offering programs to keep children healthy and to keep them drug-free. They meet the needs of veterans and help improve the quality of their life, work that is so much needed in today’s times.

In addition to these services, Elks Lodges have a generous charitable foundation that gives millions of dollars in scholarships each year to help shape the future of the community of our children.

I feel very lucky to have such a well-run community center as a place for people to come to gather, to grow closer in our beautiful district.

To all the members and staff of Elks Lodge 2839: Congratulations on your awards, and thank you for all you bring to our community. South Jersey is proud of you; and the United States of America is proud of you.

God bless you.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARCA BRISTO

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of Marca Bristo, whose unyielding commitment to advancing disability rights improved the lives of millions.

As the founder of Access Living and a leader of the National Council on Disability, the National Council on Independent Living, and the United States International Council on Disabilities, Marca fought passionately to ensure that people with disabilities have the same rights as their able-bodied peers, including the right to live independently in the community.

She was a crusader for the Americans with Disabilities Act, and her steadfast advocacy was instrumental in the passage of this landmark civil rights legislation.

Her work tearing down barriers cleared the way for people with disabilities to pursue their own dreams, which, ultimately, also helped me realize my dream of becoming a United States Congressman.

Marca’s legacy—the continued improvement that makes the lives of people with disabilities. She made a difference, and my condolences go out to her entire family and her friends.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TERRORIST ATTACKS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116–62)

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:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001, “National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks,” is to continue in effect beyond September 14, 2019.

The threat of terrorism that resulted in the declaration of a national emergency on September 14, 2001, continues. The authorities that have been invoked under that declaration of a national emergency continue to be critical to the ability of the Armed Forces of the United States to perform essential missions in the United States and around the world to address the continuing threat of terrorism. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared on September 14, 2001, in response to certain terrorist attacks.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 12, 2019.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Mr. GOMHERT. Mr. Speaker, there is a lot going on today, a lot going on this week. I wish I could say it was all good, but we spent last night working on bills that would find ways to take people’s guns away and, unfortunately, not give them the kind of due process that we think the Constitution affords people. During my time as a prosecutor and as a felony judge, thousands of criminal cases went through my court. I don’t remember anywhere a criminal defendant bought his gun at a sporting goods store, gun store, applied for a background check, that is not the way criminals work.

And so I didn’t see anything in our hours and hours of committee hearings trying to amend bad bills with good amendments that the majority didn’t allow to be passed. We thought they might be joining us on some. They said they would look at some, but, basically, defeated every amendment.

Today, we met in the Judiciary Committee at 8 a.m. to take up a semi, sort of, kind of, a bit of an impeachment resolution. We had amendments that would have made a bad resolution a little better—still not good—but we had a hard time figuring out, on the Republican side, what is this?

It sounds like—in Texas, we would say we’re fixing to do something. A lot of times people say, “I am fixing to do that,” but it means it may get put off and I may not really be serious, because if I was really serious, I would do it right now.

But this resolution—and I have it here all else, but in the first paragraph, talks about the committee making discovery requests. But the second paragraph is really the one that deals with allegations that would be an impeachable offense, or offenses—at least, it is supposed to.

And so it says: “Whereas, Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s report released on April 18, 2019, found that the Russian Government interfered in the 2016 election in ‘swEEPing and systematic fashion.’”

Okay. But the Mueller report made very, very clear, and those who investigated, I thought, made it very clear there was no collusion or, to use the legal term, conspiracy, by anyone in the Trump campaign with the Russian Government—none. That part didn’t happen.

Even though we have networks like CNN and MSNBC, and I don’t know what else all else, but for 2 or 3 years they have talked about the crimes of this President and their collusion with Russia.

Well, when people who have law degrees talked about collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia, that immediately sent up red flags with me because that is not—“collusion” is not a legal term that is used in talking about crimes; it is conspiracy. And so it immediately begins to raise questions.

Are they really serious about some type of crime? Because if they were, they would use words that are used in criminal terminology.

This is a completely deceptive allegation when it comes to President Trump because they take this initial allegation and say Mueller found that the Russians really were trying to interfere in our 2016 election.

Okay. But it didn’t involve anybody in the Trump campaign. That was clear.

So they tried to brush that over and make it sound like, yeah, even though there was nobody, President Trump or the Trump campaign who were involved at all, but we are going to kind of word this, put it in the same sentence so that it kind of sounds like,
yeah. President Trump was involved with Russia, because then it jumps into another gear.

It says, “that there were at least 10 separate episodes of President Trump using his official powers to”—and here is the word—“thwart or attempt to thwart the special counsel’s investigation.”

And that is also very troubling language for those of us that have dealt with legal terminology in criminal cases. I don’t know of anybody that has dealt with criminal cases. I didn’t hear from anybody on the committee that has ever heard of a crime involving thwarting. We are familiar with obstruction of justice. But these are the kind of games you play with words when you know, yes, there is no evidence a crime was committed, but maybe if we use different terminology it will sound like some kind of bad crime was committed. And clearly, we are not going to be able to remove a President from office with the Senate understanding that even the Mueller report, even the Mueller special counsel told you and told these people that hated Donald Trump, they still couldn’t find anything that would be indictable.

Now, some say, Well, but there was obstruction of justice. We even had one, I would say, incompetent law professor come before our committee and say she could guarantee that she could get a conviction and win on appeal. Well, I have tried enough cases in State and Federal court and in the Army that I know—and I have told people that were looking for lawyers in my days as a judge—I couldn’t recommend a lawyer, but I would warn people—if you ever hear a lawyer who tries cases who says they can guarantee you a win in a trial, then that lawyer is either to- dally incompetent or is one of the biggest liars in the legal profession. I don’t know which one this professor was. I got the impression she just really didn’t know what she was talking about, because no one swears, Oh, yes, I can guarantee you, you know, I can win this case at trial and on appeal. That is not a good lawyer. That is somebody who doesn’t know what they are talking about.

What we have found now after thousands and thousands of interviews, subpoenas, documents, millions of documents, there was no crime. And the reason there was no obstruction of justice by President Trump or anybody that was assisting him is because the President made very clear as soon as he heard about some collusion, conspiracy, whatever you want to call it with Russia to rig the election, he knew he never colluded. He knew that he never conspired, nor did anybody in his campaign conspire with Russia to affect the election. That never happened, and he knew it.

But he could see from what these 17 or so people on the special counsel’s team were trying to do. They were trying to frame him. And this guy that was dishonored and was no longer respected by MI6 that he used to work for in England and there was information that he was discredited, not just his intelligence community was discredited, but that is who was hired by Fusion GPS, that was hired apparently by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee to try to dredge up dirt on candidate Donald Trump so that they could rig the election against Donald Trump.

And we have gotten to the bottom of it, almost. We know that Christopher Steele is the one that didn’t just collude, he conspired with people in Russia who he ultimately had to admit, yes, it is quite possible they could have been working for Vladimir Putin. So Christopher Steele, it appears most likely he was the one that was conspiring with people from Russia, sounds like Putin’s agents, to try to destroy Donald Trump.

And there has been noise made about, oh, gee, you know, Russia really wanted Donald Trump to win. That is not the way Vladimir Putin thinks. He wants the old Soviet empire back. It really didn’t know what she was talking about, because no one swears, Oh, yes, I can guarantee you a win in a trial, then that lawyer is either too-dally incompetent or is one of the biggest liars in the legal profession. I don’t know which one this professor was. I got the impression she just really didn’t know what she was talking about, because no one swears, Oh, yes, I can guarantee you, you know, I can win this case at trial and on appeal. That is not a good lawyer. That is somebody who doesn’t know what they are talking about.

What we have found now after thousands and thousands of interviews, subpoenas, documents, millions of documents, there was no crime. And the reason there was no obstruction of justice by President Trump or anybody that was assisting him is because the President made very clear as soon as he heard about some collusion, conspiracy, whatever you want to call it with Russia to rig the election, he knew he never colluded. He knew that he never conspired, nor did anybody in his campaign conspire with Russia to affect the election. That never happened, and he knew it.

And I know there are some of my friends here in Congress on our side of the aisle that think Michael Horowitz is doing a good job, because look at all the evidence of wrongdoing, bias, all this that he has found. Well, if you look at the most recent report, just like the first one, in the first report Horowitz found—and he was a good Obama appointee as inspector general there at the Department of Justice, good Democrat, good appointee.

And so he does his digging, finds hundreds of pages of serious abuses of power by political bias—it’s actually a personal hatred for Donald Trump and absolute love and affection for candidate Hillary Clinton—so much overwhelming bias, and every conclusion that these biased, prejudiced, rigged investigators had was 100 percent consistent with all of their conclusions. That speaks for itself.

Now, if half of their conclusions had gone against their bias and prejudice, bigotry, then you would say, well, you know, maybe it really didn’t affect the outcomes of their investigations. But when every conclusion is consistent with the bias and prejudice, even though it is clear, like in the case of the investigation into the Clinton Foundation, you had Strzok and Page examining emails, and they were making the calls on whether documents are classified, knowing full well if they said something was classified that Hillary Clinton was being set up legitimi-ately to be indicted. So they wanted Hillary Clinton to win. They wanted to do whatever they could to stop Donald Trump from winning, and if he didn’t win, as they said, they needed an insurance policy, you know, just in case he won.

And Horowitz did a grave injustice within the Justice Department, and he says there is no indication that all that bias had anything to do with the outcomes of the cases. That is just garbage. He is being disingenuous. He wasn’t doing his job in his conclusions. And I know there were a lot of Republicans that said, Yes, okay, but, boy, when he investigated, when that report comes out on Comey, it is going to end up sending him to prison.

Well, Comey did leak information that he should not. He did keep documents that he was not permitted to keep. He secreted them, kept them after he had left government service. He is not allowed to do that. And the biggest thing about those and whether or not they were felonies that would put him in jail would be: Was this information classified and at what level?

And we find out, you know, on page one of two of the Horowitz IG report, the FBI investigated, and the FBI determined that this wasn’t classified; the FBI this and that. And you have to wait 40 pages to see who he means by the FBI. Well, it turns out, the two most important people, because they had the most experience in analyzing documents to determine their classification level, it was a couple named Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. And he has the gall, Horowitz does, to even point— to try to get more credi- bility to Strzok and Page’s work on de-ciding whether Comey should go to prison, because they were classified at a high level. He said, Oh, but they had

H7698

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE  September 12, 2019
more experience, because they did this work on the Clinton emails determining whether those were classified or not.

For heaven's sake, somebody needs to wake up. Michael Horowitz does not need to do the investigation. Maybe let him do the investigation, but he doesn't need to be doing the reporting. In a lot of places people would say he doesn't know sic 'em from come here and it could lead to proper conclusions. It is outrageous.

And he justified not having them re-examined because time was of the essence 2 years ago in 2017, back before Strzok and Page were fired. But not to worry, because a guy named Bill Priestap was going to rubber stamp whatever Strzok and Page decided on classifications.

There was another unit chief. Didn't give us that name. That tells you something right there.

But Priestap was supposed to have the final decision, apparently rubber stamp whatever our experienced Strzok and Page had recommended. But they knew full well if they classified things at a certain level that it meant Jim Comey was going to prison.

So they did Comey a favor. And so then Horowitz, he didn't want to have them rereviewed for proper classification away from the bias of Strzok and Page and Priestap that—you know, there were reports of him going to London trying to help out Steele's credibility.

So Horowitz said time was of the essence, so nobody reconsidered the classification that the bigoted bias and prejudice of Page and Strzok would not be determinative.

And I know that people, Republicans, many of them are saying, well, look, there is no question that McCabe lied, perjured, he should end up going to prison. But I am telling you as a history buff, if you would, it is true. History is often the best indicator of what someone will do in the future.

□ 1330

The indications are that Obama's IG, Horowitz, will find some terrible things, but he will do it in such a way that he will give not only Comey, Strzok, and Page a get-out-of-jail-free pass, but he will do that with McCabe, and with anybody else he is investigating, because that is his history. He knows which side his bread is buttered on and who is doing the buttering, who got him in the position he is in.

We end up now being told, well, this isn't a formal impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing. It wasn't a formal impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing, an impeachment hearing. That is very, very clear that this was an investigation, a practice the FBI has had for years. It is section 302, where FBI agents, after they do an interview, they sit down and type up their own version of what they think or what they recall a witness said. Most of the ones I have seen over the years in my different roles in the justice system appear to be very accurate. But it is a problem when every document, every version that can be created is the entity I am aware of, when they want credibility for a statement, they record it.

I saw it from juries in my court. "Look, you are telling us this is what the defendant said. Why don't you record it so we could see for ourselves, hear for ourselves, see the body language?"

That is why local governments all over the country have come up with specimens so that they can make sure that they get video and audio of someone being questioned, so there is no question what they say. But not at the FBI. Oh, no. They will talk to a witness and then write out their own version of what is said. Thankfully, most of them do a great job, but it also allows unscrupulous FBI or DOJ officials, as now we have seen existed under the Obama Justice Department, it allows them to twist the FBI or DOJ version of what a witness says and use that, as they have thousands and thousands of times, I don't know how many times, to convict people, saying, "This is what he said because I wrote it down in my own notes after I did the interview." "Really? Well, let's see the video. Let's hear the audio."

"Well, we don't do that at the FBI. We only write down our version of what is said. If you really would rather you hear our version and not the defendant's version of what he said, because we get more credibility than any defendant."

At least that used to be the way it was. But I hope one of the things that will come out of all of this is, in order for the FBI to get back the credibility they used to have as the greatest law enforcement agency in the world, they are going to need to start doing audio and video so that you can see what a witness says and pray one of the witnesses, hear what they said for ourselves, and so that juries can hear that and judges can see and hear that. But we don't have that here.

People like the biased Strzok and Page, who hated Trump and loved Hillary Clinton, when you talk about obstruction of justice, I don't know how you can be more obstructive than to get a subpoena for emails and then BleachBit, take all the stuff off so no body can even see it, and then set up with hammers cellphones and whatever you need to, to destroy the evidence. That would seem to be a classic case of obstruction.

Fortunately, for people involved with Hillary Clinton, it was Strzok and Page on the job, so they didn't see anything, didn't hear anything that might resemble something that should be prosecuted.

But we end up today with this resolution that the majority passed without allowing any amendments, and they used this word "thwart," that the President used his official powers to thwart or attempt to thwart. Nobody has ever been convicted of thwarting.

You can also say the Democrats got exactly what they wanted and were able to impeach or charge President Trump with thwarting an official investigation. It goes to the Senate. They get what they want, and then you can say Trump never obstructed or thwarted. Trump never obstructed or thwarted. Trump never obstructed or thwarted.

But we end up today with this resolution that the majority passed without allowing any amendments, and they used this word "thwart," that the President used his official powers to thwart or attempt to thwart. Nobody has ever been convicted of thwarting.

You can also say the Democrats got exactly what they wanted and were able to impeach or charge President Trump with thwarting an official investigation. It goes to the Senate. They get what they want, and then you can say Trump never obstructed or thwarted. Trump never obstructed or thwarted. Trump never obstructed or thwarted.

The only thing he was thwarting, if at all, is massive injustice from the Justice Department. He knew he had not conspired with anybody in Russia, nor had anybody in his campaign.

The evidence has borne that out. Even Mueller, Weissman, the people who hated the President, had to come around to saying they couldn't find any evidence of them conspiring with Russia.

Nonetheless, we still have to go through this hearing today, and I am sure there will be other hearings.

The truth is, President Donald Trump never obstructed or thwarted justice. He knew that if there was true justice, this effort to frame him for colluding with the Russians would be found false and would be found to be a frame-up job. He wanted justice.

Since DOJ could never convict someone of obstructing justice when all they did was what they could to ensure that an injustice did not occur. They were seeking justice to make sure there wasn't a successful frame-up. That is not obstructing or thwarting justice. That is seeking justice. But there certainly were people inside the DOJ who were doing what they could to inflict an injustice on President Trump.

So here we go into this impeachment exercise that started today.

I think about those in England who would say, "God save the Queen," "God save the King," God save this Republic.
There are people here in this body who are absolutely wonderful people, friends on both sides of the aisle. Some of my Democratic friends, I know they would never lie to me. They are honest people. We just have disagreements on things.

One of the most honorable people I ever knew in this body was chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee back initially when Democrats took the majority in January 2007. He wanted so badly to do energy by consensus. So, I don’t know what his name was. He had a very small piece of wilderness—well, relatively speaking, the tiny area of ANWR where drilling would be allowed.

That is why John did not want to pass the cap-and-trade bill. He wanted to do energy by consensus and help poor people. That was his nature. He knew if you start doing this kind of stuff for the rich with energy prices—gasoline, electricity, propane, and those things going up—it is an inconvenience, but for those on a fixed income, it is absolutely devastating.

America, under the Trump administration, has been allowed to gather up more of our own blessed energy resources. The economy gets better. More people are working now than ever. Unemployment is the lowest it has ever been for minorities since they started recording those numbers. It is fantastic. Energy prices have come down low, and it has been stabilized because we are finding so much of our own energy and using it.

We disagree about a lot of things on both sides of the aisle. I don’t know anybody who serves in this body on either side of the aisle who would want to hurt our environment. But those who know our history of the world know that, if you have a struggling economy, the number one thing that suffers, besides the people, is the environment. In China, that government, as big and totalitarian as it can be, they know if people get laid off and are not working, they could have another revolution, and they don’t want that. They are more concerned about people being busy and working and having money than they are about the environment. In India, they are scared to death of too many people not being able to work or have income.

We get all of this pollution from the other side of the world. I heard today that 85 percent, somebody said, of the pollution that we have in our atmosphere is coming from these other countries. When those countries’ economies are struggling, there is more pollution. That is just the way it works. Because you just can’t help afford to clean up the environment like we are and have been in the United States.

We need a vibrant economy to continue to clean up our environment. We have lakes that were dead, now brimming with activity and with wildlife. These are good things. In Texas, it seems like our air gets cleaner every year.

I asked my staff to find a picture, as best they could, that would reflect what we are talking about in ANWR in that tiny—well, relatively speaking, tiny area of ANWR where drilling would be allowed. This is from Google Maps. This isn’t actual land, but it looks like most of the area where drilling would be allowed.

From time to time, there will be wildlife across this area, in the area where drilling would be allowed, but they can’t stay because they can’t live there in that area. There is just not enough to sustain life there.

As Jimmy Carter figured out, it is an ideal place to drill, and that is why they designated it for that. But we have been waiting for you to use that as a place to even further reduce our cost of energy, which will also allow us to export energy, which means European countries don’t have to be blackmailed or extorted by Russia.

There is one country that hopes the Democrats are very, very successful—well, of course, the OPEC nations. But Russia is probably the most hopeful that the Democrats are successful in preventing us from getting the energy that we have been blessed with in this area where you don’t have caribou or things, wildlife, like you do in other parts of ANWR. They don’t want us to drill because they know we will be able to get energy to Europe. And we won’t extort Europe the way that Putin often has, countries that he supplies natural gas to.

If we export that, we can help give more freedom to the world. We can begin working on our own energy even further. Why wouldn’t we do that?

This picture was near the proposed exploration area. It is from Google Maps. It is taken on Dalton Highway, just south of Prudhoe Bay. It is facing east towards the coastal area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. So it is not right in the refuge, but it is a very fair representation of the coastal areas found within the refuge.

It is actually a more accurate depiction of the proposed area than the images that we have been seeing around here about the mountains and rainbows and all the herds of animals. This is much more representative than any of those types of pictures.
past or that there are instances in which that will happen this time.’’

That was at the height of the 2016 election.

He goes on to say: “And so I invite Mr. Trump to stop whining and go try to make his case to get votes.”

President Trump did nothing. It turns out they knew that the Russians were trying to meddle in our election. So why wouldn’t Obama try to stop the Russians from meddling in our election? He did nothing.

There is speculation that he knew Hillary Clinton was going to win, and he was afraid if they started admitting what they knew was true—that Russia was trying to meddle in our election—and then Hillary Clinton won, it might make her victory look suspect if they talked about the effort they knew Russia was engaged in to affect our election.

But the truth is that Putin wants to divide America as much as he can. Divide and conquer is what he hopes to do. And he has been successful.

The Russians that they had who gave their CIA, Christopher Steele, the discredited former MI6 guy, that he provided to Fusion GPS that apparently the Clinton campaign and the DNC had hired, it has done what they wanted. It has done what Putin wanted. It has adversely affected the President of the United States. It has divided our country, and it has pitted family against family.

Someone once said that the last phase of a civil war involves guns, and we have been in a nonfirearm civil war for a while now. And this Mueller investigation—the whole Russia dossier, the lies in there about candidate, now President, Trump—the Russians, just like Putin wanted, have been successful in dividing this country.

As of yesterday, being 9/11, we can disagree, like John Dingell and I did, but I loved the guy. He was a brilliant, caring, honorable man of integrity. We have some on both sides of the aisle. We have some people on both sides of the aisle; and but there are people on both sides of the aisle; and we can work together because they are honest, honorable people, and we can disagree when we need to.

I need to touch on, before we finish the week here, of course, we have seen in the news Afghanistan peace talks with the Taliban broke down. The Taliban continue to kill Americans, and the U.S. are going to continue to kill Americans. It is who they are. It is what they are.

In my trips to Afghanistan and other places, I made friends with some of those Muslims who were part Afghan, Muslims who were part of the Northern Alliance. It is no longer called the Northern Alliance. But these were Muslim friends of the United States. They just wanted their freedom. They are Muslims, but they did not want ruthless terrorist organizations like the Taliban running their country.

The enemy of our enemy were people we could work with. Unfortunately, our intelligence was not sophisticated enough, plugged in enough, so that a day or so before 9/11, when Ahmad Shah Massoud, sometimes called the Lion of Panjshir because he was such a hero—he was a great warrior, soldier; he was a great politician, beloved in Afghanistan. The Taliban comes to kill him, but he had good security.

The Taliban, they may be crazy, they may be haters and want to kill all Americans, but they are not stupid at all. They knew that if the United States and Russia alcohol—9/11 attack—we had originated in Afghanistan with al-Qaeda and the Taliban, that the United States would come to Afghanistan, and we would look for an Afghan leader that the people would rally behind, who could lead the country against the Taliban. And they knew that would most likely be the Lion of Panjshir, the hero of the Afghan victory over Russia, Ahmad Shah Massoud.

A day or so before 9/11—I think it was around 36 hours or so before 9/11—I think it was before 9/11—that the Taliban broke down. The Taliban gets one or two provinces, and one thing we are going to give Afghanistan now that we have destroyed the Taliban? Unfortunately, that shouldn’t have been our decision, but there were people who said, Look, this is a Tribal country and nothing would fit this area better than to have strong local and state or province governments, and then it is a Federalist society where the national government is kind of an umbrella, but the real power is in the provinces and the local government.

What is not what we did. The wrong people were listened to. And we pushed a constitution through that gives the power to the President, almost making him a dictator. The President is elected in Afghanistan, but then he appoints the governors. He appoints the governors. He appoints the police chief. Just cut the local folks and the province folks out of governing themselves.

And as my friend Massoud said: You know, look, we know you are going to end up having to pull out some day, so please help us get an amendment to our constitution that allows each province to elect its own governor and allows each city and town to elect their own mayor. Let us pick our own police chiefs, not somebody that Karzai, and now Ghani who is President would pick, but let us pick our own leaders.

And the reasoning I thought was very loud. He said, when America leaves Afghanistan with this strong central government, there is nothing that hasfall power, all I have got to do is either knock off or corrupt the President, and they are right back in charge of Afghanistan.

The Taliban hate Americans, so they are going to come kill a bunch more once they take back over Afghanistan. And then you are going to have to come back and Americans die all over again for nothing.

If you will simply allow us to have that local provincial power so we elect our own leaders and not have them appointed from Kabul, then, yeah, maybe the Taliban gets one or two provinces, but the rest of us can rise up like we did before and defeat the Taliban again, and you don’t have to have Americans die like you have for all of these years.

That made sense. But the only trouble is, the guy that helped get Afghanistan this ridiculous constitution that has created basically a totalitarian Presidency, that is who was negotiating with the Taliban. There are rumors that he wanted to be President of Afghanistan at one time himself, but...
Regardless, this guy, he gave the Bush administration bad advice. He gave the Obama administration bad advice. They were trying to cut a deal with the Taliban. The Taliban, you can cut a deal with them and then they are going to cut your throat the first chance they get.

It makes no sense. But we have people from the Bush administration through the Obama administration. Khalilzad is still being listened to, and he wanted to do this deal with the Pashtun brothers, the Taliban.

We don’t need to be dealing with our enemies. We need to be dealing with our allies. And this was one of the great dangers, by rejecting those who lost family members, risked their own lives to help us take out the Taliban, eliminate the organized Taliban originally, without a single loss of American life, why wouldn’t we want to put them in positions of power? They can get elected. If we just—I said to Massoud: What makes you think we could help you amend your constitution?

And he said: You are still paying for your help to do it, so you don’t have to change the constitution. But we need your help to do it, so you don’t have to keep losing American lives here in Afghanistan.

It made so much sense. But, unfortunately, the deep state just continues to be deep and Khalilzad has been part of that from the beginning. He seemed like a nice guy when I met him in Iraq back in 2005. He seemed like a nice guy. He is just the wrong person to be listened to.

Americans have continued to be killed while he has been wanting to have peace talks with the Taliban, not with the northern or former Northern Alliance people who risked their lives and lost family members fighting with us and for us. Oh, no, we are not going to deal with them. We are going to leave them. And all of the former Northern Alliance, they know that when we leave and we cut a deal with the Taliban or leave things so that the Taliban can take right over again, they are all going to be killed.

There isn’t going to be anybody in Afghanistan who will be able to stand up and fight against the Taliban. On top of that, even if there were, they wouldn’t want to cut a deal with us, because they will have seen the way the Northern Alliance risked lives and lost lives to help us defeat the Taliban.

What do we do? Do we leave them high and dry? Do we allow the Taliban to come in and kill them when we go? No. No. We need to be talking to our friends who fought with us and got rid of all of the organized Taliban by February or March of 2002 before we became occupied, more or less.

There needs to be a Federalist system there, and we need our friends, our allies who fought the Taliban and don’t want them back in positions of authority. And I think President Ghani would be willing to do that, but, you know, deep state just keeps getting deeper. We need to negotiate with our friends, so they are in a position to help our enemies not get back in control to kill Americans again.

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

REQUESTING RETURN OF S. 1790, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged message from the Senate:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1790) entitled "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the request of the Senate is agreed to, and S. 1790 will be returned to the Senate.

There was no objection.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker’s table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 178. An act to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; in addition, to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; and to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on September 11, 2019, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 831. To direct the Secretary of Transportation to request nominations for and make determinations regarding roads to be designated under the national scenic byways program, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 13, 2019, at 9 a.m.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on H.R. 831, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1146, the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1146 (RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-30)

By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Increase or Decrease</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-95</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>-99</td>
<td>-104</td>
<td>-104</td>
<td>-104</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2069. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Recoupment of Nonrecurring Costs (NRCs) on Sales of U.S. Items [Docket ID: DOD-2018-OS-0088] (RIN: 0700-AK24) received August 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2070. A letter from the Special Agent, Chief, Policy Branch, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting
the Department’s final rule — Individual Requests for Access or Amendment of CID Reports of Investigation [Docket ID: USA-2019-HQ-0016] (RIN: 0702-AH06) received September 5, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2071. A letter from the Under Secretary, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Addition of Certain Entities to the Entity List and Revision of Entries on the Entity List [Docket No.: BIS-2019-0013] (RIN: 0968-AH66) received September 5, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2072. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission’s guidance and interpretation — Commission Interpretation and Guidance Regarding the Applicability of the Proxy Rules to Proxy Voting Advice [Release No. 34-86721] received August 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.


2076. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Minnesota, Flint Hills Sulfur Dioxide (802) Revisions [EPA-R05-OAR-2018-0731; FRL-9998-49; Region 5] received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2077. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles [EPA-R06-OAR-2018-0811; FRL-9997-58; Region 6] received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2078. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Modification of Myriad Applications and Certifications in the 3700 MHz Band for Television Services [MB Docket No.: 17-317]; Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative [MB Docket No.: 17-18] received August 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2079. A letter from the Associate Chief, Auctions Division, Office of Economics and Analytics, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Additional Use of Upper Microwave Flexible Use Service Licenses in the Upper 37 GHz, 39 GHz, and 47 GHz Bands for Next-Generation Wireless Services; Notice of Inquiry and Request for Comments by Reference [Docket No.: FCC-19-39; Comment Period: 14-177] received August 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2080. A letter from the Under Secretary, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Temporary General License: Extension of Validity, Clarifications to Authorized Transactions, and Changes to Certification Statement Requirements [Docket No.: 190814-0012] (RIN: 0969-AH66) received September 5, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2081. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Addition of Certain Entities to the Entity List, Revision of Entries on the Entity List [Docket No.: BIS-2019-0016] received August 23, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2082. A letter from the Senior Attorney-Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — FAST Act Section 5516 “Additional State Authority” Implementation [Docket No.: FHWA-2019-0012] (RIN: 0694-AH50) received August 27, 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.

2083. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace: Endicott’s NY; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0347; Aerospace Docket No.: 19-AEA-6] (RIN: 2125-AF96) received September 6, 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.

2084. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Regulations Governing With Licensing and Related Services-2019 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 27)] received August 23, 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.

2085. A letter from the Chairperson, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board’s final rule — Regulations Governing Licenses and Services-2019 Update With Licensing and Related Services-2019 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 27)] received August 23, 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.

2086. A letter from the Chairperson, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board’s final rule — Regulations Governing Licenses and Services-2019 Update With Licensing and Related Services-2019 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 27)] received August 23, 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.

2087. 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-2019-0042; Product Identifier 2019-NM-039-AD; Amendment 39-19722; AD 2019-16-09] (RIN: 2120-AA46) received September 6, 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.

2088. A letter from the Chairperson, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board’s final rule — Regulations Governing Licenses and Services-2019 Update With Licensing and Related Services-2019 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 27)] received August 23, 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.
rule — Implementation of Nonresident Alien Deposit Interest Regulations (Rev. Proc. 2019-23) received August 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; Sec. 606; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 3269 to provide PreCheck to severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-339, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3356 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

CONSENSUS CALENDAR

Under clause 7 of rule XV, the following motion was filed with the Clerk: Motion No. 8, September 12, 2019 by Ms. PRESSLEY of Massachusetts to discharge the Committee on Education and Labor from further consideration of H.R. 4306 referred to the Committee on Education and Labor.

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 Ms. KIM (for himself, Ms. DEAN, and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico): H.R. 4296. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program under which the Secretary determines the exposure of Defense personnel to radiation from nuclear weapons testing; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SACHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TID LINU of California, Ms. GIULIAVA of Nevada, Mr. DELAURIO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. JUDI CHU of California, Ms. SPEER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. PINOHOE, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ): H.R. 4296. A bill to amend title VI of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safe use of cosmetics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BASS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CABRANJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CuÉNTEROS, Ms. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COX of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELAURIO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARCÍA of California, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MENG, Mr. LIEJÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. PORTER): H.R. 4296. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure that Federal Pell Grant eligibility is based on the cost of attendance for an institution of higher education that provides the highest work for the purpose of determining eligibility to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Mrs. MCBAITH, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. SAABIAN, Ms. DEBREMEN, Mr. MENG, Mr. LIEJÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. PORTER): H.R. 4296. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Department of Education to coordinate with the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services, to publish an annual report on indicators of school crime and safety that includes data on school shootings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SHERMAN: H.R. 4302. A bill to authorize public housing agencies to share certain data regarding homeless individuals and families for the provision of housing and services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. GABBARD (for herself, Mrs. MCCARTHY of Massachusetts): H.R. 4303. A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to publish an annual report on indicators of school crime and safety that includes data on school shootings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

By Ms. BALLOR (for herself, Mr. TURNER, Ms. BASS, and Mr. STIVERS): H.R. 4303. A bill to provide federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mr. DELAURIO, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Mr. BUTLER, Mr. SAABIAN, Mr. GIULIAVA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. COX of California, Ms. SPEER, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. WATSON COBBURN, Mr. HANSOON of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RICHMOND, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CLAY of Michigan, Mr. CIVIDINE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. JOHNSON of New Jersey, COURTNEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. McCOVERN, Mr. ESPIALLAT, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CHISH, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. FRANKIEL, Ms. FUDKE, Mrs. BRATTY, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. JOSEPH of Georgia, Mr. LEE of California, Mr. EVANS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. AMERS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BUTLERFIELD, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LOFREN, Ms. SACHKOWSKY, Mr. KNANNA, Mr. GARAMendi, Mr. CASTELLANOS of California, Ms. SANCHEZ): H.R. 4303. A bill to direct the Commonwealth of the Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. PALAZZIO (for himself, Mr. KAPPITZ, Mr. GUERRI, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. FOSTER): H.R. 4304. A bill to amend title 51, United States Code, to allow the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to accept in-kind consideration for certain leases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. DUNN, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. ROY, and Mr. OLIVER): H.R. 4305. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy, to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Mr. MALINSKOW): H.R. 4306. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Reserve and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to conduct an evaluation of the safety, security, and environmental risks of transporting liquefied natural gas by rail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mrs. RODWINGE of Washington, Mr. HUCK, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. HASS of California, and Mr. GALLAGHER): H.R. 4307. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, relating to certain requirements for the engineering phase of fixed guideway capital investment grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself, Ms. HILL of California, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. BRINDISI, and Mr. NADLER): H.R. 4308. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish an emergency aid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. KATKO, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO): H.R. 4309. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to facilitate the installation, on bridges, of evidence-based suicide deterrents, including suicide prevention nets and barriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania: H.R. 4310. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to clarify that employment in any position at a nonprofit organization is a public service job, for purposes of the public service loan forgiveness program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. CHABOT): H.R. 4311. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to institute a program to provide financial assistance to local governments, and to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California: H.R. 4312. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that educational assistance is available for an individual who pursues an approved program of education.
leading to a degree while on active duty in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD). H.R. 4313. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to State and Tribal courts in order to allow the electronic filing of certain orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. LAXALT). H.R. 4314. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to appoint officers of the Armed Forces in certain federal medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RYAN. H.R. 4321. A bill to eliminate lead-based paint and lead hazards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GARTZ and Ms. Lie of California): H.R. 4322. A bill to promote cannabis research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Miss Rice of New York): H.R. 4316. A bill to provide for temporary emergency aid for local educational agencies; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. SCHENK of Pennsylvania): H.R. 4317. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and expand the new energy efficient home credit, to extend the energy efficient commercial buildings deduction, to eliminate the basis reduction for low-income housing properties receiving certain energy benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. O’HALLERAN (for himself, Mr. STANTON, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. GALLO). H.R. 4318. A bill to provide economic stimulus resources to distressed rural communities directly impacted by the closure of a closed electric generating station, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. PANETTA (for herself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARHALL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEVER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. ESCH, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HALAND, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LOFLOREN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SIKES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUOZI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. VAUGHAN, and Ms. VELAZQUEZ): H.R. 4319. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the annual numerical limit on H-1B visas, to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant work authorization to aliens with a pending application for nonimmigrant status under subparagraph (U) or (T) of section 101(a)(15) of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
Intelligence (Permanent Select), Oversight and Reform, Science, Space, and Technology, Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Financial Services, Ethics, and Homeland Security, a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

133. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of California, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, requesting the Congress of the United States, and with the President of the United States, to enact legislation that would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act.

By Ms. VELAZQUEZ:

H.R. 4295
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOMEZ:

H.R. 4296
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4297
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 4298
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 4299
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. GABBARD:

H.R. 4300
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 4301
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 4302
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 4303
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PALAZZO:

H.R. 4304
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 13 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 4305
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MORELLE:

H.R. 4306
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BROYHILL:

H.R. 4307
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 4308
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 4309
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. VELAZQUEZ:

H.R. 4310
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PORTER:

H.R. 4311
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SHALALA:

H.R. 4312
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. GABBARD:

H.R. 4313
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 4314
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. Higgins of Louisiana:

H.R. 4315
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4316
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4, clause 1 of the Constitution reads: "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators."

So, Article I, Section 4, clause 1 allows states to prescribe the “Time, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives,” but allows Congress “at any time” to “make or alter such regulations.”

By Mr. King of New York:

H.R. 4317
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. O’HALLERAN:

H.R. 4318
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 4319
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Ms. SHALALA:

H.R. 4320
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. RYAN:

H.R. 4321
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. SHALALA:

H.R. 4322
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof . . . ."
Congressional Record — House

H7707

September 12, 2019

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect **Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises**, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; and all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To post Office and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

And **Offices against the Law of Nations**; To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To provide for the Establishment of a post Office and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their Writings and Discoveries;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 4326.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

H.R. 4326.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

H.R. 4326.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

H.R. 4326.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 10

H.R. 4326.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 4327.

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

Article I Section 8

H.R. 4327.

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 4: Mr. VISCONTI.

H.R. 96: Mr. TIPPETT.

H.R. 305: Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 435: Ms. OCASIO-CORTZ and Mr. GUAJARDO.

H.R. 444: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 446: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 473: Ms. VELAZQUEZ.

H.R. 465: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 467: Mr. STROEKE.

H.R. 572: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. ARMSTRONG.

H.R. 674: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 707: Mr. ROCAN.

H.R. 744: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 777: Mr. MARCHANT and Ms. LOPRESTI.

H.R. 878: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 891: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 899: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 943: Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ROUSER, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. STEWART, Mr. KELLER, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. FORBES, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mrs. McBATH, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KEVIN HUFFMAN of Oklahoma, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. MCDAMAS, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. MUCARSEL-Powell, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 2178: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 2181: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 2238: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 2241: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 2242: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 2246: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. PORTER, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. LARSEN of Connecticut, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. WATSON COMELA, and Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 2225: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 2256: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Ms. SCALAN.

H.R. 2276: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Ms. VELAZQUEZ.

H.R. 2301: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 2339: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 2382: Mr. LATTAN.

H.R. 2386: Ms. PINHAGE.

H.R. 2438: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. HECK, and Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 2441: Mr. NADLER and Mr. HOAGIN of New York.

H.R. 2474: Mr. O’HALLERAN and Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 2487: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 2568: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 2573: Ms. PINHAGE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BRINDISH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. TIPPTON, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. LONG, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. STEWART, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MILLER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FLORES, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 2568: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 2632: Ms. PERSHLEY.

H.R. 2645: Mr. MADDOWS.

H.R. 2653: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 2684: Mr. WOODALL.

H.R. 2707: Mr. NARSINGH and Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 2736: Ms. BRATTY and Mr. SLOCUM.

H.R. 2730: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 2722: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2775: Mr. AHUJAL.

H.R. 2825: Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 2846: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 2859: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 2985: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 2885: Ms. WAGNER.

H.R. 3006: Mr. MITCHELL.

H.R. 3048: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 3062: Mr. HOLDING.
H. Res. 387: Ms. BROWNLEY of California
H. Res. 49: Mr. ROSE of New York
H. Res. 549: Mr. Visclosky

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk’s desk and referred as follows:

39. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the City of Miami Commission, relative to Resolution No. R-19-0281, urging the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to reevaluate and grant Ramon Saul Sanchez’s application for permanent resident status; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

40. Also, a petition of House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, relative to House Joint Resolution 21-4, HD2, To provide mutual consent to amend Article III, Section 303 of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America to limit birth tourism in the CNMI; jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and the Judiciary.
The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

---

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Holy God, Your goodness extends to all generations. Thank You that You can be found by all who truly seek You. You are our God, and we trust Your love, wisdom, and power.

Lord, guide our Senators to protect our goodly heritage of freedom, using them to defend our Constitution from all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Please, God, hear our fervent prayers, for You are our refuge and strength.

Cause us to live now as we shall wish we had done when our time comes to die.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

---

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 90 seconds.

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

---

**CENTRAL COLLEGE TUITION REDUCTION**

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I have two points I would like to make.

I have three bills designed to help students better understand the actual cost of college because it is kind of a complicated thing to determine because there is not enough transparency.

Colleges tend to think that having a high tuition is a reflection of quality, which just means that they all have to offer more scholarships. Between that and the complexity of Federal student aid, price shopping for college is very difficult and some people might think impossible. That is why I was glad to learn that one of Iowa's well-respected private colleges, Central College in Pella, IA, has lowered its tuition from $36,000 a year to $18,600 to better reflect the actual cost. Yes, that is right—they reduced their college tuition by $20,000 a year. Maybe Pella Central College will start a trend.

---

**REMEMBERING CHUCK GEERTZ**

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, on another point, Iowans, and particularly veterans, mourn the loss of Chuck Geertz of Muscatine. Sergeant First Class Geertz was an Active-Duty serviceman for 23 years but continued to serve his Nation after his retirement in 2009, and this is how he did it: through establishing an organization in 2008 called Healing at English River Outfitters or, as he established the acronym, HERO. That organization does great good. It provides veterans and their families with relaxing outdoor activities for physical and mental healing.

Chuck is remembered for his caring spirit and dedication to his community and, most important, his fellow veterans. While he will be missed, his legacy of community service will continue.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

---

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

---

**CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

---

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2020. (Reappointment)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, it was a good August. While I head back to South Dakota almost every weekend, August gives me the chance to spend multiple uninterrupted weeks back home visiting with South Dakotans and traveling to the far corners of the State.

August is also fair season in South Dakota, and there is nothing better than a South Dakota fair. This year I got to attend the South Dakota State Fair, the Brown County Fair, the Sioux Empire Fair, the Turner County Fair, and the McCook County Fair, to name a few on the list. As usual, I had a great time at all of them. Of course, the people are the best part of the fair, although I have to say that the fair food is not far behind. I am still enjoying at this late date the Tubby Burger.
that I had at the Brown County Fair, and I will tell you that they don’t have burgers like that here in Washington, DC.

Agriculture is the lifeblood of South Dakota, and, as always, a lot of my conversations over the August break were centered on agriculture. Farmers and ranchers have had a very rough few years, and addressing the needs of our agriculture community is one of my top priorities in Congress.

One of our top concerns for our farmers right now is trade. Multiple protracted trade disputes have exacerbated an already struggling ag economy and have left farmers and ranchers unsure how markets are going to be going forward.

While ranchers received some good news in August with the announcement that the administration has reached a deal on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, South Dakota farmers have been issued—a significant challenge owing to the excess production of small refinery waivers that have been issued—an issue we continue to try to address.

Perhaps the biggest concern for our farmers right now is trade. Multiple protracted trade disputes have exacerbated an already struggling ag economy and have left farmers and ranchers unsure how markets are going to be going forward.

While ranchers received some good news in August with the announcement that the administration has reached a deal on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, South Dakota farmers have been issued—a significant challenge owing to the excess production of small refinery waivers that have been issued—an issue we continue to try to address.

However, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.

One of my priorities right now is pushing for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada free-trade agreement. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will preserve farmers’ access to the large market of Canada. While we remain concerned about the Canadian dairy market, we are ahead of the curb, thanks to people like Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, who has worked aggressively to remove barriers to telecommunications investment in suburban areas.
have tried hard to convince him that he should be rooting for the Green Bay Packers, but so far I haven’t gotten anywhere.

Fortunately, our shared appreciation for the tuba has helped us to get over our major disagreements on football. Both Brendon and I are tuba players from way back, although I think he is a little more accomplished at the tuba than I am. I never made it beyond the high school marching band. Brendon went on to Augustana University in South Dakota for music scholarship and played in the concert band. I just learned that he actually had lost his tuba scholarship—if you can believe this—to dedicate time to my first campaign.

As I said earlier, it is hard to think of my office without Brendon. He will be deeply missed, but I look forward to watching him excel in all his future endeavors. I know that he may enjoy having a little bit more time to spend with his wife Lindsay and his little ones, Timmy and Katie Lou. As we all know, days on the Hill can be very long.

If you ask Brendon how he got into politics, he will tell you about the meeting he attended in college where I was the guest speaker. That meeting, Brendon says, got him interested in politics for the first time. Shortly after, he applied to work on my first Senate campaign, and the rest, as they say, is history.

To hear Brendon tell it, attending that meeting was a lucky day for him, but I know it was an even luckier day for me and for the people of South Dakota.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, there are two possible paths when it comes to how Congress proceeds this fall. There is a bipartisan path, where both parties work together in good faith to pass all 12 appropriations bills. Then there is the partisan path, where one party breaks faith with the other, and we end up traveling down a road of brinkmanship. Continuing resolutions become the order of the day, and the risk of a government shutdown increases.

We all know the bipartisan path is far preferable. It both avoids the possibility of another damaging government shutdown, and when we legislate the appropriations bills, we can intelligently allocate our resources for the future. Continuing resolutions, on the other hand, are blunt objects that simply recycle last year’s priorities. It hurts our military; it hurts the middle class; and it hurts the American people.

We are at an important crossroads between those two passes right now. After successfully negotiating the broad outlines of a budget deal earlier this year, we must now agree on the allocations to the 12 appropriations subcommittees, known as the 302(b) allocations. This process was completely bipartisan in 2018; these allocations passed the Appropriations Committee unanimously 31 to 0.

This year, the Republican majority, without consulting with Democrats, has proposed taking away $12 billion from urgent domestic priorities and from urgent military priorities and wasting it—wasting it on President Trump’s ill-conceived border wall. This is the very wall President Trump promised over and over again that Mexico would pay for when he ran for office and garnered support for it from his constituency.

No Republican leader is not the Republican leader who knows this place well—could seriously believe Democrats would agree to that: $12 billion for the wall, stolen from healthcare programs to fight opioid addiction and encourage cancer research, stolen from the military families? No Republican could expect Democrats to support that, nor should they. It is terrible policy.

This morning, in the appropriations markup, every single Republican on the committee, including Leader McCONNELL, voted to move forward on this idea. Republican Senators who oppose the President’s emergency declaration voted for it; Republican Senators whose States would lose tens of millions of dollars in military funding voted for it. This is the clearest indication yet that Republicans may well be abandoning a bipartisan appropriations process. They would do so at their peril, as well as the Nation.

Republicans have started off here on the wrong foot, repeating the exact same mistakes they made at the end of 2018, which resulted in the longest government shutdown in American history—a shutdown that President Trump and Republicans rightly shouldered the blame for.

There is only one bit of good news in this maneuver. There is still time for Republicans to have a debate. The Republican majority should sit down with Democrats on the committee and start over on the 302(b) allocations, figure out an order to bring each bill to the floor, and get a bipartisan process back on track. What is at stake is the well-being of our military, our middle class, and our nation. The Republicans want to do it. That is how we have always taken appropriations bills done.

No one wants to resort to a continuing resolution or, God forbid, another government shutdown, but it takes two to tango.

My Republican colleagues must know that what happens in the next few days and weeks will determine whether we can proceed with a bipartisan appropriations process this fall or not.

I urge Leader McCONNELL and every single Republican to reverse course—it is certainly not too late—and work with us and get it done. I spoke to Leader McCONNELL yesterday right here in the well and suggested just that. He seemed open to it. Let’s hope our request is heeded.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. President, on guns, yesterday, in an open letter to the Senate, the leaders of 145 companies—some of the most recognizable in our country—added their voices to the millions of Americans who want action on gun violence. Here are the words of these corporate leaders, hardly leftwing radicals: ‘‘Doing nothing about America’s gun violence crisis is simply unacceptable . . . the Senate must follow the House’s lead by passing bipartisan legislation that would update the background checks law helping to keep guns out of the hands of people who shouldn’t have them.’’

They are correct, and the people who shouldn’t have them, almost no one thinks they should. Should felons have guns? Should people with a history of domestic abuse have guns? Should people adjudicated mentally ill have guns? Yet the enormous loopholes in the law allow them to have guns. Forty percent of the guns sold in America now are sold without background checks. Even if they are sold either online or at gun shows.

These corporate leaders are exactly right. They are not asking for anything radical. They are asking for something that 93 percent of the American people support.

When it comes to gun safety legislation, no policy is a better starting point than universal background checks. We are certainly open to debating the finer points of legislation with our Republican colleagues. But we certainly will not settle for anything less than meaningful action to address gun violence. We know meaningful action begins with closing the loopholes in our background check system so guns don’t fall into the wrong hands in the first place.

After saying the issue of gun safety would be front and center when Congress returned, Leader McCONNELL has given no indication of when the Senate will have a debate. Leader McCONNELL has suggested it is up to the White House—a mercurial, inconsistent White House—to determine what, if any, legislation reaches the floor. Meanwhile, after Republicans met with President Trump at the White House this week, a few said President Trump was liable to let Congress take the lead.

Well, Leader McCONNELL, President Trump, Republican Senators, it is the old Abbott and Costello routine again. They are going like this: Congressional Republicans point at the White House, the White House points at congressional Republicans, and nothing gets done.
We know why nothing gets done. The public overwhelmingly—the vast majority of Americans, the vast majority of gun owners, the majority of NRA members—want to close the loopholes, but the NRA has our Republican colleagues quaking in their boots, and they almost always bow down in obeisance to the NRA. The NRA says: Let’s look at the legislation. Then it is so weakened, it virtually does nothing. That is not going to happen this time.

Mr. President, on China, a report in the Wall Street Journal this morning describes how China will invariably disagree about which issue is a trade issue and which issue is a national security issue.

Regardless, this transparent attempt by China to dodge a conversation about its predatory actions against American companies should not stand. China has stolen millions of dollars of innovation from the United States. Of course they don’t want to talk about this topic, and of course they want to defer this conversation to a day in the future that will never come.

President Trump has been tougher on China than any previous President in modern times, certainly, and that is also true. Let’s all hope the Chinese Government comes to the table in the next few weeks, as they get back to their discussions, ready to actually address some of these issues, particularly, the issue of their subsidies, which are contrary to our laws, but also the international rules, the technology transfer, and the taking of our intellectual property. There are changes in the structure of our trade relations that are required for us to get to that level playing field that all of us should want.

I also agree about the notion that we should have more reciprocity. If they are keeping our stuff out, we should be able to respond in kind. Ultimately, we all want a resolution to this issue. We want the tariffs to be eliminated, but we want to do it on a basis where there is actually fair trade between our two countries.

With regard to the appropriations process, I, too, am hopeful we can get something done here on a bipartisan basis. The Democratic leader suggested
we might end up with a government shutdown. We should never end up with a government shutdown. It is terrible policy. It hurts government workers. It is bad for taxpayers.

We will be issuing a report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investiga-tions tomorrow in this regard to show how the last three government shutdowns have resulted in tremendous pain, not just to those who get furloughed and those who work without pay but also to their families. They are fairly inefficient. Let’s not even talk about a government shutdown. Why are we going down this road?

Ohio

Mr. President, in the Senate, this is the first week back in session after what is called the August work period. Today, I want to talk a little bit about my travels around the State of Ohio over the August district work period and talk about what I learned that can help inform us here as to what we can do to help our Congress to help out issues that are important to people I represent in Ohio.

One that was striking for me, and it has been for the last several years, is workforce needs. There aren’t enough workers to fill the jobs that are out there. What a great opportunity it is for people to come in out of the shadows and get to work, but also what a necessity it is now for our economy to have these workers. I learned a lot about that and a lot about that.

The changing drug crisis. We in Ohio have been hit hard with the opioid cri-sis, but it is evolving, as always. There is fentanyl, which is a synthetic form of opioids, but now crystal meth is much more powerful and cheaper than ever and is coming in from Mexico, and we need to be responsive to that change.

Challenges in Ag country. Our farm-ers are hurting. Low prices the last few years have been compounded by ter-rible weather this year. It was the worst planting in my memory in Ohio. A lot of crops didn’t get in at all. Of those that did, about half of them are not in good shape. This is tough on our farmers.

Ways to do a better job in protecting Lake Erie. This is a huge issue for us in Ohio. It is our No. 1 tourist attraction, and it is an incredible source of income in jobs. We have about a $6 billion fishing industry now in the Great Lakes. The most important lake of all is Lake Erie. As an example, several million people get their drinking water from Lake Erie. I learned a lot about that over the break.

Then, also, there is the importance of our military having the support they need. I went to our military bases around the State and learned about what we can do to help them more, and also I got the opportunity to visit two of our NASA centers in Ohio. One of the 10 NASA research centers is in Cleveland, OH, NASA Glenn. There is Plum Brook Station, where we test equipment heading to the Moon soon.

That was very helpful to understand better about how we can be providing steady funding in the Congress so that we can indeed fulfill our missions that we have always had here in this country, which is to push beyond the bounds and, in this case, to go back to the Moon and have the first woman on the Moon and, then, eventually, to go to Mars and the benefits of that.

It was a busy month. I traveled to 39 different locations. More than the last several weeks and more than 4,000 miles in my pickup truck, which now has over 180,000 miles on it, traveling around our State and to 75 different events.

When I began my second term rep-reSENTING Ohio in 2017, I made it a goal of mine to visit all 88 counties in Ohio during this term. I am happy to report that just during August we achieved that goal. A few years early, we hit all 88 county wages increases of 2.5 percent a year to go around our State and to see people in every part of our State, hear them out, and, again, to know what the best thing is to do in Congress to be able to help them and their families and to help our State.

I also traveled by train and by ferry in Lake Erie, by bike on charity bike rides, and even by kayak on the Cuya-hoga River, to meet with constituents about how Washington can be a better partner for them and their families. I met with a lot of small businesses, and I talked to them about how they are doing. The tax reform and the regu-latory relief has really helped, and this is why we have a stronger economy now than anybody projected. It is why we have more jobs being created. It is why we have wages going up for the first time in a decade in Ohio.

Last month, we actually had nation-ally the highest wages increase year to year, well above inflation. That is a welcomed change. Really, in Ohio, after about a decade and half of flat wages and not keeping up with infla-tion and people feeling like they are working harder by the rules but they couldn’t get ahead, now you finally see wages going up. The biggest increases are among lower income and middle-income workers. That is ex-actly what you want.

I am happy to report that, and I am happy to report that small business owners in Ohio are happy that it is working for them because they expanded their plants and their op-erations and they have more people. What I did hear consistently from employers at every level—and for that matter, from hospitals and nonprofits and from State and local government—is one thing: workforce. They don’t have enough employees to fill the jobs they have. Again, it is a great opportunity to bring people off the sidelines—people who are not applying for work, not looking for work—and to raise labor force participation, which economists say is relatively low, and to bring them off the sidelines. We also need these people to be able to meet our economic needs.

If you go on OhioMeansJobs.com, this morning, in that website you will see about 150,000 jobs being advertised—150,000 open jobs. When you look at those jobs, a lot of them require skills. They are not the kind of skills you get from a college degree but the kind of skills you get somewhere between high school and college—things like welding, machining, coding, other IT jobs, techs for hospitals, and truckdrivers. These jobs are open right now in Ohio. Economists call these jobs the "Jobs Act" because they are the kind of jobs that you can get the skills from in short-term training programs.

I have been a big fan of improving those skills, and we have made some progress here. We started a caucus called the Career and Technical Caucus. I am the cochair and cofounder of that. It is to focus on these practical, hands-on, skills-training for jobs that can help us to be able to fill this need.

The openings we have in Ohio are also around that. That is why I was pleased that recently the President signed my Educating Tomorrow’s Workforce Act into law, which allows States and localities to use Perkins grant funding to establish these career and technical education academies at the high school level, but we need to do more.

One that would really help is if we could pass what is called the JOBS Act. It is legislation I have introduced con-sidered with Senate colleagues from Virginia. It is really very simple. It says we ought to be able to use Pell grants not just for college but also for these shorter term training programs. In fact, they are much more relevant to what we need right now.

Sadly, most people who get a Pell grant to go to college don’t end up with a college degree. I support Pell grants in colleges and universities. It is an im-portant way for lower income students to get access to education. Why not allow those same students to get a shorter term training program under their belt? Right now they can’t afford it. If you want to get a welding degree to get an industry-recognized creden-tial to become a welder in Ohio, you can get a job right away—a good-paying job with good benefits. Yet it is costly to go through that program. They are less than 15 weeks. So they don’t qualify for Pell.

A report is cited. You can go to col-lege and get a history degree, but you can’t get a welding certificate and use a Pell grant. That is just wrong. It is unfair. I heard the same thing again and again at visits I made to community colleges around Ohio over August and visits I made to career and technical schools around Ohio, which is why they want the JOBS Act, and they want it now because they know it will help them.

I heard from one student at a welding program at a CTE school who told me she wanted to get an advanced welding certificate so she could get a great job. She knows exactly what she wants to
do, but she can’t afford it. This is an 18-year-old in her last year of high school. She is working three jobs right now, but she can’t afford the cost. So she is probably going to take a Pell and go to college when she would prefer to take a Pell and get this advanced certificate. We believe that is internationally recognized so she can get a good welding job. Again, that is something we should pass here and do it soon.

The Higher Education Act may well be passed this year. It is a perfect vehicle for it. I want to thank Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER, who has been supportive of this commonsense change to be able to get our young people and others the training they need to be able to access the jobs that are out there.

Elsewhere around the State, I did meet with our farmers in several counties. The heavy flooding has led to the worst right now in our farmer history in Ohio. We have helped a little bit because the Department of Agriculture, at our urging, has included Ohio in disaster declarations. So some of the farmers who have not been able to plant are getting low interest loans right now and eventually will get some grant money. That is good.

These farmers also want to have the access to more markets around the world because they know that is going to increase their prices and enable them to get back on their feet after these tough times with the weather.

They are particularly concerned about what is happening with regard to the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Remember, we have this existing agreement called NAFTA, which is with Mexico and Canada, our two largest trading partners. For Ohio, they are by far our two largest trading partners. But last night the NAFTA agreement is 25 years old, outdated, not keeping up with the times, and not opening up markets enough. So we have this new agreement that has been signed by Mexico, by Canada, and by the U.S. and is ready to go with it, but it has to be confirmed in the U.S. Congress. Right now, unbelievably, it is being held up, even though our farmers desperately want it. You know who else wants it? Our workers, because it is going to help manufacturing.

The people who are involved in trade understand the importance of Canada and Mexico because they are our largest markets, and it is going to be so helpful to our country and Ohio if we can get it done. The International Trade Commission, which is an independent body, studied this and said: Yes, it is going to create over 150,000 new jobs in the auto industry, the health care industry, and other States. Again, all we have to do is have a vote here in the U.S. Congress to be able to confirm this, and we can put it in place. It will help our economy. It will help create more jobs. It will give us certain ways going forward. We need to get this done.

Many of the things in the agreement are things that Democrats have been calling for for years—tougher labor standards that are enforceable, as an example. It actually has a minimum wage—40 to 45 percent of vehicles made under USMCA must be produced by workers earning an average of $16 an hour. It has a 70-percent requirement to use North American steel. It has a number of things that the Democrats have called upon us to do for years. If we don’t pass USMCA, the alternative is the status quo, which is NAFTA. In effect, if you don’t support USMCA, it is that you support the status quo, which is NAFTA, which, again, so many Democrats have been criticizing over the years. Let’s get this done. The 25-year-old NAFTA is not the status quo that anybody should want when we have this better agreement in front of us.

Specifically, if the House of Representatives were to bring the bill to the floor, I believe they could pass it just because of the logic, the fact that this agreement is better than the status quo. Then, over here in the Senate, we would have no trouble passing it, in my view.

During my tour over the August break, I also spent time visiting with a lot of organizations that are combating the drug epidemic that has gripped my State of Ohio and our country. As you know, we now have more people in Ohio dying from overdoses than from any other cause of death. It is partly because Congress has stepped up—over $4 billion in new funding for prevention, longer term treatment programs, and Narcan for our first responders. This is important, but we also have to realize that the threat is evolving and changing.

One thing I learned when I was home and talking to groups all over the State about this issue is that, yes, the legislation we passed is helping. I got to see how it is helping and to see how my legislation, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, is being put to work in Ohio.

The real threat in Ohio is these new drugs that are coming in, particularly crystal meth. The crystal meth coming in from Mexico is much more powerful and less expensive than ever. We used to have meth labs in Ohio. You may have had them in your communities as well. You probably will not hear much about meth labs anymore. Why? Because the stuff on the street is even more powerful than you can make in a meth lab, in someone’s home, and it is less expensive.

In fact, the law enforcement folks in Ohio are telling me that the meth on the street in Ohio is less expensive than marijuana, and it has a much more corrosive effect on our communities and a devastating impact on families and individuals, increasing crime. This is the psychostimulant, like cocaine, that is causing more aggressive crimes.

With regard to the opioid crisis, we need to keep our eye on the ball. We need to continue what we are doing. Congress deserves credit for expanding the treatment, longer term recovery programs, some of them using the Narcan money, the use of Narcan, but at the same time, we have to be more flexible.

The legislation I have introduced—and I hope we will be able to pass—will provide more flexibility to our communities to take that money for opioids and use it for whatever the community needs to address substance abuse.

When I was home, I also heard a lot about Lake Erie, which is our treasure to deal with. We have had million Cubic feet of water out of Lake Erie, and those individuals are worried. Why? Because in Toledo a few years ago, we actually had them in your communities as well. We shut down the water system because of the toxic algal blooms that are in Lake Erie. This year was another tough year for the toxic algal blooms, cutting off fishing opportunities and swimming opportunities. We need to do more to address it.

Again, Congress has made progress in this area. We have passed legislation that is helping. We have added more money that is helping. My legislation to authorize that program going forward and to increase the funding slightly. Why? Because it is working. These are public-private partnerships all around the Great Lakes to deal with the harmful algal blooms, to deal with the pollution, and to deal with the invasive species coming in. It is working.

We have the opportunity to go to all of our military bases around the State of Ohio and to go to our two NASA facilities. Again, I am so proud of NASA, where we are preparing for the next mission to the moon.

NASA Administrator James Bridenstine came with us to the Glenn
Research Center in Cleveland and the Plum Brook testing facility. We got to see how these scientists and engineers—the best in the world—are working to complete the Artemis Program. Again, this is an ambitious effort to put a woman on the moon and the first man on Mars within the next 5 years, laying the groundwork for our mission to Mars.

It was great to be home. It was great to have the opportunity to visit with folks all over the State of Ohio. We were also great to welcome to great new opportunities to have the opportunity to come back refreshed and to talk about how we can make a bigger difference for them here in the U.S. Congress with some of the legislative initiatives I have talked about today.

There is so much we can and should do this fall. I am eager to roll up my sleeves and have a productive session here, working on a bipartisan basis to get things done for the people I represent and for all Americans.

Thank you.

I yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

VIETNAM HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. COFFIN. Mr. President, I think people are surprised when they come to Texas and find out how diverse a State it really is. Not everybody there looks like me or pronounces their last name the same way.

In fact, we have a huge melting pot of people from all over the country and, literally, many from around the world who come to the State because we have a growing economy, creating jobs and opportunity. People can find work to provide for their family and achieve their dreams.

It shouldn’t surprise anybody that Texas is increasingly diverse. We have benefited a lot from the variety of folks and cultures and ideas that have come around the world and planted roots in the Lone Star State.

When I ask folks if they know what the second most spoken language in Texas is, they say: Well, that is easy. It is Spanish.

I say: Well, that is right. Let me give you a harder one. What is the third most commonly spoken language in Texas?

After a couple of guesses, they are usually surprised when I say Vietnamese.

It is not in the overall numbers of Spanish or English, to be sure, but we have a vibrant Vietnamese community in Texas that was established after the fall of Saigon and the Vietnam war. Many of them immigrated to the Houston area or to the metroplex area.

Of course, they have faced many of the same struggles as those who have come to America throughout our country’s history. In addition to adjusting to a new home, language, and culture, they continue to deal with some ugly aspects of their new home: racism and bigotry.

From those challenges and from overcoming those challenges, they have derived tremendous strength, demonstrated outstanding drive and a desire to succeed.

Our Vietnamese-American communities in Texas are growing and thriving, and they continue to play a very important role in our increasingly diverse State.

I had the chance to meet with a number of my Vietnamese-American constituents during the August break, and we talked about some of the issues that concern them the most.

Just last weekend, in fact, I visited Cali Saigon Mall in Garland, TX, for their annual children’s festival. I participated in an on-stage discussion with a number of community leaders. Although the children seemed more interested in the tiger dance or musical performances and the colorful costumes, it was a great opportunity for me to hear from these folks firsthand. We had a good discussion about the human rights climate in Vietnam, which has continued to decline.

The Vietnamese Government limits political freedom by denying its own citizens their right to vote in free and fair elections. It denudes them the freedom of assembly and expression and due process rights—the sorts of basic rights we call human rights here in the United States.

Last year, one of my constituents, a young man named William Nguyen, was unjustly beaten and detained for participating in demonstrations in Ho Chi Minh City. We were fortunate enough to secure his release back home with the help of his community leaders. Although the children seemed more interested in the tiger dance or musical performances and the colorful costumes, I was glad to welcome him back to the good old U.S. of A.

Sadly, the people who continue to live in Vietnam have to escape from a brutal communist regime, which continues to disregard the most basic human rights, threaten religious freedom, and silence the press.

Vietnam remains one of the lowest ranked countries in the world when it comes to freedom of the press. In 2018, Reporters Without Borders ranked Vietnam 176th out of 180 countries worldwide.

It should come as no surprise that Vietnamese Americans who have lived under this type of rule—or who have family members who still do—don’t take our freedoms here in America for granted. It is just the opposite. These immigrants are great patriots who fully appreciate the freedoms they enjoy here in America because they realize how close they came to seeing those same freedoms denied in their home country.

With them, I share their concerns about the ongoing interest here at home in failed ideas, like socialism, and will continue to dispel rumors that socialism can provide more than the free enterprise system, which has created the very prosperity that Vietnamese Americans and others enjoy here in the United States.

In addition to our efforts to strengthen our own democracy, we need to do more to strengthen democracies around the world and to protect basic human rights. Earlier this year, I reintroduced the Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act to try to do just that. This bill would impose travel restrictions on other aspects of the Vietnamese nationals complicit in human rights abuses against their fellow citizens. These sanctions would not be lifted until the Vietnamese Government releases all political prisoners and ceases the use of violence against peaceful demonstrators.

We simply can’t avert our gaze and allow these practices to continue without any sort of accountability. I say the same for what is happening now in Hong Kong.

I appreciate the many Vietnamese Americans who have shared their experiences with me on this topic, and I will continue to advocate for a brighter future for all those who choose to come to America.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY EDWARDS

Mr. President, on one other matter, I want to take a moment to recognize a member of my staff who is near her retirement—Sandy Edwards.

Sandy is the regional director in my Austin field office. She has been with me for nearly two decades—first, in my office when I was attorney general of Texas and now in the U.S. Senate, where she serves, as I said, as my central Texas regional director.

Everybody who knows Sandy knows she has the heart and spirit of a public servant. She works hard to make sure that every Texan who contacts my office feels appreciated, understood, and is happy with the support they receive.

She knows that our faces represent what people get for their tax dollars. With Sandy, central Texans have gotten some serious bang for their buck. Over the years, she has, of course, developed countless relationships with people and organizations that are working to improve our Texas communities in Central Texas.

I will never forget one year spending a December evening out in East Austin at an incredible nonprofit called the Community First! Village. We joined formerly homeless people for a Christmas tree lighting and spent a cold, rainy night with them rejoicing at what this organization and the good-hearted people who work there have helped them to achieve.

At one point, in 2012, Sandy had me biting down on a Starburst candy so she could analyze my dental impressions. I never got a report back of exactly how that turned out.

Sandy is not a fair-weather friend. She has been there by my side during some very difficult times. For example, in 2009, following the horrific shooting at Fort Hood, she was there as I fought to find words to provide even an ounce of comfort to the grieving post and the families there. We paid our respects to those American heroes and watched the ramp ceremony as their flag-draped caskets were loaded into a C-17 for their flight to Dover.
Then there was 2013 in West, TX. That is not the region. That is the name of the city. Following a massive fertilizer plant explosion, it tore through a tight-knit community and claimed the lives of 15 people, including most of the town’s volunteer fire department, of course, of the men, not the ground, as she always is, helping to connect with the first responders and local officials, making sure they had the support we could provide from our office.

She was there during the Bastrop fires in 2011, the Wimberley flooding in 2015, and the deadly hot air balloon crash in Maxwell, TX, in 2016. Sandy has been a gracious helping hand during the tough times and an enthusiastic cheerleader during the good ones. I am sorry to lose such a devoted staff member and friend, and I know my team in Texas will miss her bighearted participation in our team effort.

I don’t think it is really a coincidence, by the way, the month of September to retire because, of course, this is the start of her beloved Texas Longhorns’ football season. I know she is looking forward to attending UT games this fall, along with her husband Stan, her son Kyle, and her wife Brittny. I know for sure she will enjoy spending more time at her family’s ranch in the Texas Hill Country.

I come to the Senate floor to publicly express my appreciation, as well as that of the American people, to say single Texan who ever met her, and to thank Sandy Edwards for the lives she has touched and made better. I say, thank you, Sandy, and I wish you a well-deserved next chapter in your life.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). The Senator from Louisiana.

Election Security

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, $1 million a minute—not $1 million an hour, but $1 million a minute. That is how much we borrow every minute to operate the Federal Government. It is $1.4 billion—that is nine zeros—a day. That is how much more we spend than we take in. Some people have said—I have heard Americans say this—that we spend money like a drunk sailor. That is not accurate because a drunk sailor stops when he runs out of money. We just borrow.

We don’t just print this money. We issue bonds and Treasuries and then borrow. We borrow it. Some Americans loan it to us. Some folks in other countries like Japan and China, they expect to be paid back, and we do have to pay them back. In a couple of years, we are going to be spending more in our budget than we have ever spent before in our history. In the effort last year, we were able to beat it back. I am afraid some of my friends on this side of the aisle this time are having second thoughts. I am hearing all kinds of rumors. It is amazing what you can pick up around this place if you just walk around the floor and keep your mouth shut and your ears open. You hear all kinds of stuff.

I am here to say, if we do it, we are going to look back, when the Federal Government is running its elections and spending our money, and say this is where it began. If you want to put the U.S. Federal Government in charge of your elections instead of the States, if
you think that is a swell idea, I want you to close your eyes for a minute and imagine living in a world designed by the post office because that is what you are going to get. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RETURN OF PAPERS REQUEST—S. 1790

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to request from the House of Representatives the return of the papers to S. 1790 to provide for a correction. I further ask that if the House agrees to the Senate’s request, upon receipt of the papers from the House in the Senate, notwithstanding passage of the bill, the amendment at the desk be agreed to and the papers be returned to the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bowman nomination?

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. DONALD L. EVANS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JIM MINTZER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. CHUCK GRASSLEY), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. TONY SMYTH), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. RICHARD S. NEVADA) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Jennifer D. Nordquist, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jennifer D. Nordquist, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Nordquist nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate’s actions.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

END CHILD TRAFFICKING NOW ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, this is not the first time I have come to the floor to discuss a situation that is on our Nation’s southern border and the need that we as a country have for a stronger, more efficient immigration policy. I have made more than one trip to South Texas this year, and each time I have returned, I have found myself more motivated to cut through the noise, and to get something done.

What should be a practical policy discussion has, unfortunately, turned political, and very real problems have compounded into an unprecedented crisis.

Within these Halls, we have debates over asylum caps and visa requirements. They address important issues, but recent reports on the exploration of human rights violations perpetuated by cartels, coyotes, and international gangs have added some much needed context to these debates.

By now, we have all heard how dangerous the journey to our southern border can be for those who are being brought forward by cartels, coyotes, and international gangs. Traffickers have really built a big business—a very big and profitable business—on moving drugs and desperate human cargo across the border. Sometimes these individuals make it, and sometimes the guides leave their charges to die—to die alone in the desert. Rumors of abuse, assault, and gang rape have manifested and been proven true. Border Patrol agents at most ports of entry administer pregnancy tests to girls as young as 12 years of age.

While we waste time arguing over talking points, monsters—absolute monsters—are dragging children into the crosshairs of an international crisis. While we debate the best way to amend our loose asylum laws, traffickers are finding ways to exploit those laws, using children to force their way back and forth across the border under the guise of parental legitimacy.

“Child recycling” is a crude term but an accurate term, and we define it as when a minor is used more than once by alien adults who are neither relatives nor legal guardians but pose as family members for the purposes of crossing the border. How despicable and how very selfish of them. Child-recycling isn’t a myth, unfortunately. It is not an urban legend. It is a definite, well-defined, clear and present danger. DHS has uncovered more than 5,500 fraudulent asylum claims since May of 2018. I want you to think about that number—5,500 fraudulent asylum claims since May of 2018. Customs and Border Patrol tell us that unaccompanied minors are particularly vulnerable to trafficking and that drug runners and sex predators are rolling the dice on these fraudulent asylum claims to move their products—which, bear in mind, are people and drugs—to move them more efficiently.

Earlier this year, Immigration and Customs Enforcement introduced a pilot program they believed would help determine how serious the child recyling problem is. They began administering DNA tests on all adults accompanied by minors who claimed a familial relationship but lacked the paper work to prove this. As a safeguard, all swabs were destroyed, and no genetic profiles were collected or stored. The purpose was solely to
prove a DNA match. And thank goodness somebody was watching. The results have been horrifying. One in five claims of kinship is fraudulent. That means one in five children who were brought to the border and then funneled into the pilot program was likely being exploited.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to say that finally we have had enough and to voice their support for the End Child Trafficking Now Act. This Act requires the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security, to administer DNA tests for all adults accompanied by minors at a port of entry who claim a familial relationship without sufficient legal documentation to prove the connection.

Refusal of the test will be met with immediate deportation. Fabrication of family ties or guardianship will carry a maximum 10-year penalty, and the child will be processed as an unaccompanied minor under current law. Proven family members and guardians, however, will be allowed to move forward with the immigration process.

The tests themselves are simple—a quick swab of the cheek and a quick wait. I say “quick” because we will be using a new form of genetic testing that can analyze a DNA sample in about 90 minutes.

I will tell you that I am aware that the various factions in this Chamber have vastly different approaches to immigration reform. We should be having a serious discussion about the fundamental flaws in our policies and our plans to fix them. I welcome these discussions, and I look forward to the changes, but I know and my colleagues know that no one bill or package will repair what is broken in our current immigration system. There is no viable quick fix.

We owe it to this country and we owe it to the children who are brought here under duress and under false premises to do whatever we can to prevent what expensive, expensive testing have proved we can indeed prevent. Let’s make certain that children coming to the southern border are with family and that they are protected.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHUMER). The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted “yea,” the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted “yea,” and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOHER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 1, as follows:

YEAS—85

[Rollcall Vote No. 281 Ex.]

Baldwin
Barasso
Blackburn
Blumenthal
Blunt
Boozman
Braun
Brown
Burr
Canwell
Capito
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Cassidy
Collins
Cornyn
Cortez Masto
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Duckworth
Durbin
Eggers
Ernst
Fenster
Fischer
Garland
Gillibrand
Graham
Grassley
Hassan
Hawley
Heinrich
Hirono
Hoeven
Hoe-Smit
Johnson
Jones
Kain
Kennedy
King
Lankford
Leahy
Lee
Manchin
Markley
McSally
Menendez
Merkley
Merkoski
Murphy
Murray
Peters
Portman
Portman
Reed
Risch
Romney
Sasse
Schumer
Scott (FL)
Scott (RC)
Shaheen
Sherrill
Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Sullivan
Tester
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Udall
Van Hollen
Warner
Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden
Young

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—14

Alexander
Booker
Coons
Harris
Inhofe

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

UNCLAIMED U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am not going to speak for 10 minutes, but I do want to call attention to an example of breathtaking hypocrisy, and I am not proud of it.

We all understand in a social contract that the price of living in an organized society is giving up some of our hard-earned money. That is why we pay taxes. Nobody likes paying taxes, but we understand that taxes are necessary to pay our teachers, build our roads, defend our country, and help those who are less fortunate than us.

We set up a pretty good apparatus to go after you if you don’t pay your taxes. If you don’t pay your taxes, or you don’t pay them in the right amount, or you don’t pay them on time, they have people trained in the IRS—I am not criticizing. They are just doing their job, but they will chase you like a hound from Hades. So you
pay. That is the law, and we are all supposed to abide by it, but what happens when the Department in which the IRS is centered will not follow the same rules? I am talking about the Department of Treasury. The IRS is under the Department of Treasury. Now, what is good for the goose is supposed to be good for the gander.

The U.S. Department of Treasury is sitting on $226 billion—not million, billion. That is nine zeros of matured, unclaimed savings bonds that belong to the American people. Treasury knows the names, and they have the addresses. Do you know what they are doing to try to contact these Americans? Nothing. Zero, Nada, Zilch. They just sit there holding on to the money.

We know what a savings bond is. We couldn’t have won World War II without savings bonds. A lot of Americans took their hard-earned money, and they bought savings bonds. You know how it works. I am just making these numbers up, but you buy a savings bond. You give the Federal Government 100 bucks. You don’t get anything every month. You give up 100 bucks, and in 20 years you go back and redeem your bond and it is now worth $200. In the meantime, the Federal Government gets this loan to use your money. When that 20 years is up, the bond matures. It doesn’t pay interest anymore.

Some people lose their bonds. Some people forget about their bonds. Some people pass on, and their kids inherit their bonds. They are lost, but you can always count on the Department of Treasury to keep a list of who owns bonds and which ones have been redeemed and which ones haven’t. The U.S. Department of Treasury has that list, and there are millions of Americans whose names are on that list. They have names and addresses, and they don’t do anything to give it back. They just sit there sucking on the teat.

Let me give you some examples. We are talking real money. I will just pick a couple out: New Jersey, $695 million belongs to the people of New Jersey—not the politicians in New Jersey, not the government, the people—that the Treasury is holding.

Let me see if I can find—Washington State, $560 million belongs to the people of Washington State—not the big dogs, not the mayors, not the politicians, the real people who get up every day and go to work and pay their taxes. For Hawaii, they have $113 million. In my State, Louisiana, there is $337 million. There is $3 billion belonging to people in California.

We are going to get up in the morning, and the IRS—they are just doing their job. You better pay your taxes. They will take your firstborn. But when they have $226 billion of the American people’s money, you can’t find them with a search party. It is not right.

I sued them when I was State treasurer, and I got a bunch of other State treasurers to sue them too. I don’t like seeing people, but the Department of the Treasury has spent tens of billions of dollars fighting the American people. They just don’t want to give the money back—and you wonder why people hate the government?

I have to do something about it. It is not personal. I think the world of our Treasury Secretary. I would think a whole lot better of him if he would start writing checks to the American people. I am not going to give up on this issue. All we are asking is that they provide a list and share the names with the States. Every State has an unclaimed property program. They have a great one in Washington, a great one in Hawaii. Usually it is a State treasurer. They know to give money back to people. They don’t charge a fee. Right is right, and this is wrong. The Department of Treasury needs to give the money back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

EMERGENCY FUNDING

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, it is not a rhetorical flourish to say that Senate Republicans obedient to the President of the United States. The evidence of the last few days has confirmed that Republicans are not standing up for American institutions when they are tested, and they will not defend the American people when it counts the most. Through their silence, through their legislative actions, and through their votes, Republicans are allowing funds appropriated to the Department of Defense—funds that address critical military needs in their own home States—to be stolen in order to pay for the President’s wall.

Let me explain. The way we do MILCON, military construction, is nonpartisan. It is not bipartisan; it is nonpartisan. That means there is zero political influence in military construction projects for funding.

The process goes like this: The base commanders decide what projects they need in order to support their missions and military communities. These projects are set up through the chain of command from the base command to the installation command. If the installation command says the project meets the cut and is important enough for military readiness, it is sent to the Service Chiefs, the Marine Corps Commandant, the Secretary of the Navy, and so on.

From there, each Service Chief decides what projects to present to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and then the Office of the Secretary of Defense stacks these projects. It is a rigorous process, and not a single Member of the U.S. Senate gets to intervene during this process. They figure out which ones get addressed in the fiscal year, and some projects make the cut and others don’t. That is the only thing we get to decide, once the matrix is sent to us, is how much money we have to deal with all of our military construction needs. Again, there is zero political involvement—no politicians, no side deals, no partisan uniforms. So by the time the Congress receives the final list of projects from DOD, every project has been thoroughly vetted. We recognize that at that point, every project is essential to the security and safety of the Nation, and every Secretary of Defense, every Secretary of the Army, every Secretary of the Navy, and so on looks us in the eye in the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Appropriations Subcommittees and says: This is essential. There is not a penny out of place. We need this, and we need this badly.

Shame on the Republicans for allowing this argument over whether to build a border wall to do two things; first, to infect the institution of the Department of Defense with politics and to start to undermine the credibility of the Department and its interactions with the legislative branch; second, and very importantly, to diminish funding for critical military projects.

What kind of projects are we talking about? There are 127 projects that are being raided that we funded. We enacted a law, the President declared an emergency, and the Republicans upheld that emergency. Now these projects are being defunded.

Let me give you a couple of examples out of these 127. This is the form that comes in. These are the words of the Department of Defense:

The first project, Fort Bragg, NC, “Butler Elementary School Replacement.” There is a section that is called “IMPACT IF NOT PROVIDED.” In other words, this is what happens if we don’t provide this funding. This is what the Department of Defense says:

The continued use of deficient, inadequate, and undersized facilities that do not accommodate the current student population will result in the inability to implement a remedial program for students. If a new facility is not provided, the substandard environment will continue to hamper the educational process and the school will not support the curriculum and provide for a safe facility.

Let me take this example of the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Laurel Bay, SC. The impact if funding is not provided:

[Fire and emergency service] personnel assigned to Laurel Bay will continue to work from a significantly undersized and unsafe facility. Because the structure does not meet seismic requirements, complete structural collapse is probable during a seismic event, causing death or major injury to emergency personnel, and thus preventing timely response to the [Marine Corps] housing community following the event.

Finally, and this is going to be 3 out of 127 projects rated: Fort Greely, AK, “Missile Field #1 Expansion.” These are the ground-based interceptors designed to enhance our missile defense in the case of an attack from North Korea. This one is succint and scary:

Planned enhancements and capabilities of the BMDS to meet emerging threats will not
be available for our Nation’s homeland defense.

Those are 3 out of 127 projects.

I just want to ask my Republican colleagues: Where do you draw the line? I understand you can’t stand up to the President or even vote for it at the time, but my goodness, when they take funding from military families, from bases and installations, from missile defense, from military schools, can’t you draw the line there? There has to be a point at which you say enough is enough. There has to be a point when you decide that agreeing with the President under any and all circumstances—and in this case, the most extreme of circumstances—is not how you are going to lead and govern on behalf of your home State.

Let me say this in closing: I still hold out hope for a bipartisan solution to this issue. Democrats and Republicans may have very different goals, and we have different ideas about how to reach them. But if Republicans are going to be a better partner in moving forward than raiding military funds for the wall, we have to have a better grasp of power. It is not Mexico that is paying for this wall; it is the men and women who are serving our Nation who are going to pay for this wall and our military families. We made that clear, and it is not going to be the President to fund the border construction that are now being used to pay for the wall. You will notice the challenges of trying to get onto Fort Meade’s base. The mission being done at Fort Meade is a national security priority for this country, and these constant backups are critical for our national security. It has been backed up a long time. Now, thanks to the President—if this goes forward—it will be backed up a lot longer.

The second cut is $37 million to Joint Base Andrews for a HAZMAT cargo path. This is a matter of safety for the men and women who work at Joint Base Andrews.

I hope all of you are familiar with Joint Base Andrews, which is located just a few miles from here. The Air Force is there. Many of us go through that facility. It is critical that they have the facilities to protect our Nation’s Capital and protect the Members and personnel who use that facility. The Pentagon, again, is taking away from the safety of the mission at Joint Base Andrews.

The one issue I want to talk about that really highlights the hypocrisy of this transfer is the cut of $13 million to Joint Base Kitsap—a project essential to our national security priority for this country, and these constant backups are critical for our national security. It has been backed up a long time. Now, thanks to the President—if this goes forward—it will be backed up a lot longer.

The existing child development center was originally constructed as a medical clinic in 1943, renovated to serve many purposes over the last 74 years and is inadequate for current needs. Presently, base child development centers are given on a waiting list for enrollment. The existing facility has suffered from sewage backups, a leaking roof, HVAC failures, along with mold and pest management. The backups continue to pile up despite heavy focus from engineers, making it more difficult to ensure accreditation each year. The bathrooms are constantly flooding and drainage issues in [the] kitchen result in monthly backups.

The justification continues by saying that the child development center “either needs to be recapitalized due to condition, or taken out of operation.”

Then they wrote:

*IMPACT IF NOT PROVIDED: Not providing this facility forces members to use more expensive, less convenient and potentially lower quality off-base programs. These off-base child development centers typically cost $4900 more than on-base, creating a severe financial strain on military personnel. Quality of life will be severely degraded resulting in impacts to retention and readiness because Airmen and their families will not have a safe and nurturing environment for child care.*

This is the Air Force’s justification for this project. As they point out, it would cost military families an additional $10,000 a year. Who is paying for the wall? Our military families are paying for the wall, not the Government of Mexico. That is what is involved here.

We cannot let this go forward. Every Member of this body should be aware of what is happening. I just mentioned three of the projects that are on that list. The Pentagon is attempting to fund the wall that Congress intentionally provided the money for military families. That is wrong. We should stand up for our military families.

Let me enjoy the fact that we all say we support our military. We are very proud of their stepping forward to defend us, and now we are telling them they have to pay an extra $10,000 for childcare. That is what is involved here. I hope every Member of this body will voice their opposition to what the President is attempting to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor this afternoon with my Democratic colleagues to voice my strong opposition to this administration’s move to take money away from our military to fund President Trump’s wasteful border wall.

I often say that we make a promise as a nation to take care of our service members and their families sacrificing to defend our freedoms. But the Pentagon’s announcement this week that it plans to move billions of dollars away from critical military construction projects across our country is more than a broken promise to our troops; it is an egregious abuse of power that undercuts Congress’s constitutional obligation to set our Nation’s budget, and it compromises critical national security priorities.

Earlier today, Democrats on our Appropriations Committee and I supported an amendment to the Defense appropriations bill that would prevent the President from undermining Congress’s authority. I was very disappointed to vote against that bill because our colleagues on the other side of the aisle would not join us to pass that necessary amendment and stand up against this outrageous plunder.

This Executive overreach is deeply disturbing. It is particularly relevant to my home State of Washington, one of the States most impacted by the Pentagon’s reckless decision this week. We supported the Air Force’s announcement this week that it is moving $13 million from a project at Fort Meade for a HAZMAT cargo path. This is a matter of safety for the men and women who work at Joint Base Andrews.

I hope all of you are familiar with Joint Base Andrews, which is located just a few miles from here. The Air Force is there. Many of us go through that facility. It is critical that they have the facilities to protect our Nation’s Capital and protect the Members and personnel who use that facility. The Pentagon, again, is taking away from the safety of the mission at Joint Base Andrews.

The one issue I want to talk about that really highlights the hypocrisy of this transfer is the cut of $13 million to Joint Base Kitsap—a project essential to our national security priority for this country, and these constant backups are critical for our national security. It has been backed up a long time. Now, thanks to the President—if this goes forward—it will be backed up a lot longer.

The existing child development center was originally constructed as a medical clinic in 1943, renovated to serve many purposes over the last 74 years and is inadequate for current needs. Presently, base child development centers are given on a waiting list for enrollment. The existing facility has suffered from sewage backups, a leaking roof, HVAC failures, along with mold and pest management. The backups continue to pile up despite heavy focus from engineers, making it more difficult to ensure accreditation each year. The bathrooms are constantly flooding and drainage issues in [the] kitchen result in monthly backups.

The justification continues by saying that the child development center “either needs to be recapitalized due to condition, or taken out of operation.”

Then they wrote:

*IMPACT IF NOT PROVIDED: Not providing this facility forces members to use more expensive, less convenient and potentially lower quality off-base programs. These off-base child development centers typically cost $4900 more than on-base, creating a severe financial strain on military personnel. Quality of life will be severely degraded resulting in impacts to retention and readiness because Airmen and their families will not have a safe and nurturing environment for child care.*

This is the Air Force’s justification for this project. As they point out, it would cost military families an additional $10,000 a year. Who is paying for the wall? Our military families are paying for the wall, not the Government of Mexico. That is what is involved here.

We cannot let this go forward. Every Member of this body should be aware of what is happening. I just mentioned three of the projects that are on that list. The Pentagon is attempting to fund the wall that Congress intentionally provided the money for military families. That is wrong. We should stand up for our military families.

Let me enjoy the fact that we all say we support our military. We are very proud of their stepping forward to defend us, and now we are telling them they have to pay an extra $10,000 for childcare. That is what is involved here. I hope every Member of this body will voice their opposition to what the President is attempting to do.

I yield the floor.
basis, to the point that President Trump decided to make a bogus national emergency declaration and sidestep Congress to raid the Federal coffers for his reckless vanity project.

It is not just Naval Base Kitsap. We also have some serious questions about the decision by the Pentagon to fund this wall by slashing other military priorities, like strengthening access to military childcare, repairing vital military assets that were damaged by recent natural disasters, and more. Our troops and their families serve our country as we ask them to do.

Here is the bottom line: I—and Senate Democrats—will not stand by while this President steps over Congress to build his wall on the backs of our troops and their families because they deserve a lot better for this country. I will not let up until this is made right.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, in this day and age, it would be easy to grow cynical and simply tune out the noise of a 24-hour cable news cycle that feeds off the latest Trump tweet. But President Donald Trump’s recent decision to invite the Taliban to join him for a truce at Camp David for the weekend of the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks to his earlier statements caught on tape, bragging about sexually assaulting women, I fear that too many people he was elected to serve.

We cannot afford to be numb. We cannot let this become normal. No, we must hold Donald Trump accountable for his false promises and for his lies. We must ask what happened to Mexico’s support for his wall. President Trump promised every American over and over again that they wouldn’t have to spend a dime on his wall, pledging that Mexico would write $5–$10 billion. ’’

Of course, it wasn’t so easy, and now Trump has done a 180, falsely claiming that he never said Mexico would write for his wall. That was a lie. Mexico isn’t paying for his wall. Our servicemembers and their families are. The families at Fort Campbell are, as their children will now have to keep eating lunch in their school’s library because President Trump decided that revving up his political base was more important than upgrading an aging military school. My friends in Fort Huachuca, and whether the staff at Peterson Air Force Base, do not currently exist, and there is no adequate facility located at either Peterson or Buckley Air Force Base for this Space Control Squadron.

The only solution that meets all mission requirements is to construct a new facility on Peterson. If this facility is not provided, the squadron will be unable to beddown the space control mission and equipment, with operational and strategic mission impacts due to inadequate facilities.

This is what he is stealing money from in order to build his vanity wall.

A second project is at Fort Greely, AK. The impact of taking the money from this project will mean that Fort Greely, AK, will not have the enhancements and capabilities for the Ballistic Missile Defense System.

The mission of the Agency is to develop and field an integrated, layered Ballistic Missile Defense System to defend the United States, our deployed forces, allies, and friends against all ranges of enemy ballistic missiles in all phases of flight. The expansion project will provide the BMDs with increased ground-based interceptor capabilities, to allow for operational capability.

What happens if the funds are not provided? The planned enhancements and capabilities of the Ballistic Missile Defense System to meet the emerging threats will not be available for our Nation’s homeland defense.

He is stealing money away from our Nation’s homeland defense to build his vanity wall.

Finally, at Fort Huachuca, AZ, the current situation is that the facilities do not meet the current mandatory criteria specified for vehicle testing and maintenance facilities. The current facilities date back to the 1930s and 1940s and have surpassed their estimated life expectancies. The facilities violate current antiterrorism/force protection standards. Existing utility systems, such as water, sewer, electric, and gas, require replacement. There are no other suitable buildings on the installation that are available in support of this mission.

If they lose the funding for this project, the personnel will continue to work in substandard and unsafe facilities. The motor pool facilities do not comply with current life, safety, and security building codes and quality-of-life standards. The current HVAC, fire suppression, the existing AT/FP and infrastructure deficiencies jeopardize the personnel’s health, security, and safety.

This is what he is taking money from to build this wall. The Senate could put a stop to this. It is up to us and our actions, and this very Chamber will determine whether the children of Fort Campbell, whether the personnel at Fort Greely, or whether the staff at Fort Huachuca, are able to do their jobs.

We can defend the power of the purse or we can be complicit in its destruction.
Look, I am not naive. I know some don’t share my outrage, that some believe that overcrowded military schools, a decrease in our national security defense, and our ability to defend against hostile ballistic missiles are not a crisis, let alone a national disaster. That Trump loyalists continue to his bullying tactics, and in the coming days, they will try to reward his abuse of power. They will not stop Trump and return the stolen taxpayer dollars. Rather, they will argue that we should dig even deeper into the Nation’s funds to spend more of your tax dollars to replace the money Trump stole. This is wrong. The Constitution entrusts Congress to authorize and to appropriate funds, not the President. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in condemning this raid of taxpayer funds. We must block these outrageous cuts that will harm military readiness, weaken our border security, and hurt the families of those who are brave enough to serve. I yield the floor.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate having received the papers with respect to the request of the President for the consideration of the passage of the bill, amendment No. 938 is agreed to, and the measure will be returned to the House.

The amendment (No. 938) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)
In section 6943(a), strike paragraph (2).
After section 6966, insert the following:

Subtitle D—Other Matters

SEC. 6971. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions authorized under this title or the amendments made by this title shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(b) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply, or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

EMERGENCY FUNDING

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I start by thanking my friend and colleague the Senator from Illinois, Ms. Duckworth, for her service to our country many years ago in the military, for her serving in Iraq, and now for her serving our country in a different capacity; that of standing up in the U.S. Senate to defend the Constitution and to defend this institution against what is clearly an unconstitutional power grab by the President of the United States. Back in March of this year, 59 Senators kept that promise when we stood together, on a bipartisan basis, to say no to a gross abuse of Executive power—to an unconstitutional power grab—when we said: No, Mr. President, you may not ignore the Constitution. You may not ignore the appropriations that were passed by both Houses of Congress and signed by you. You may not ignore them and rob critical military projects across the country to fund an unnecessary wall.

Now, we can all debate—we have debated many times—the merits of this wall, but there really should be no debate about the fact that the way the President has gone about it undermines the Constitution and undermines the powers given in that Constitution to the Senate and to the House. We made that statement on a bipartisan basis back in March—59 Senators. Mr. President, don’t go robbing military construction accounts and defense accounts to finance the wall.

Yet here we are, 6 months later, and the President is attempting to do exactly that. He is diverting important investments in our military in places across Maryland and around the country.

As has been pointed out, the President repeatedly that Mexico was going to pay for this wall. Instead, taxpayers are having to pay for this wall, and service men and women and the families of service men and women are bearing the brunt of the President’s latest raid.

I see the majority leader is on the floor. Just yesterday, the majority leader said he was going to fight the President’s effort to take money away from a middle school in Kentucky to build the wall.

I have a question for the majority leader and all of my colleagues who want to fight to protect the projects in their States. Are they willing to stand up for projects in every State that hurt military families?

Here is what the Air Force wrote about a Maryland project. It is one that is not very far away from here—at Andrews Air Force Base. It is an air force base that, I dare say, every Member of this Senate has had the occasion and honor to visit from time to time. I have in my hand the budget request from the Air Force for a project at Andrews to help the service men and women who work there.

Their article reads:

‘Not providing this facility forces members to use more expensive, less convenient and potentially lower quality off-base programs. These off-base child development centers typically cost $9,400 more than on-base, creating a severe financial strain on military personnel.

That is what the Air Force writes—an additional $9,400 a year for military men and women who work there. But we know are not getting big paychecks.

That is not all the Air Force wrote. It went on to write in its justification for this investment: “Quality of life will be severely degraded, resulting in impacts to retention and readiness because Airmen and their families will not have a safe and nurturing environment for childcare.” That is from the U.S. Air Force.

I invite all of our colleagues to visit that base and look at the current conditions there because here are the current conditions at the current childcare center that the Air Force is seeking to remedy with this investment.

Again, this is a quote right from the Air Force:

‘The existing facility has suffered from sewage backups, a leaking roof, HVAC failures, along with mold and pest management issues. Work orders continue to pile up . . . making it more difficult to ensure accreditation each year. The bathrooms are constantly flooding, and drainage issues in the kitchen result in monthly backups.

That is from the Air Force. Those are the conditions our men and women at Andrews are currently facing in the childcare center. That is why the Air Force asked for this money that the President is now trying to take away.

It turns out that when you do the math and when you look at the cost, the money being taken this time to build this childcare center that would address these awful conditions that exist would build about a half a mile of a wall—a wall that is unnecessary. Yet, even if you believe we need to build this long wall, you should agree that we should not be robbing moneys out of the accounts that help the families of our service men and women.

That was one of the projects in Maryland the President raided. He also raided two others, including one to address traffic congestion at Fort Meade, which is the home to many facilities, including, of course, the National Security Agency. In all, $66 million was robbed from service men and women in the State of Maryland.

That was just Maryland. We have heard about other States. We have also heard about cuts around the world—cuts from a program that was originally known as the European Reassurance Initiative—funds that we were investing, along with our allies, to deter Russian aggression in places like Ukraine. We called it the European Reassurance Initiative. I don’t know what is reassuring now about robbing those accounts. That will have a direct negative impact on our national security and the readiness of the U.S. forces and those of our allies.

We are going to have a lot of opportunities in the coming weeks to address this issue. I hope we will address it on a bipartisan basis. I hope we will address it as U.S. Senators who recognize that the President’s actions here are a direct assault on article I—that they are a direct assault on the spending powers given to Congress under article I.

We have our differences. We had a markup in the Appropriations Committee today. Members had a chance to
offer their amendments. Some were accepted. Some were rejected. It was the
democratic process at work, and that is the same democratic process we used
to put these investments for our military
careers in place in the first place.
The Senate acted. The House acted. In
fact, the President signed the bill, and
now he comes back to grab that
money through this unconstitutional
power grab.
I will end with this, because I think
all of us recognize the danger and the
precipice we set here. We may
gree or disagree with the President’s
decision to build a wall, but beware—
our future of a future President—
a Republican or Democratic
President or of some other party—
ning the same mechanism to under-
the Constitution and to under-
mine article I.
Let’s unite as U.S. Senators to stop
that from happening.
I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The ma-
majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to
consider Calendar No. 399.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.
The legislative clerk read the nomi-
nation of Kenneth A. Howery, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Sweden.
CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented
under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.
The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accord-
ance with the provisions of rule XXII of the
Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby
move to bring to a close debate on the nomi-
nation of Kenneth A. Howery, of Texas, to be
Ambassador Extraordinary and Pleni-
potentiary of the United States of America
to the Kingdom of Sweden.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John
Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John
Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven,
Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer,
John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard
Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt,
Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to
consider Calendar No. 223.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.
The legislative clerk read the nomi-
nation of Robert A. Destro, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for
Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.
CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented
under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.
The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accord-
ance with the provisions of rule XXII of the
Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby
move to bring to a close debate on the nomi-
nation of Robert A. Destro, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John
Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John
Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven,
Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer,
John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard
Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt,
Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to
consider Calendar No. 419.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.
The legislative clerk read the nomi-
nation of Brent James McIntosh, of
Michigan, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.
CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented
under rule XXII, the Chair directs the
clerk to read the motion.
The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accord-
ance with the provisions of rule XXII of the
Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby
move to bring to a close debate on the nomi-
nation of Brent James McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John
Cornyn, John Barrasso, Mike Crapo, John
Thune, Tim Scott, John Hoeven,
Shelley Moore Capito, Kevin Cramer,
John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard
Burr, James E. Risch, Roy Blunt,
Thom Tillis, Martha McSally.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.
The motion was agreed to.
The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Brian Calahan, of New Jersey, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Brian Calahan, of New Jersey, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.


Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls be waived.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that so many Senate in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING MICHAEL BAUER

Mr. DURBIN, Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Michael Bauer, who died in late August after a battle with cancer.

You couldn’t miss Michael—he was the outspoken, critical ally of scores of boards and organizations in the LGBTQ community of Chicago; the first call they made when they needed an effective advocate. When the conversation turned to political friends and foes, issues of the moment and candidates in the hunt, he never had a private thought or waited his turn to share it. And when the music started, Michael was the first on the dance floor.

I met Michael more than 20 years ago as a downstate Congressman running for the U.S. Senate. After an introductory dinner with Michael, his partner, Roger, and my wife Loretta, Michael gave me a passing grade, but I always knew he liked Loretta more.

His name was first on the list of must-calls for political candidates. But if you only knew the public side of Michael, you might not have known the fire inside that drove his life. Over time we became friends, and that friendship led to trust between us. Michael shared with me the private stories, the journey of his life.

At the center were his parents, survivors of the Holocaust who spent their whole lives preserving the memories of friends and family who perished. Michael knew that they were victims of forces they did not have the power to control. He was determined to know more about the cruelty and hate they faced. This search took him to the Holocaust Memorial Museum, where he carefully reconstructed his family’s experience. Michael believed that through these efforts, his mother, Tema, now 103, was given back the real story of her life in a war that sent her to slave labor camps. He said with this research his mother’s entire memory of the horror of the Holocaust was validated. This search for the truth was personal to Michael as the Jewish son of a survivor and as a gay man who knew the National gay and murdered homosexuals as well.

Personally facing the massive loss of life in the Holocaust, I think Michael felt a special pain with the AIDS crisis. I remember when he told me that fellow members of board he served on were still not taking care to protect themselves. He was truly saddened as he feared for their fate.

But if life had been cruel to his family and the world outside could be perilous, Michael had one constant, one protector. He talked to me so many times about Roger, truly the center of his life, his partner, his love, and ultimately his husband. For me, it was a personal insight into a loving relationship at a level I had never before witnessed so closely. I could not imagine Roger without Michael, as now we must.

When it came to the world of politics, Michael willingly, frequently shared his opinion of the candidate and every issue. No one escaped his penetrating, outspoken scrutiny.

But Michael was always ready to help his friends, often in memorable ways. In 2000, with Joe Lieberman as the first Jewish candidate for Vice President, Michael and Roger made a point of heading to Los Angeles for the convention. When they heard I had an event planned there, they insisted on giving me a ride from the hotel. When I noticed they were in a convertible, Michael and Roger were properly dressed in muscle t-shirts and ready to drive through Beverly Hills. As we cruised through Wilshire Blvd and Rodeo Drive, Michael insisted on prepping me for the upcoming Gore-Lieberman campaign—he taught me valuable Yiddish words and phrases. Michael was always there with advice for his friends.

In 1996, we celebrated my first Senate election night together. I remember his trademark smile and the tears in his eyes. After I was elected to the Senate, Michael wasted no time bringing an issue to my attention. It was not an ask for a job or a contract or anything that would benefit him personally; he asked if I could find time to visit the Howard Brown Health Center on Halsted. Of course I agreed—how could you say no to Michael? The visit led to a conversation where Michael’s concern for the AIDS crisis in our country. Michael Bauer used his knowledge and connections to help others, to protect others, to fight a deadly crisis that was burying his friends. In his heart, Michael was a caring, loving person who used his talents and his access to help those on the outside of the halls of power. Loretta and I join Roger, Tema, Michael’s extended family, and all the friends in mourning the loss of Michael.

Farewell, Michael. You will be missed.

REMEMBERING MARGARET BLACKSHIRE

Mr. DURBIN, Mr. President, Margaret Blackshire was a trailblazer as the first woman to serve as president of the nearly 1-million strong Illinois AFL-CIO. In July, she passed away at the age of 79, and I rise today to honor her memory. I share the privilege with countless others to call her a friend.

Margaret and her sister were raised by their single mother, Frances, and Aunt Margie in North Venice, IL. Her mother made sure her daughters knew that they could do anything. There were no boy chores or girl chores; there were just chores. Laundry and rewiring a lamp were normal activities.

She started off studying to be a nun, but she changed course and ended up studying elementary education at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. Her religious convictions remained an essential part of her life, but education was her calling.

After college, Margaret began teaching in a school in Madison, IL. She and her fellow teachers were making only $5.00 a year and weren’t treated with respect, but they noticed that the steelworkers and mineworkers in the area were respected and doing well because they belonged to a union and worked together to secure better working conditions. Margaret and her colleagues decided they needed to form a union and demand adequate pay from the superintendent. The superintendent refused so Margaret took action and organized a 5-week strike. One small issue—because she and the other teachers were public employees, their strike was illegal. Margaret and her colleagues were jailed, but the jail only had two cells. This meant that every day, Margaret arrived at the jail with her children, ages 3 and 5, and every one of them in their own cell.
night, she went home because there wasn’t enough space. Her fellow teachers saw her dedication and elected her president of the teachers’ union in Madison.

Margaret went back to Southern Illinois to earn a master’s degree in urban education. She became focused on issues about children living in poverty.

Her work with the union and its attempts to earn greater pay for teachers opened her to politics. She began working on local election campaigns. It wasn’t just about money anymore; it was about having a voice. With her hard work, Margaret was elected vice president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers, IFT, and chair of its legislative committee.

Eventually, Margaret reluctantly gave up teaching, which she loved so much, and became a lobbyist for the IFT. She worked in Springfield to improve the salaries and working conditions for teachers. Margaret also began building networks and alliances. In 1993, the Illinois AFL-CIO needed a secretary-treasurer. Margaret was easily elected because she was respected by so many people from her time campaigning and working for the IFT.

In 2000, Margaret became president of the Illinois AFL-CIO. When Margaret came into office, she inherited a staff of 23. None of them was a person of color. The executive board had no women on it. Illinois AFL-CIO also didn’t have health insurance that covered well-baby care or mammograms. Margaret brought these benefits into place. She also transformed the executive board by making it more diverse. Before long, seven African Americans, two Latinos, and eight women had positions on the board.

Under Margaret’s leadership, the Illinois AFL-CIO helped lead the fight to raise the State’s minimum wage—not once but twice. She led efforts to guarantee women equal pay for equal work, to expand healthcare, and to improve Illinois’ workers’ compensation system.

Margaret excelled at bringing people of different backgrounds together to achieve goals. She used to say, “If you’ve got a good cause, people will join it.” She helped create Transportation for Illinois with the Illinois Automobile Asphalt and Pavement Association, the Chicago Transit Authority, and other businesses, organized labor, industry, governmental, and nonprofit organizations to support strong transportation investments for Illinois. The groups have fought each other on a host of issues, but she gave them a unified voice for infrastructure.

Margaret devoted much of her life as well to charitable organizations and served on many boards, including the Illinois branch of United Way and the American Red Cross, Alliance for Retired Americans, Voices for Illinois Children, Unemployment Insurance Advisory Board, and the Federal Reserve Board of Chicago. She served as an inspiration to the Illinois Women’s Institute for Leadership alongside my wife, Loretta, encouraging and training women to become effective leaders in Illinois.

Over the years, Margaret received more awards and accolades than can be recounted here. She was delighted to be the guest of honor for Chicago’s St. Patrick Day Parade in 2003. Margaret loved celebrating her Irish heritage.

Loretta and I will miss her great humor and her willingness to always wish others well unless they were playing her beloved St. Louis Cardinals. Margaret is survived by her two sons, Michael and Thomas; her sister, Patricia; and four grandchildren.

**FALUN GONG**

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, throughout my years in the Senate, I have met with people all over the world who have been persecuted by their own governments, but the stories I have heard from survivors and family members of the victims of China’s efforts to silence and eliminate religious minorities continue to shock me. The Chinese Government systematically brutalizes millions of people, including Tibetan Buddhists, Uyghur Muslims, and Falun Gong practitioners.

Those who practice Falun Gong use meditation and are guided by philosophy of truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance, but because the Chinese Communist Party fears any organized religion or association it cannot control, it views this revival of traditional Chinese religion as a threat to its survival.

Falun Gong practitioners recently marked the 20th anniversary of the beginning of China’s campaign of brutality against their community. On July 20, 1999, hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners were arrested in their homes in the middle of the night. Over the following week, as many as 50,000 Falun Gong were reportedly detained. In the years since that initial crackdown, the Chinese Government has relentlessly continued its repression of Falun Gong.

Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested, interrogated at reeducation camps, beaten, sleep-deprived, starved, sexually assaulted, electrocuted, forced to stand with their limbs slowly broken, until they have renounced their beliefs and practices. They have been ordered to participate in propagandizing their own community. They have had their organs harvested against their will. They have been murdered. We will probably never know how many innocent people have been the victims of these atrocities, since the Chinese Government denies to the outside world that it is happening, while justifying it to their own citizens.

The Chinese Government should immediately cease its arbitrary detention and brutalization of Falun Gong practitioners and other religious and ethnic minorities. It should release political prisoners from reeducation centers, decriminalize religious and spiritual practices, and allow international human rights groups and journalists to interview survivors. It should commit to ending the use of torture, organ harvesting of prisoners, and propaganda against minorities.

The plight of these people in China, the horrors of torture and murder by the government, can seem so far away from Washington, DC, and very far away from my State of Vermont. Yet Vermonters travel to Washington to meet with me and my staff, urging Congress to take action on behalf of Falun Gong. Vermonters are persistent people who only refuse to let us forget about Falun Gong and the other victims of China’s repression. It is all too easy to ignore crimes against humanity on the other side of the globe, when the victims are people we will never meet, but Vermonters demand that we pay attention to Falun Gong. They deserve to be remembered, and they deserve the international community’s collective action.

**ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION**

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I am attaching to the FALUN GONG ARM EXPORT CONTROL NOTIFICATION the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

**DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY**

Arlington, VA.

Hon. James E. Risch, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19–38 concerning the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Morocco for defense articles and services estimated to cost $209 million. After the letter is delivered to the arms sale plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Hooper, Lieutenant General, USA, Director. Enclosures.
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Morocco


(iii) Description and Quantity of Articles or Services Under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Five thousand eight hundred and ten (5,810) MK82–1 Bombs (Tritonal).

Three hundred (300) MK84–4 Bomb (Tritonal).

One hundred and five (105) Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) KMU–572F/B Tail Kits.


Four thousand one hundred twenty five (4,125) MXU–650C/B AFG, GBU–12.

Four thousand three hundred and five (4,305) MAU–169L/B Computer Control Group (CCG), GBU–10, –12, –16.

Five thousand one hundred seventy-eight (5,178) FMU–152 Fuze.

Also included are flares M–206, MJU–7A/B, Impulse Cartridges BBU–35/ B, MXU–650C/B, Fuzes FMU–152A/B, and JDAM MK–84 KMU–572 F/B. The hardware, software, and data identified are classified to protect the non-military end use parameters, and other similar critical information.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in This Offer:

Sensitive and/or classified (up to SECRET) elements of the proposed sale include munitions and support equipment: MK82–1 Bomb (Tritonal), MXU–651B/B, MXU–650C/B, Fuzes FMU–152A/B, and JDAM MK–84 KMU–572 F/B. The hardware, software, and data identified are classified to protect the non-military end use parameters, and other similar critical information.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. Sensitive and/or classified (up to SECRET) elements of the proposed sale include munitions and support equipment:

MK82–1 Bomb (Tritonal), MXU–651B/B, MXU–650C/B, Fuzes FMU–152A/B, and JDAM MK–84 KMU–572 F/B. The hardware, software, and data identified are classified to protect the non-military end use parameters, and other similar critical information.

Annex Item No. vii

1. Sensitive and/or classified (up to SECRET) elements of the proposed sale include munitions and support equipment: MK82–1 Bomb (Tritonal), MXU–651B/B, MXU–650C/B, Fuzes FMU–152A/B, and JDAM MK–84 KMU–572 F/B. The hardware, software, and data identified are classified to protect the non-military end use parameters, and other similar critical information.

2. GBU–10/12/16/38 Paveway II (PWII), a Laser Guided Bomb (LGB), is a maneuverable, free-fall weapon that guides to a spot of laser energy reflected off the target. The LGB is delivered as a normal general purpose (GP) warhead, and the semi-active guidance corrects for many of the normal errors inherent in any delivery system. Laser designation for the LGB consists of a Computer Control Group (CCG) that is not warhead specific, and a warhead specific Air Foil Group (AFG) that attaches to the nose and tail of a GP bomb body. PWII as delivered can use either the FU–152 or FU–193D B fuzes. The overall weapon is CONFIDENTIAL. The GBU–10 is a 2,000 lb (MK–84 or BLU–117 B) GP bomb, built by Kilgore Cheming Groupe (USA), Cheming USA, Orbital ATK (USA), General Dynamics, and others. The bomb body fitted with the MXU–650 AFG, GBU–12; four thousand three hundred and ten (5,810) MK82–1 Bombs (Tritonal).

3. Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) is a Joint service weapon which uses an onboard GPS-aided Inertial Navigation System (INS) Guidance Set with a MXU–652, MXK–6, BLU–109, BLU–100, BLU–111, BLU–117, BLU–126 (Navy) or BLU–129 warhead. The Guidance Set, when combined with a warhead, forms a JDAM and is classified CONFIDENTIAL. The Guidance Set is delivered to the designated target. The JDAM warhead, when used with an INS, is a UNCLASSIFIED weapon that can be delivered from modest standoff ranges at high or low altitudes against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. After release, JDAM autonomously guides to a target using the resident GPS-aided INS guidance system. JDAM is capable of receiving target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the Global Positioning System or via satellite or precision sensors (i.e., FLIR, Radar, etc.) during capture, or from a third party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry. The JDAM Guidance Set, when combined with an INS, is an UNCLASSIFIED technical data for JDAM is classified up to SECRET.

4. Joint Programmable Fuze (JPF) FU–152 is a multi-delay, multi-arm and proximity sensor compatible with general purpose blast, frag and hardened-target penetration warheads. JPF settings are cockpit selectable in flight when used with JDAM weapons.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that Morocco can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this annex is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

HON. JAMES E. RISCH, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 19–45 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Morocco for sales of defense articles and services estimated to cost $776 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER, Lieutenant General, USA, Director, Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 19–45

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Morocco

The TOW 2A, Radio Frequency (RF) Missiles (BGM–71–4B–RF) is a direct attack missile designed to defeat armored vehicles, re-inforced urban structures, field fortifications and other surface targets. These missiles are fired from a variety of TOW launchers in the U.S. Army, USMC, and FMS customer forces. The TOW 2A RF missile can be launched from the existing wire-guided TOW 2A missile without modification to the launcher. The TOW 2A missile (both wire & RF) contains two track­ er, beacon antennas (one for the launcher to track and guide the missile in flight. Guidance commands from the launch­ er are provided to the missile by a RF link contained within the missile case. The hardware, software, and technical publications provided with the sale are UNCLASSIFIED. However, the system itself contains sensitive technology that in­ structs the system on how to operate in the presence of countermeasures.

2. Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) is designed to fire all existing versions of the TOW missile and consists of a Target Acquisition Subsystem (TAS), a Fire Control Subsystem (FCS), a Li-Ion Battery Box (LRB), a modified Tracking Unit (TU) plus the standard launch tube and tripod. The ITAS provides for the integration of both the direct view optics and a second generation Standard Upgrade Assembly (SADA) II thermal sensor into a single hous­ ing; direct view optics that provide viewing the target scene in daylight and non-ob­ scured conditions; introduction of both pas­ sive and active eye safe laser-ranging; devel­ opment of embedded training and training sustainment; automatic boresight which al­ lows the gunner to align the night vision system with the direct view optics; insertion of advanced Built-in Test/Built-in Test Equipment (BIT/BITE) which provides fault detection and diagnosis and go no go sta­ tus for the gunner; and an Aided Target Tracker (A17) that provides the capability to process infrared imagery into recognizable contour features used to assist the gunner’s aim point.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific design of the missile, the in­ formation could be used to develop counter­ measures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capa­ bilities. A determination has been made that Morocco can provide substantially the same de­ gree of protection for the sensitive tech­ nology being released as the U.S. Govern­ ment. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national secu­ rity objectives outlined in the Policy Jus­ tification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Morocco.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY CODY CRINER

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Deputy Cody Criner of Sweetgrass County for his brave action in service of his community.

On February 6, 2019, Deputy Cody Criner was performing a routine check at a gas station when he came across a Toyota Prius. At first, he believed the car to be abandoned. The car was covered in snow, and the hood and the exhaust were completely frozen over. Aban­ doned cars are common along this stretch of Highway 89 near Timber, when he came across a Toyota Prius. At first, he believed the car to be abandoned. The car was covered in snow, and the hood and the exhaust were completely frozen over. Aban­ doned cars are common along this stretch of Highway 89 near Timber. Deputy Cody Criner knew in his gut that something was wrong.

Deputy Criner approached the vehicle to inspect the windows, and that is when he saw the hand of a 39-year-old man. The man’s eyes were rolled into the back of his head, and he wasn’t re­ sponding as Criner pounced on the wind­ ow. In temperatures 10 degrees below
freezing. Criner knew time was working against him.

Criner took quick action and grabbed a hammer and broke the passenger side window. He proceeded to cover the man with as many blankets as he had and even took off the beanie off his own head to keep the man warm. On that cold February day, Criner saved a man's life.

Deputy Criner's quick action and commitment to service is exemplary of the Montana spirit. I know that Sheriff Alan Ronneberg and the entire Sweetgrass community are thankful to have a faithful public servant in Deputy Cody Criner.

In recognition of Deputy Cody Criner's bravery and service, I ask unanimous consent that his name be entered into the RECORD and recognized as Montanan of the week.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS A. MUNGAS

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to honor CAPT Nicholas A. Mungas, commodore of Training Air Wing One, at NAS Meridian, for his 25 years of service to the U.S. Navy.

CAPT Nicholas Mungas grew up in Kalispell, MT. Following his nomination, Captain Mungas attended and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995, with a degree in economics. Directly following, he attended flight school and, in November of 1997, was designated a naval aviator at NAS Kingsville in Texas.

Captain Mungas’s operational assignments include FA-18 pilot tours with Strike Fighter Squadron, VFA 105, USS Enterprise, CVN 65, USS Harry S. Truman, CVN 75; VFA-195, USS Kitty Hawk, CV 63; and VFA-136, USS Enterprise, CVN 65; completing multiple Mediterranean and Western Pacific deployments, while supporting Operation Southern Watch, Desert Storm, Iraq Freedom, and Enduring Freedom.

Captain Mungas has excelled in all areas of the Navy, but most notably as a naval pilot. Captain Mungas attended the navy fighter weapons school, better known as TOPGUN. He also served as an instructor pilot in the Strike Fighter Squadron 106, where he was selected as the Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic Fleet Instructor Pilot of the Year in 2004.

After his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy, Captain Mungas has accumulated over 2,900 flight hours and has performed 576 carrier arrested landings. His distinguished career includes the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Strike Flight Air Medal, and the Department of State Meritorious honor award.

As well as being a highly qualified and distinguished pilot, Captain Mungas has served as the Joint Chiefs of Staff desk officer and U.S. Africa Command lead planner, as well as a military detailee to the U.S. Department of State in the Office of the Euro-Atlantic Security Affairs in the Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance.

His record of excellence and leadership is an inspiration to all young Montanans and aspiring naval aviators. I, therefore, ask unanimous consent for his life of service to our Nation.

In recognition of CAPT Nicholas A. Mungas and his personal accomplishments and contributions to his country, I ask unanimous consent that his name be entered into the RECORD.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YMCA’S YOUTH ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today, I am proud to recognize in the RECORD an organization that has meant so much to so many worldwide.

In June, the YMCA celebrated a major anniversary in its creation. 175 years ago, the YMCA is now located in 119 countries and serves 58 million individuals, including my own family. In Alpharetta, GA; the local YMCA is named for my father; the "Ed Isakson/Alpharetta YMCA." Now, the YMCA is celebrating 75 years of an important civic engagement program called Youth Assembly. Youth Assembly is a high school mock State legislative program, which I participated in as a student myself, serving as a press delegate in 1962.

At Youth Assembly, students discuss current issues confronting their State with other high school students from across the State, along with educators, State administrators, and other elected officials. In Georgia, this program brings together a diverse group of students who come from very different parts of our State. Students choose from a range of areas relevant to the legislative process, including executive, judicial, legislative, lobbyist, and media roles. This program is competitive, and those delegates who excel in each of the programs are recognized during the closing session.

In Atlanta, the program is held annually at the State capitol, where volunteers from State departments act as resources for the students while they debate the issues. These volunteers, along with State YMCA staff, help guide students through mock committee processes, rights to rights for students, and the students debate and vote on the bills that their fellow delegates have written and presented. Bills that pass in committee are then taken to the floor of the house or senate for full debate and vote. Participants also engage in campaigns and elections for officers who will serve during the following year.

Bringing these students together helps them learn not only the legislative process but also more about people from different backgrounds and from parts of the State who may not be as familiar to their upbringing.

For our democracy to survive, it requires citizen participation. Anything we can do to help students—and all citizens—to better understand government and recognize the importance of playing a role in its operation is important. If everyone were more involved day-to-day, we might see fewer disagreements, but we also might certainly have a better understanding of how our country operate, and how opinions can differ without being disagreeable.

Becoming involved in government helps us all, and I commend the YMCA on the 75th anniversary of this meaningful program for our youth.

TRIBUTE TO MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president emerita of the Children’s Defense Fund, for her powerful advocacy for racial justice and on behalf of children, the poor, and all marginalized people.

On September 18, the Coalition on Human Needs will honor Mrs. Edelman as an extraordinary Human Needs Hero. Mrs. Edelman’s storied career spans several epochal chapters of American history. It was her leadership and advocacy that led to the creation of programs such as Head Start, federally funded child care, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and tax credits for low-income families. Through the Children’s Defense Fund and in her earlier work, Mrs. Edelman has led in opening doors for children with disabilities, overhauling child welfare services, and expanding educational opportunities and health care for all children. From her early fight to ensure that nutrition aid reached the poorest families to her ongoing advocacy to protect children of color and all children from the ravages of poverty, Marian Wright Edelman has assisted tens of millions of children living in poverty and touched countless lives for the better.

Mrs. Edelman grew up the daughter of a Baptist minister, who raised her with a strong emphasis on the value of faith, family, and education. These values would guide her through the challenges of entering the public sphere as an African-American woman. Mrs. Edelman’s advocacy began while she was a student at Spelman College, where she was an active participant of the civil rights movement. Upon graduating from Yale Law School, Mrs. Edelman became the first African-American woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar. In Mississippi, she practiced with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and was an integral part of the Freedom Summer of 1964. She was instrumental in exposing the plight of child poverty in the South and throughout the United States, culminating in Senator Robert Kennedy’s historic trip to witness the plight of children who do not have a childhood.

Subsequently, Mrs. Edelman served as counsel to the Rev. Martin Luther King’s Poor People’s Campaign. In 1973,
she founded the Children’s Defense Fund, an organization that to this day continues to work tirelessly to ensure child poverty will one day be a thing of the past. The CDF’s “Leave No Child Behind” mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start to a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.” To that end, CDF continues the tradition of Freedom Schools in 28 States and empowers outstanding high school students who have overcome tremendous adversity through its Beat the Odds program.

Through her work, Mrs. Edelman has achieved international renown, garnering numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She has authored several books on her life and our Nation’s shared responsibility to children.

Mrs. Edelman has been a guiding voice in much of my own work in Congress, and I know that countless other Memorias would say the same. This is particularly true with respect to my involvement in the Family First Prevention Services Act, a law that changed the way our Nation supports child welfare services by expanding the largest Federal program—Title IV-E of the Social Security Act which pays for foster care services—to also support services for families to help prevent the need for foster care in the first place. This legislative victory simply would not have occurred were it not for the strong and steady voice of Mrs. Edelman and her colleagues at the Children’s Defense Fund.

Marian Wright Edelman will long be remembered as one of the greatest champions of children in our Nation’s history, and so it is my honor and privilege today to recognize Marian Wright Edelman.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States: Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register a notice, stating that the emergency declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001, “National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks,” is to continue in effect beyond September 14, 2019.

The threat of terrorism that resulted in the declaration of a national emergency on September 14, 2001, continues. The authorities that have been invoked under that declaration of a national emergency continue to be critical to the ability of the Armed Forces of the United States to perform essential missions in the United States and around the world to address the continuing threat of terrorism. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared on September 14, 2001, in response to certain terrorist attacks.

DONALD J. TRUMP,
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 12, 2019.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 19:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 205. An act to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to permanently extend the moratorium on leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico.

H.R. 491. An act to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior in any leasing program certain planning areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

At 12:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1146. An act to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes.

At 2:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Clerk of the House be directed to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1790) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, in compliance with a request of the Senate for the return thereof.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–2551. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2018 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2552. A communication from the Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Community Reinvestment Act Compliance Report”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MESSAGE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

September 12, 2019
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
S5473

EC–2553. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2554. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled “Defence Threat Reduction Agency Privacy Program” (RIN0709–AD26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 9, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2555. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 205. An act to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to permanently extend the moratorium on leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1146. An act to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MESSAGE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

At 2:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1146. An act to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–2551. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2018 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2552. A communication from the Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Community Reinvestment Act Compliance Report”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2553. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2554. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled “Defence Threat Reduction Agency Privacy Program” (RIN0709–AD26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 9, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2555. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2556. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2019, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking” (MD Docket No. 19–105) (FCC 19–83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2557. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Student Assistance Graduate Provisions and Federal Family Education Loan Program (Institutional Accountability)” (RIN1440–AD26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2558. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2018 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2559. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2560. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Community Reinvestment Act Compliance Report”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2561. A communication from the Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Community Reinvestment Act Compliance Report”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2562. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Memorandum of Justification regarding determination pursuant to section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act to support Burundi and Mauritania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2563. A communication from the Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2019 Community Reinvestment Act Compliance Report”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
report of a rule entitled ‘Implementing Kari’s Law and Section 506 of RAY BAUM’S Act; Inquiry Concerning 911 Access, Routing, and Location in Enterprise Communications Systems; and the Definition of Interconnected VoIP Service in Section 9.5 of the Commission’s Rules’” (FCC Docket Nos. 18-261 and 17-239 and GN Docket No. 11-117) (FCC 18-76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2019, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2470. An original bill making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–102).

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2471. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–103).

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations:


By Mr. GRAHAM, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 2733. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–105).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2388. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the use of advanced leak detection technology for pipelines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

S. 2740. An original bill making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 2471. A bill to give middle-class families access to the maximum Federal Pell Grant, to increase college transparency, and State maintenance of efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. ROYBAL-CASTELLA)

S. 2472. A bill to redesignate the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at Plum Brook Station, Ohio, as the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at the Neil Armstrong Test Facility; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. ROYBAL-CASTELLANO):

S. 2473. A bill to extend certain provisions of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act until September 30, 2030, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 2474. An original bill making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ISAACSON, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2497. A bill to modify the effective date for inclusion of certain members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty in the Yellow Ribbon Education Enhancement Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2477. A bill to establish a National Commission on Fibrotic Diseases; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WARREN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JONES, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LEARY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2476. A bill to designate the Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide temporary protected status under such section to eligible nationals of the Bahamas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. JONES, Mr. KAIN, Mr. MARKEL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 309. A resolution designating September 24, 2019 as “National Voting Rights Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITOL (for herself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 336. A resolution recognizing the semiquincentennial of the community of Wheeling, West Virginia; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 311. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HASSAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BALDWIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROSEN, and Mr. KAIN):

S. Res. 312. A resolution designating the week beginning September 12, 2019 as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 46

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 66, a bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

S. 427

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 427, a bill to include the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve home health payment reforms under the Medicare program.

S. 511

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 511, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 655, a bill to impose additional restrictions on tobacco flavors for use in e-cigarettes.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RUSSEL) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 668, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.
At the request of Mr. Cornyn, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Carper) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to limit certain rolling stock procurements, and for other purposes.  

S. 851  

At the request of Ms. Baldwin, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith) was added as a cosponsor of S. 894, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.  

S. 947  

At the request of Mr. Durbin, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. Schumer) was added as a cosponsor of S. 894, a bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.  

S. 948  

At the request of Mr. Crapo, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 947, a bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining, and for other purposes.  

S. 962  

At the request of Ms. Cortez Masto, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Sullivan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 948, a bill to increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians.  

S. 1032  

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Sullivan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1032, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of income for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of certain corporations.  

S. 1048  

At the request of Mr. Blumenthal, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1048, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a Reducing Youth Use of E-Cigarettes Initiative.  

S. 1107  

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. Blackburn) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1107, a bill to require a review of an issue on an occupationally related issue, and for other purposes.  

S. 1114  

At the request of Mr. King, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1114, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate a provision under the Medicare Advantage program that inadvertently penalizes Medicare Advantage plans for providing high quality care to Medicare beneficiaries.  

S. 1267  

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Bennet), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) were added as cosponsors of S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.  

S. 1279  

At the request of Mr. Jones, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. Sinema) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1279, a bill to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.  

S. 1418  

At the request of Mr. Blumenthal, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1416, a bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anticompetitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes.  

S. 1468  

At the request of Mr. Graham, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1468, a bill to support the successful implementation of the 1991 Paris Peace Agreement in Cambodia, and for other purposes.  

S. 1638  

At the request of Mrs. Fischer, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. Sinema) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1628, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the employer credit for paid family and medical leave, and for other purposes.  

S. 1622  

At the request of Mr. Wicker, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Casey) were added as cosponsors of S. 1822, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish new rules relating to the collection of data with respect to the availability of broadband services, and for other purposes.  

S. 1825  

At the request of Mrs. Shaheen, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1825, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals, and for other purposes.  

S. 1838  

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Wicker) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.  

S. 1899  

At the request of Mrs. Fischer, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Merkley) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to establish certain requirements for the small refineries exemption of the renewable fuels provisions under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.  

S. 1906  

At the request of Mr. Boozman, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. Cornyn) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Sullivan) were added as cosponsors of S. 1906, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance to eligible entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans at risk of suicide and veteran families through the award of grants to such entities, and for other purposes.  

S. 1969  

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Alexander) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1969, a bill to authorize the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.  

S. 2026  

At the request of Mr. Leahy, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. King) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2026, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.  

S. 2080  

At the request of Ms. Baldwin, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Crapo) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy) were added as cosponsors of S. 2080, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.  

S. 2083  

At the request of Ms. Rosen, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. Blackburn) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) were added as cosponsors of S. 2083, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust, and for other purposes.  

S. 2160  

At the request of Mr. Scott of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Crapo) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to require carbon monoxide alarms in certain federally assisted housing, and for other purposes.
At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide services with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System funds from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2206, a bill to express the sense of Congress regarding restoration and maintenance of the Mardasson Memorial in Bastogne, Belgium.

At the request of Mr. DINES, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2229, a bill to protect consumers from deceptive practices with respect to online booking of hotel reservations, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 2322, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the retirement of certain animals used in Federal research.

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2347, a bill to provide for payment of premiums from savings bonds to a State with title to such bonds pursuant to the judgment of a court.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2463, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for regulation and taxation of electronic cigarettes and alternative nicotine products.

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 205, a resolution expressing the gratification of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBAN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. Kaine, Mr. Markley, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Merkley, Ms. Murray, Mr. Sanders, Ms. Smith, Mr. Udall, and Mr. Van Hollen) submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. Res. 309

Whereas voting is one of the single most important rights that can be exercised in a democracy;

Whereas, over the course of history, various voter suppression laws in the United States have hindered, and even prohibited, certain individuals and groups from exercising the right to vote;

Whereas, during the 19th and early 20th centuries, Native Americans and people who were born to United States citizens abroad, people who do not speak English, and people who were formerly subjected to slavery were denied full citizenship and prevented from voting by English literacy tests;

Whereas, since the 1960s, minority groups such as African Americans in the South have suffered from the oppressive effects of Jim Crow laws designed to prevent political, economic, and social mobility;

Whereas African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other unrepresented voters were subject to violence, poll taxes, literacy tests, all-White primaries, property ownership tests, and grandfather clauses;

Whereas members of the aforementioned groups and others are currently, in some cases, subject to intimidation, voter roll purges, bans on former prisoners from voting, and financial barriers that act effectively as modern day poll taxes;

Whereas, in 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (32 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) to protect the right of African Americans and other traditionally disenfranchised groups to vote, among other reasons;

Whereas, in 2013, the Supreme Court of the United States struck down the Voting Rights Act of 1965, dismantling the preclearance formula provision in that Act that protected voters in States and localities that historically have suppressed the right of minorities to vote;

Whereas, since the invalidation of the pre-clearance formula via provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, gerrymandered districts in many States have gone unchallenged or have become less likely to be invalidated by the courts;

Whereas these gerrymandered districts have been found to have a discriminatory impact on traditionally disenfranchised minorities through tactics that include “crack- ing”, diluting the voting power of minorities across many districts, and “packing”, concentrating minority voters’ power in one district to reduce their voting power in other districts;

Whereas the courts have found the congressional and, in some cases, State legislative districts maps, in Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Wisconsin to be gerrymandered districts that were created to favor some groups over others;

Whereas the decision of the Supreme Court in Shelby County v. Holder, 570 U.S. 529 (2013), calls on Congress to update the formula in the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

Whereas some form of a restrictive voting law has been instituted in 22 States since 2011;

Whereas these restrictive voting laws encompass cutbacks in early voting, voter roll purges, placement of faulty equipment in minority communities, requirement of photo identification—the procurement of which amounts to a modern day poll tax, and the elimination of same-day registration;

Whereas these changes can overburden disenfranchise or make voting much more difficult for more than 80,000,000 minority, elderly, poor, and disabled voters, among other groups;

Whereas, in 2016, discriminatory laws in North Carolina, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Texas were ruled to violate voters’ rights and overturned by the courts;

Whereas there is much more work to be done to ensure all citizens of the United States have the right to vote;

Whereas National Voter Registration Day is September 25; and

Whereas September 2019 would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Voting Rights Month’’; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Voting Rights Month’’;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to uphold the right of every citizen to exercise the sacred and fundamental right to vote;

(3) encourages Congress to pass—

(A) the For the People Act of 2019 (S. 949 and H.R. 1 of the 116th Congress), to increase voter access to the ballot, prohibit the use of deceptive practices to intimidate voters, end gerrymandering, create automatic voter registration, limit the power of restrictive voter identification laws, make critical investments in election infrastructure and technology, and address corruption in campaign finance and ethics;

(B) the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2018 (S. 3961 and H.R. 4 of the 116th Congress), to restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.) that prohibit discriminatory voting practices, remove barriers to voting, and provide protections for minority voters in States with a history of voting discrimination;

(C) the Securing America’s Federal Elections Act of 2018 (S. 2722 of the 116th Congress), to provide funding for States to improve the administration of
S. RES. 310—RECOGNIZING THE SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL OF THE COMMUNITY OF WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas 2019 marks 250 years since the September 18, 1769, signing of the Treaty of Lancaster; therefore be it

Whereas Native American and British forces attacked Fort Henry in Wheeling to drive out colonial settlers;

Whereas the ammunition supply at Fort Henry and Wheeling was exhausted, and Betty Zane heroically volunteered to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family homestead, gathered the gunpowder in a tablecloth, and safely returned it to the fort in a victory for the citizens of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1810, Conrad Cotts, an experienced miner from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, opened the first commercial coal mine in the area that is now West Virginia in Wheeling;

Whereas the territory of Wheeling was originally part of the Commonwealth of Virginia;

Whereas the First Wheeling Convention took place from May 13 to May 15, 1861, at West Virginia Independence Hall, located at the corner of Market and Market Streets; and

Whereas, on May 23, 1861, voters in Virginia ratified the Secession Ordinance to leave the United States and join the Confederacy;

Whereas, in June 1861, pro-Union Virginians met for the Second Wheeling Convention and—

(1) declared all State offices in Virginia vacant and all acts of the General Assembly to be null and void, thus creating the Restored Government of Virginia that sought to rebuild ties with the Union; and

(2) installed Wheeling as the provisional capital;

Whereas, on October 24, 1861, residents of the area that is now West Virginia voted to approve statehood for West Virginia;

Whereas, on April 20, 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln declared by proclamation the admission of West Virginia to the Union;

Whereas the city of Wheeling became the first capital of the State of West Virginia, and Wheeling served intermittently as the capital until Charleston was selected by a vote of the citizens of the State;

Whereas the city of Wheeling served as an early transportation epicenter, connecting the Ohio River with the Potomac River via the National Road, opening further expansion to the East;

Whereas “Nail City” became an early nickname for Wheeling, reflecting the strong steel industry and manufacturing presence of the State in the region;

Whereas the Wheeling Suspension Bridge was once the longest suspension bridge in the world, and construction mechanisms of the Wheeling Suspension Bridge were used while building the Brooklyn Bridge in New York;

Whereas, on September 23, 1952, General Dwight D. Eisenhower telegraphed Senator Richard Nixon, requesting to meet face-to-face the following day in Wheeling where General Eisenhower was holding a presidential campaign rally and would ultimately approve of Senator Nixon as the Republican nominee for Vice President;

Whereas the Wheeling Jamboree, utilizing local country music talent, was first aired on WVVA at 11 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 1963, revolutionizing the way radio appealed to listeners;

Whereas participants of the Ogden Newspapers Half Marathon run 13.1 miles on one of the toughest courses in the United States; whereas they, along with the families who soon followed, formed the nucleus of the community that would become the city of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1782, Native American and British forces fought Fort Henry in Wheeling to drive out colonial settlers;

Whereas the ammunition supply at Fort Henry and Wheeling was exhausted, and Betty Zane heroically volunteered to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family homestead, gathered the gunpowder in a tablecloth, and safely returned it to the fort in a victory for the citizens of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1810, Conrad Cotts, an experienced miner from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, opened the first commercial coal mine in the area that is now West Virginia in Wheeling;

Whereas the territory of Wheeling was originally part of the Commonwealth of Virginia;

Whereas the First Wheeling Convention took place from May 13 to May 15, 1861, at West Virginia Independence Hall, located at the corner of Market and Market Streets; and

Whereas, on May 23, 1861, voters in Virginia ratified the Secession Ordinance to leave the United States and join the Confederacy;

Whereas, in June 1861, pro-Union Virginians met for the Second Wheeling Convention and—

(1) declared all State offices in Virginia vacant and all acts of the General Assembly to be null and void, thus creating the Restored Government of Virginia that sought to rebuild ties with the Union; and

(2) installed Wheeling as the provisional capital;

Whereas, on October 24, 1861, residents of the area that is now West Virginia voted to approve statehood for West Virginia;

Whereas, on April 20, 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln declared by proclamation the admission of West Virginia to the Union;

Whereas the city of Wheeling became the first capital of the State of West Virginia, and Wheeling served intermittently as the capital until Charleston was selected by a vote of the citizens of the State;

Whereas the city of Wheeling served as an early transportation epicenter, connecting the Ohio River with the Potomac River via the National Road, opening further expansion to the East;

Whereas “Nail City” became an early nickname for Wheeling, reflecting the strong steel industry and manufacturing presence of the State in the region;

Whereas the Wheeling Suspension Bridge was once the longest suspension bridge in the world, and construction mechanisms of the Wheeling Suspension Bridge were used while building the Brooklyn Bridge in New York;

Whereas, on September 23, 1952, General Dwight D. Eisenhower telegraphed Senator Richard Nixon, requesting to meet face-to-face the following day in Wheeling where General Eisenhower was holding a presidential campaign rally and would ultimately approve of Senator Nixon as the Republican nominee for Vice President;

Whereas the Wheeling Jamboree, utilizing local country music talent, was first aired on WVVA at 11 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 1963, revolutionizing the way radio appealed to listeners;

Whereas participants of the Ogden Newspapers Half Marathon run 13.1 miles on one of the toughest courses in the United States; whereas they, along with the families who soon followed, formed the nucleus of the community that would become the city of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1782, Native American and British forces fought Fort Henry in Wheeling to drive out colonial settlers;

Whereas the ammunition supply at Fort Henry and Wheeling was exhausted, and Betty Zane heroically volunteered to retrieve gunpowder from the Zane family homestead, gathered the gunpowder in a tablecloth, and safely returned it to the fort in a victory for the citizens of Wheeling;

Whereas, in 1810, Conrad Cotts, an experienced miner from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, opened the first commercial coal mine in the area that is now West Virginia in Wheeling;

Whereas the territory of Wheeling was originally part of the Commonwealth of Virginia;

Whereas the First Wheeling Convention took place from May 13 to May 15, 1861, at West Virginia Independence Hall, located at the corner of Market and Market Streets; and

Whereas, on May 23, 1861, voters in Virginia ratified the Secession Ordinance to
Whereas direct support professionals, including direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are key to providing publicly funded, long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals provide essential support that ensures that individuals with disabilities are—

(1) included as a valued part of the communities in which those individuals live;
(2) supported at home, at work, and in the communities of the United States; and
(3) empowered to live with dignity;

Whereas all states have a stake in ensuring that individuals with disabilities thrive through the connections of the individuals to their families, friends, and communities, fostered by the direct support professionals of those individuals;

Whereas home and community-based services driven by the direct support professional workforce can result in cost efficiency and better outcomes relating to support and services for individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals support individuals with disabilities by helping those individuals make person-centered choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives;

Whereas direct support professionals build close, respectful, and trusting relationships with individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals provide essential support to individuals with disabilities, including—

(1) assisting with the preparation of meals;
(2) helping with medication;
(3) assisting with bathing, dressing, and other aspects of daily living;
(4) assisting with access to the environment of the individuals;
(5) providing transportation to school, work, religious, and recreational activities;
(6) helping with general daily affairs, such as shopping with financial matters, medical appointments, and personal interests; and
(7) meeting complex behavioral and medical needs;

Whereas there is a documented critical and increasing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States;

Whereas direct support professionals are a critical element of supporting—

(1) individuals who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions and individuals with functional limitations;
(2) the successful transition of individuals from medical events to post-acute care and long-term support and services;

Whereas the direct support professionals are the primary financial providers for their families;

Whereas direct support professionals are hardworking, taxpayers citizens who provide an important service to people with disabilities in the United States, yet many continue to earn low wages, receive inadequate benefits, and have limited opportunities for advancement, resulting in high turnover and vacancy rates that adversely affect the quality of support, safety, and health of individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States, in Olmstead v. L.C., 527 U.S. 581 (1999)—

(1) recognized the importance of the deinstitutionalization of, and community-based services for, individuals with disabilities; and
(2) held that, under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), a State must provide community-based services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities if—
(A) the community-based services are appropriate;
(B) the affected person does not oppose receiving the community-based services; and
(C) the community-based services can be reasonably accommodated after the community has taken into account the resources available to the State and the needs of other individuals with disabilities in the State; and

Whereas, in 2019, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home- and community-based settings and that trend will increase over the next decade: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 6, 2019, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”;
(2) recognizes the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages;

(3) appreciates the contribution of direct support professionals in supporting individuals with disabilities and their families in the United States;

(4) commends direct support professionals for being integral to the provision of long-term support and services for individuals with disabilities;

(5) encourages the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor to collect data specific to direct support professionals; and

(6) finds that the successful implementation of the policy changes affecting individuals with disabilities in the United States can depend on the dedication of direct support professionals.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 938. Mr. INHOFE proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1790, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 938. Mr. INHOFE proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1790, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 6943(a), strike paragraph (2),
As a new State following the Civil War, West Virginia sought to cement its place in the recovering Union, and Wheeling became an early transportation epicenter. Probably, traveling to the President’s Office’s State, you had to go right through Wheeling.

With the establishment of the National Road, including the Wheeling Suspension Bridge, which is still there today, the city connected the Ohio River with the Potomac River and offered further expansion to the west. As a result, Wheeling was to become a powerhouse in the steel industry. We have all heard of Wheeling steel. In the late 19th century, Wheeling was producing nearly half of the Nation’s nails, earning it the nickname “Nail City.”

Today, Wheeling has revived its downtown, winning the 2019 Great American Main Street Award. In the past 3 years, they have opened 37 new small businesses—the backbone of America. They have opened Main Street today. Together, they have secured an important place for Wheeling in our Nation’s history, and they have made it the success and the incredible city that it remains today.

So, as we gather today, Senator MANCHIN and I, to honor Wheeling’s 250th birthday, I also honor the individuals who built the city, from the first settlers to those who walk down Market Street today. Together, they have secured an important place for Wheeling in our Nation’s history, and they have made it the success and the incredible city that it remains today.

I was just in Wheeling last weekend, where we had a parade celebrating the 250th birthday of Wheeling. With the amount of young people, music, and great feeling that exuded all throughout the city—restaurants full, bands playing patriotic music—it was a wonderful day for the entire community to celebrate that birthday.

In West Virginia, we have little names for little cities and how we feel. Wheeling is a place I have frequented many, many times in my life. I can say that day, celebrating the 250th birthday on Saturday, I definitely had the “Wheeling feeling.” I had the opportunity to see so many of those in the northern panhandle celebrate Wheeling as a vibrant city. I look forward to continuing to celebrate this vibrant city that everyone who calls it home for years to come.

I yield the floor and welcome Senator MANCHIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The other Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague Senator CAPITO. We are very proud West Virginians, born and raised in West Virginia, as you can tell by our presentations. It is true, today we can say happy birthday to Wheeling.

Wheeling is an unbelievable historical city, when you think about it. When you think about the State of West Virginia, we were the only State forged out of the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln’s handprint was all over our State, and basically he was involved in our becoming a State in 1863.

The significance of the formation of our State—and Wheeling being a major economic stronghold because of the river, because of the gateway, can you believe that in 1949, when the suspension bridge was built, it was called the Gateway to the West? It is not that far...
from here, maybe 4 hours’ drive. So you can see how our country has expanded and how quickly it expanded.

The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable.

The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history.

I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us.

The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable.

The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us.

The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable.

The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us.

The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable.

The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history.

I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history.

I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us. The lessons learned during the construction of the bridge were later used to build the Brooklyn Bridge. I want to tell Senator SCHUMER that we helped. I am sure he would be pleased with that. In 1933, the Wheeling Jamboree—the Wheeling Jamboree was the longest. People will tell you, during World War II, they would hear—because it was 50,000 watts, they would hear it on the battleships. It was unbelievable. The music, the talent, the country music that came out of there from some of the most famous artists of the time and still yet to this day passed through Wheeling.

These points in time showcase the importance of the city of Wheeling and the State of West Virginia throughout American history. I keep thinking about the Marsh Wheeling’s Fort Henry played a role in American history. It was unbelievable. It was through Arthur Brown’s raid in 1859, which kicked off the Civil War. It was a significant strategic point for us.
I already talked about how it is pretty hard to call it price control if the company gets to set its prices, but it certainly doesn't limit subsidies. Apparently, the pharmaceutical companies will not accept any limits there as well.

Basically, the pharmaceutical lobbyists are calling it inhumane for the Senate Finance Committee to try to fix the broken system and bring down pharmaceutical prices. They basically say that any effort—to hold down prices—is socialism.

One op-ed said that the Medicare drug program would cease to function as a market entirely if drug companies lost their constitutional right to limit price increases. Others have even claimed that drug prices are falling nationwide, which millions of seniors can tell you is fiction, based on the trips they take to the pharmacy window.

I have a bottom line, now that the Senate has come back after the summer break. The big pharmaceutical companies have had just about the longest winning streak in Washington. It seems as though they have a couple of lobbyists for practically every Member of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee voted on a bipartisan basis to actually act in the face of price gouging and protect American patients and families.

We cannot let the big pharmaceutical companies win this time. We cannot let them win on that price-gouging penalty in particular. They want it gone. They know this is going to ripple through the American economy because people are going to say: Hey, this is a pretty fair approach. The companies can set their prices, but they don't have a right to unlimited subsidies.

I personally believe—and the head of the Congressional Budget Office touched on this for our committee—the proper level needs to be copied in the private sector as well. I think that is a good thing also.

The question for the Senate is going to be this: Are we going to hand over prescription drugs in America entirely to the pharmaceutical companies and allow them to set their prices, or are we going to bring in some form of price control and fix the broken system and bring down prices? Are we going to hand over the Medicare provisions that do the most to cut drug prices, then the question is, What is going to come next? Are the drug companies losing their constitutional right to limit price increases? I believe, for example, it is long overdue for Medicare to have the power to bargain with drugmakers directly for lower drug prices. Something like 90 percent of the American people—90 percent of the American people—believe that it is time to lift the restrictions on Medicare to have the power to bargain with drugmakers directly for lower drug prices.

I personally believe—and the head of the Congressional Budget Office touched on this for our committee—the proper level needs to be copied in the private sector as well. I think that is a good thing also.

The question for the Senate is going to be this: Are we going to hand over prescription drugs in America entirely to the pharmaceutical companies and allow them to set their prices, or are we going to bring in some form of price control and fix the broken system and bring down prices? Are we going to hand over the Medicare provisions that do the most to cut drug prices, then the question is, What is going to come next? Are the drug companies losing their constitutional right to limit price increases? I believe, for example, it is long overdue for Medicare to have the power to bargain with drugmakers directly for lower drug prices. Something like 90 percent of the American people—90 percent of the American people—believe that it is time to lift the restrictions on Medicare to have the power to bargain with drugmakers directly for lower drug prices.

I am going to close with this. Pharma's winning streak has to end here, and it has to end now. For the Senate to cave and allow pharma to price their medications cannot wait. These are people who are walking an economic tightrope. Every month they balance their food bill against their fuel bill and their fuel bill against their medication bill. These are Americans who cannot afford to be shunted aside while the Senate favors business as usual for the drugmakers.

Every one of us knows what this crisis is all about and how big it is. We were home for weeks this summer. They heard from those in their communities, in grocery stores, in gas stations, in restaurants, and in Dairy Queens—everywhere you go. When a Senator is home, folks come up and tell them their story about how they feel when they get their prescription drug bills, that they have been hit by a wrecking ball. I held town hall meetings all over the State. The issue of prescription drug costs came up at every single one of them. I am going to close with this. Pharma's winning streak has to end here, and it has to end now. For the Senate to cave and allow pharma to block the price-gouging penalty would be an outrage. It would be a dereliction of duty on the part of the Senator.

I am going to keep up this fight, and I know Chairman GRASSLEY is going to continue to fight for our bipartisan bill, and I urge Senators on both sides of the aisle to stand with us. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
TRIBUTE TO CINDY HASIAK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, before we wrap up today, I call my colleagues’ attention to a truly dedicated staff member who has served the Senate for decades.

After more than three decades on the job with the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Cindy Hasiak is retiring today from her post as Chamber manager.

A native of Indiana, Cindy first arrived to work in the Capitol back in 1987. She was welcomed with—get this—a chance to work the Iran-Contra hearings. Since then, she has been on the doorsteps for 7 Presidential inaugurations, 32 Presidential addresses and States of the Union, 6 lying-in-state ceremonies, and a great many more normal workdays, or at least what passes for normal here in the Senate.

More than three decades of landmark votes, major debates, and all the daily business that takes place in this Chamber, Cindy has been here helping make it happen.

To be specific, as one of our doorkeepers and lately the director of doorkeepers, Cindy has literally guarded the Senate floor. Talk about a sensitive job.

Alongside the brave men and women of the Capitol Police, our doorkeepers control and manage access to this historic institution that attracts the attention of the entire world. They check credentials, welcome visitors, keep things running smoothly.

Here on the floor, they keep us safe. Up in the Galleries, they welcome visitors and give citizens a chance to watch democracy in action. So it is undoubtedly the case that the Senate has been stronger for Cindy’s attentive service, but even after 32 years, we would be foolish to think we could keep her forever.

After more than her share of long days, longer weeks, and late nights that relegated entertaining and family time to the back burner, Cindy has certainly earned the chance to spend less time supervising all of us here and more time with her loved ones.

I know my colleagues join me in wishing Cindy good health and happiness as she embarks on a well-deserved retirement. She will leave with our deepest gratitude for a job well done. I might add that given the fact Cindy is from Indiana, it is appropriate that we have the Senator from Indiana as the Chair.

VETERANS’ COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1200, which was received earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 1200) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS “PATRIOT WEEK”

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 311, which was submitted earlier today.

The SENATE AGREED TO

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 311) expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”.

There being no objection, the Senate agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 311) was agreed to, and the resolution was passed and the motion to reconsider was considered made and laid upon the table.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS “PATRIOT WEEK”

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 312, submitted earlier today.

The SENATE AGREED TO

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 312) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s Record under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION Week

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 312, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleagues Senators Collins, King, Brown, Markey, Murray, Menendez, Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Hassan, Jones, Van Hollen, Casey, Baldwin, Harris, Murray, Rosen, and Kaine to recognize the week beginning September 8, 2019, as National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week. Direct support professionals are an invaluable part of our Nation’s healthcare system, caring for the most vulnerable Americans, including the chronically ill, seniors, and those living with a disability. Direct support professionals are among others, those whose titles include home caregiver, personal care assistant, home care worker, or home health aide. This varies titles speaks to the broad areas of support that are integral to the work of direct support professionals. With the assistance of direct support professionals, these individuals can perform daily activities that many people take for granted, such as eating, bathing, dressing, and leaving the house. The work of direct support professionals ensures that some individuals can be active participants in their communities.

Let me share with you the experience of Marrian Mulbah-Paquee, a direct support professional who works with individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. She has been described as “a tireless advocate for her ladies,” providing the women she serves with the space and choice to lead full and independent lives.

Marian supports her clients by teaching them skills that enable them to participate in their communities to the fullest extent possible. For example, Marian teaches her clients safety skills, gardening, and basic home care so they can spend more time living independently. Marian also encourages her clients to actively participate in civic life. This was best exemplified by a trip her clients took to Annapolis last year for Developmental Disability Day. Marian supported her clients as they met with and engaged their local representatives to discuss issues that affect the disability community in Maryland. Marian’s commitment to simultaneously supporting and empowering her clients to actively participate in the public sphere speaks to the very core of what defines direct support professionals.

Marian’s story describes a career that is fulfilling, but one that often times is not easy for Direct support professionals like her. The hours are often long, and the wages are low. The job can be physically laborious, as well as emotionally draining. The reward for direct support professionals, however, is that they are able to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and help fulfill the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act by making it possible for these Americans to participate in their communities to the fullest extent possible.
In our country, we are incredibly fortunate to have millions of service-oriented individuals who are willing to rise to the task of becoming a direct support professional. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment of DSPs is projected to grow by an average of 41 percent from 2016 to 2026, compared to a 7 percent average growth rate for all occupations during that period. The demand will only continue to increase over time; the Baby Boomer generation will result in the doubling of the population of adults ages 65 and older by 2050. The increased demand for direct support professionals has created shortages in some areas, which can place strains on patients and their families or result in medical issues that could have been avoided.

Unfortunately, direct support professionals are often forced to leave the jobs they love due to low wages and excessive, difficult work hours. Many direct support professionals rely on public benefits, and some must work multiple jobs in order to provide for themselves and their families. Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we work to ensure that these hardworking individuals have the income and emotional support they need and deserve.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senators Collins, King, Brown, Markey, Murphy, Menendez, Klobuchar, Blumenthal, Hassan, Jones, Van Hollen, Casey, Baldwin, Harris, Murray, Rosen, and Kaine in expressing our appreciation for the critically important work of our country’s direct support professionals, in thanking them for their commitment and dedication, and in supporting the resolution designating the week beginning September 8, 2019, as National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolution. The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 312) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, September 16; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, until 5 p.m. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Rakolta nomination and that the closure motions filed during today’s session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:21 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 16, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 12, 2019:

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

MICHELLE BOWMAN, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR A TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2020.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

THOMAS PETER FEDDO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

JENNIFER D. NORDQUIST, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.
HON. JOE NEGUSE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I wish to express my sincere sorrow for the loss of Sanford Morris “Sandy” Treat, Jr., a veteran of World War II, serving with the 10th Mountain Division and a longtime resident in the Vail Valley and pillar of the community there. Sandy was one of the first soldiers at Camp Hale, which was established during the Second World War to train soldiers for winter and mountain warfare. The skills he honed there and exposure to the Mountain West would stay with him through war, future business endeavors and raising a family. He returned to Colorado years later as a master skier, historian of the 10th Mountain Division, and beloved resident. Sandy’s loss will be felt by so many across the state of Colorado, military, and snowsports communities. An avid ski racer, he helped to facilitate world-renowned races in Vail and the surrounding areas. He was inducted into the Colorado Snowsports Hall of Fame—an honor recognizing Sandy’s passion and dedication to the outdoors as well as the service of those at Camp Hale. His advocacy to enact policy that protected public lands are still having an impact; in the large public lands bill worked on by many members of Colorado’s Congressional delegation, Camp Hale is recognized as protected public lands and would be designated as the first ever National Historical Landscape.

It was my honor to meet Sandy before his passing and I will hold that memory close to my heart as we press forward on the proposals for which he spent so much of his life advocating. My wife Andrea and I are holding Sandy’s loved ones and all those who knew him in our prayers, and hope the nation will join us in mourning the loss of this tremendously passionate, brave, and skilled individual.

ON THE OCCASION OF U.S. ARMY MAJOR MILES MILLER’S COMPLETION OF SERVICE IN DECEMBER 2019

HON. MAC THORNBERRY
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. THORNBERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Miles Miller, U.S. Army, to honor his completion of military service. Major Miller is departing the Army after serving our country for more than a dozen years helping to defend our great nation. Inspired by his family’s history of military service and by the attacks of September 11, Major Miller enlisted in the Army in 2006 to help fight the Global War on Terrorism. After completing his Basic Combat Training and Officer Candidate School, Major Miller joined the historic 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. During his time as a “Screaming Eagle,” he deployed first to Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and later to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

While in Iraq, Major Miller commanded a 55-Soldier Distribution Platoon and planned, coordinated, and led more than 350 ground-based, near-term resupply operations to forward combat outposts. These successful missions delivered over one million gallons of fuel and water and two million tons of ammunition and supplied supporting division life support and base security contracts and commodities, which increased logistical capabilities and operational limits for U.S. and Afghan security forces.

Following his deployments, Major Miller held a broad and diverse series of leadership positions, including commanding the Army’s only Active Duty Heavy Boat Company, the 97th Transportation Company, at Fort Eustis, Virginia. As a result of his exceptional performance with increasing rank and responsibilities, Major Miller was selected for the prestigious Army Congressional Fellowship Program where he served as a Defense Fellow in my office and in the Army’s House Liaison Division.

During his time as my Defense Fellow, Major Miller was an invaluable member of my team. He routinely advised me and my staff on national defense and veterans’ affairs issues and priorities for the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act. Additionally, he collaborated with my district staff and multiple federal agencies to resolve dozens of veteran and military-related casework issues while drafting hundreds of official responses to constituent inquiries.

While serving in the House Liaison Division, Major Miller helped advance Army interests as the intermediary for legislative correspondences, policy, and constituent issues between the Army and 58 offices of the U.S. House of Representatives. He also facilitated U.S. diplomacy abroad and congressional oversight as the lead planner and escort for over 400 Members of Congress and staff during nearly 40 worldwide fact-finding and investigative missions. Major Miller escorted me on several worldwide fact-finding and investigative missions.

Throughout his distinguished military career, Major Miller was recognized and rewarded for his exceptional performance, including his selection as the Basic Combat Training “Soldier of the Cycle” in 2007 and his early promotion to the rank of Major in 2016. He also received 27 individual and unit awards and badges for military service, including two Bronze Star Medals awarded for meritorious achievement and service for combat leadership during both Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and the U.S. Army Transportation Corps Honorable Order of Saint Christopher Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Major Miller for these outstanding achievements, thank him for his service, and wish him and his family well with their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING PLYMOUTH, INDIANA, ON BEING NAMED INDIANA COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR 2019

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Plymouth on being named the 2019 Community of the Year by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, and to thank Mayor Mark Senter for his leadership and service to his community. Plymouth, Indiana, has not only gained impressive economic momentum and helped attract businesses that want to grow and hire more workers, the city has also shown its commitment to improving the quality of life for residents. Hoosiers in Plymouth love their city and their neighbors, a fact that can be seen clearly in their spirit, compassion, and active involvement in community events—including my favorite, the annual Marshall County Blueberry Festival.

This accomplishment is a well-deserved recognition for northern Indiana, a true celebration of Mayor Senter’s tremendous leadership, and a result of the hard work of all the public servants who help make Plymouth a great place to live. The strengths of commonsense and togetherness help all ships rise in this community, and it’s a model for cities and towns across the country.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent communities like Plymouth in Congress. On behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I want to congratulate the City of Plymouth and Mayor Senter on the hard work and dedication that have helped this community thrive.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROBERT S. THURMAN AMERICAN LEGION POST 13

HON. BILLY LONG
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rowan Little League's victory in the Little League Softball World Series Championship. Rowan Little League is based out of the City of Salisbury, located in North Carolina’s 8th Congressional District.

Rowan Little League defeated Eastbank Little League 4–1 on August 14, 2019, in the championship game at Alenrose Stadium in Portland, Oregon. This marks Rowan’s fourth trip to the World Series in the past five seasons and is their second title, an extraordinary accomplishment for the perennially successful program.

Under the direction of Coach Steve Yang, the program has exemplified the very best of North Carolina through tenacity and perseverance. Rowan far exceeded expectations this summer and enjoyed a perfect 17–0 record, including 7–0 in World Series play.

I know I speak for our entire community in offering my most heartfelt congratulations to the exemplary young women of Rowan Little League. These young leaders are the heart and soul of our community and I couldn’t be more proud.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Beacon College for 30 years of service to students. A quality education can change a life. It unlocks the door of opportunity and success and equips children to achieve their dreams.

For thirty years, Beacon College has been a pioneer in providing students with learning differences and disabilities with a high-quality college experience. It is committed to student success and provides accredited Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Arts degree programs to its students.

Their results are clear with 70 percent on-time graduation rates and a 1-year average for students completing their degrees in four years. This is almost double the 10-year national average for students with the specialized attention they need to cultivate success.

Recently, Beacon College was ranked as Number One on the prestigious Peterson ranking of the top 20 colleges for students with learning disabilities.

Beacon College is not only equips students with academic knowledge, they also are dedicated to coaching students in the skills necessary to find and retain employment. It is my honor to congratulate Beacon College, Dr. Hagerty and the faculty and staff on reaching this service milestone. May you continue to serve these special students and equip them with the knowledge and skills to achieve their dreams.

HON. ADRIAN SMITH
OF NEBRASKA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 525.

HON. JAMIE HARRISON
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. HUDSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebrating Rowan Little League’s victory in the Little League Softball World Series Championship.

HONORING ROWAN LITTLE LEAGUE’S VICTORY IN THE LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF EMMA BRUTON TERRY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Emma Bruton Terry, who passed away on September 8, 2019 at the age of 92.

After spending her formative years in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Emma moved to Buffalo in 1952, and graduated from Bryant and Stratton College.

Emma then met and married her first love, the late Isiah Terry. From this union came five beautiful children, the keystone of her legacy. She was both a loving spouse and a caring mother.

No stranger to hard work, Emma was employed at many local small businesses including New York Lerner Shops, the Medical Records Department at Children’s Hospital, Saturn Ring Company, and lastly the Buffalo China Company from which she retired in 1992.

Emma was the epitome of a dedicated mother, and a true steward of her community. Throughout her life she garnered many awards in honor of this yearning penchant to help.

To those that knew her best, her family and loved ones, Emma will always be memorialized as a committed parent and a loving friend. In their hearts she will be remembered as a Jazzy Stepper, and simply a kind soul.

Madam Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor a woman who was beloved in my hometown of Buffalo, New York. May Emma’s memory live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on September 11, 2019, I was unable to attend a vote because I was attending to official business. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 525.

RECOGNIZING JIM BYRUM FOR HIS SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE MICHIGAN AGRI-BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

HON. JACK BERGMAN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to recognize Jim Byrum for his service as President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to educational excellence, Jim has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

Jim grew up on his family’s farm near Onondaga and was raised in the same house where his grandfather was born in 1889. Throughout his career he stayed close to his agricultural roots, serving as Executive Director of the Michigan Bean Commission and the State Executive Director of Michigan’s Farm Service Agency before eventually becoming the President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)—a nonprofit organization of approximately 500 members from every part of the agricultural sector in Michigan.
In its 24 years under Jim’s leadership, MABA has consistently and exceptionally represented the interests of the agricultural industry in Michigan, offering important resources to businesses while working proactively to keep the industry ahead in the global marketplace. For instance, MABA’s “2025” project has encouraged industry leaders to think about long-term needs and how Michigan agriculture will grow in the coming years. Jim has excelled as a leader and communicator, and his expertise has made him well-respected by those across the political spectrum.

Agriculture is the second-largest sector of Michigan’s economy, contributing more than $71 billion to the economy annually and supporting one out of every four jobs in the state. With today’s ever-evolving world, the work of industry leaders like Jim has been critical in making Michigan the agricultural hub it is. His impact on the state of Michigan cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to congratulate Jim Byrum for his decades of service as President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Jim all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE SALEM OREGON ROTARY ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIM RYAN
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Karen Williams Connelly, 68, of Niles, Ohio, who passed away peacefully at home, Thursday Sept. 5, 2019, surrounded by family after a long illness.

Karen was born April 7, 1951, in Warren, the daughter of her proud parents, Tom and Luella Knai Williams. After graduating from Niles McKinley in 1969, Karen attended the Ohio State University and eventually graduated from Youngstown State University. Karen earned a bachelor’s degree in social work and later a master’s degree in counseling. Karen worked in the mental health field in the Mahoning Valley until her retirement, helping hundreds of people with mental illnesses. She loved her work and her love for people could be seen in all aspects of her life.

On Nov. 29, 1980, she married the love of her life, Tom Connelly, and together they made a life in Niles. Karen loved to laugh and enjoyed hosting parties, picnics and events in her home. Christmas Eve and Memorial Day were her favorite events and her parties became traditions among family and friends. Karen loved to cook and bake and was constantly trying new recipes.

She will be dearly missed by her devoted husband, Thomas R. Connelly; her loving children, Thomas and Laura Connelly and Megan and Brian Gibson; her grandchildren, Lucy Gibson, Max Gibson and Lily Jones; a sister, Patty Williams; a brother Bryan (Lisa) Williams; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Karen was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Luella Williams.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Karen’s physician, Dr. Zul Mangalji, and the nurses at Trumbull Memorial Hospital for their exceptional care and compassion during her illness.

I am very blessed to have worked with and befriended Karen’s husband, Tom, who was the president of AFSCME Local 2026, which represents hundreds of nurses at Trumbull Regional Medical Center. Karen will most certainly be missed by all the lives she touched.

HONORING ‘FOOTSTEPS TO YOU: CHATTLES SLAVERY’ EXHIBIT

HON. NORMA J. TORRES
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Footsteps to You: Chattel Slavery exhibit, this exhibit opened in San Bernardino in 2018 and featured original artifacts and documents from the 19th century to showcase how the institution of slavery has shaped the United States.

Originally from historian Jerry Gore’s estate, the collection gives visitors greater insight into the daily abuses inflicted on the millions enslaved in America, and the courage that African women, men, and children demonstrated while fighting for their freedom. Guests can immerse themselves in newspapers, first-person accounts, and objects of the slave trade. I had the chance to examine up close some of these documents and was reminded that slavery was not just an unspoken evil, but one out in the open, written, and debated in our country. These slave narratives help spark questions about how visitors themselves would have participated in slavery during this time in history.

The exhibit was one of the San Bernardino County programs named as part of the 2019 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties. It is my honor to recognize the Footsteps to You: Chattel Slavery exhibit on the House floor today. This exhibit provides necessary insights and education into the experience of a slave in America and has made important contributions to the 35th District that are worthy of admiration.

HONORING ERIC LARSON ON THE EVENT OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. MIKE LEVIN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eric Larson on the event of his retirement as Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau. Eric has spent his career dedicated to the agricultural industry in San Diego County. During his forty-eight-year career, he worked in cut flower and nursery crop production, was the General Manager of the California Floriculture Growers Association and served as a board member of the Living Plant Growers Association, the San Diego County Farm Bureau, and the San Diego County Flower & Plant Association.

In 1996, Eric became Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau, where he helped the Bureau launch San Diego Grown magazine, establish the San Diego Farm & Nursery Expo, and advocated for the needs of local farmers. During Eric’s tenure as Executive Director, the San Diego County Farm Bureau was selected as “County of the Year” three times by the California Farm Bureau.

The San Diego County Farm Bureau would not be the organization it is today without the hard work and dedication of Eric Larson. I thank Eric for his dedication to the farmers of San Diego County and congratulate him on his retirement.
knew struggle and he knew sacrifice. He understood the power of empathy for a neighbor in need and he felt deeply that you are judged not by what you create or build, but what you give back to your community and your neighbors.

A love of automobiles led Don to drop out of high school and enlist in the U.S. Army as a mechanic. Upon completion of his service, he married the love of his life, Marilyn, and began a career in the auto industry.

His talents, intuition and vision didn’t go unnoticed for long, as Ford offered him a small dealership in Foxboro, Massachusetts. Working closely with his brother Gerry on this new business, he didn’t let that dealership stay small for long and quickly grew it to one of the largest in our Commonwealth.

But if you asked him what he cared about most in life beyond his family, he wouldn’t have given it a second thought: it was always philanthropy and giving back.

As he often said, “You can give your time. You can give your shoulder. You can give your heart.”

And that’s exactly what Don has done for decades. After supporting the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps, he founded the Rodman Ride for Kids which has raised nearly $150 million for at-risk children. Even on the day he passed away, 150 kids were enjoying an all-expenses paid trip to Disney World sponsored by his charitable organizations.

You didn’t have to know Don to know the impact he had on our Commonwealth and our country, but knowing him was simply inspiring and I was lucky to have grown close to him over the years.

To Don’s five sons, Brett, Gene, Bart, Curtis and Craig, I thank them for sharing their dad with us for all of these years. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF DAVE CROMELL FOR RECEIVING THE “HUB” PERREAULT CITIZENSHIP AWARD

HON. JACK BERGMAN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to recognize Sheriff Dave Cromell for receiving the “Hub” Perreault Citizenship Award from American Legion Post 131 in Munising, Michigan. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to his community, Dave has become an indispensable member Bands, the Solo Ensemble and the Illinois Music Education Association. Mr. Conton has a strong passion for science, art, politics and music. He further plans to use his strengths to reignite the Peoria community. His determination and drive have earned him a full ride scholarship to attend Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. I am proud there is such young dedication in our community.

It is because of remarkable leaders like Andrew Conton that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Andrew Conton for receiving the Mentee of the Year Award from the 100 Black Men in America organization.

RECOGNIZING THE JESSE CLIPPER AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 430

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal Jesse Clipper who was the first African American soldier from our region to die during World War I. While fighting on the front lines in France, he was badly injured, hospitalized, and unfortunately passed away in February of 1919 before he could return home from the war.

Corporal Jesse Clipper and many other brave African American soldiers who fought for our country have helped to plant the seeds for greater equality and respect for African American soldiers. Their bravery eventually led to the desegregation of our U.S. Armed Forces and the Civil Rights Movement. Corporal Jesse Clipper’s willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice proved he was an American patriot worthy of honor and respect.

In honor of this trailblazer, members of the Jesse Clipper Post dedicated the corner of Michigan and William Streets in the City of Buffalo as Jesse Clipper Square in honor of all wars fought by African Americans. This was the same area that Jesse Clipper lived during his formative years that helped shape him into a dedicated and honorable soldier. Later, members of the Jesse Clipper American Legion Post No. 430 petitioned the Buffalo Common Council to establish a memorial to Clipper and all African American soldiers. Since the initial dedication of the monument, the dates of other wars in which African American soldiers fought have been added to the memorial.

As time goes on, we have a duty to remember and honor all those who fought for our country regardless of race and we must never forget the contributions they have made to protecting the security of our nation. We must promise to never forget the burden they carried both on the battlefield, and in their hearts when they returned to a country that did not treat them like the heroes they were and are, solely because of the color of their skin.

Thank you to all the members of the Jesse Clipper Post over the past 100 years who have helped to ensure that all veterans receive the honor, respect and benefits that they deserve.

IN HONOR OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEGAL SERVICES ALABAMA

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Legal Services Alabama on their 15th Anniversary Award Dinner. Legal Services Alabama provides quality legal services to low-income residents of Alabama, filling a gaping need in a state that does not offer a statewide public defense program. Often our legal system’s creation and purpose is to maintain equal justice under the law, regardless of economic factors, connections or other indicators, fails to do so. The reality is that under-resourced individuals are provided decreased access to quality legal counsel, while those who can afford it are granted priority. This fundamentally contradicts the intent of our court system and undermines the very framework of our country. The work of Legal Services Alabama is to
right that imbalance, restoring justice not only to the economically disenfranchised, but to every Alabamian and American.

Founded on February 1, 2004, Legal Services of Alabama began as three separate Legal Services programs, Legal Services Corporation of Alabama (founded 1973), Legal Services of Metro Birmingham (founded 1977) and Legal Services of North-Central Alabama (founded 1969). The three regional offices merged resources to become the statewide entity Legal Services Alabama which provides free legal services to low-income Alabamians across all of the state’s 67 counties. The merger reflected a nationwide imperative, initiated by the Legal Services Corporation, which encouraged consolidation in order to provide improved and more efficient services to those in need.

Alabama has long been a bastion of grassroots activism in pursuit of civil rights and economic justice. Alabama is the birthplace of the civil rights movement of the 1960s and played a prominent role in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Civil Rights Movement. The works of Martin Luther King Jr. and his family predecessors, Dan has served as a hands-on President—present to greet guests of guests to Mackinac Island every year. Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dan Musser III and his family for their work as owners and stewards of the Grand Hotel. Their unwavering commitment to excellence, the Musser family and the Grand Hotel have become indispensable parts of Michigan’s First District.

First opened in 1887, the Grand Hotel was created to serve as a retreat for vacationers looking to enjoy summer on the Straits of Mackinac and Lake Huron. Since 1933, the hotel has been owned and operated by the Musser family. Under the Mussers’ stewardship, the Grand Hotel would grow to become not only a beloved part of Michigan, but a prominent feature in popular culture and premier destination for visitors from around the world. Its unique design has been widely acclaimed, and its world’s-largest 660-foot porch has been enjoyed by the likes of John F. Kennedy, Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, and Thomas Edison.

In 1887, the National Park Service designated the hotel as a National Historic Landmark, citing its historic architecture and representation of the American dream of a “summer place.” Today, its role as a summer place is not only a beloved part of Michigan, but a prominent feature in popular culture and premier destination for visitors from around the world. Its unique design has been widely acclaimed, and its world’s-largest 660-foot porch has been enjoyed by the likes of John F. Kennedy, Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, and Thomas Edison.

In 1969 a building off I-45 was dedicated to being their new home. After many wonderful years in that building, they finally settled into a more permanent church facility on May 6, 2007. The congregation celebrated this move by marching from their temporary residence at Vogel Intermediate School to their new home on Hanna Road.

Fifty years have passed since the opening of their first building, but Senior Pastor Dr. Galen Cooper continues to keep the mission of the original five families alive, by connecting individuals throughout Oak Ridge, Spring, and The Woodlands through faith and community. Oak Ridge Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in the Eighth Congressional District of Texas. Five families came to Oak Ridge, Texas from First Baptist Church in Conroe with the mission of building a church. The Suggs, Greer, Atherton, Pringle, and Albright families founded their church in the Tamina Community Hall on Robinson Road on October 22, 1967, with only 50 members in attendance.

Twenty years later, just two years, Oak Ridge Baptist Church grew to 253 members, and in 1969 a building off I-45 was dedicated to being their new home. After many wonderful years in that building, they finally settled into a more permanent church facility on May 6, 2007. The congregation celebrated this move by marching from their temporary residence at Vogel Intermediate School to their new home on Hanna Road.

Fifty years have passed since the opening of their first building, but Senior Pastor Dr. Galen Cooper continues to keep the mission of the original five families alive, by connecting individuals throughout Oak Ridge, Spring, and The Woodlands through faith and community. Oak Ridge Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in the Eighth Congressional District of Texas. Five families came to Oak Ridge, Texas from First Baptist Church in Conroe with the mission of building a church. The Suggs, Greer, Atherton, Pringle, and Albright families founded their church in the Tamina Community Hall on Robinson Road on October 22, 1967, with only 50 members in attendance.

Twenty years later, just two years, Oak Ridge Baptist Church grew to 253 members, and in 1969 a building off I-45 was dedicated to being their new home. After many wonderful years in that building, they finally settled into a more permanent church facility on May 6, 2007. The congregation celebrated this move by marching from their temporary residence at Vogel Intermediate School to their new home on Hanna Road.

Fifty years have passed since the opening of their first building, but Senior Pastor Dr. Galen Cooper continues to keep the mission of the original five families alive, by connecting individuals throughout Oak Ridge, Spring, and The Woodlands through faith and community. Oak Ridge Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in the Eighth Congressional District of Texas. Five families came to Oak Ridge, Texas from First Baptist Church in Conroe with the mission of building a church. The Suggs, Greer, Atherton, Pringle, and Albright families founded their church in the Tamina Community Hall on Robinson Road on October 22, 1967, with only 50 members in attendance.

Twenty years later, just two years, Oak Ridge Baptist Church grew to 253 members, and in 1969 a building off I-45 was dedicated to being their new home. After many wonderful years in that building, they finally settled into a more permanent church facility on May 6, 2007. The congregation celebrated this move by marching from their temporary residence at Vogel Intermediate School to their new home on Hanna Road.

Fifty years have passed since the opening of their first building, but Senior Pastor Dr. Galen Cooper continues to keep the mission of the original five families alive, by connecting individuals throughout Oak Ridge, Spring, and The Woodlands through faith and community. Oak Ridge Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in the Eighth Congressional District of Texas. Five families came to Oak Ridge, Texas from First Baptist Church in Conroe with the mission of building a church. The Suggs, Greer, Atherton, Pringle, and Albright families founded their church in the Tamina Community Hall on Robinson Road on October 22, 1967, with only 50 members in attendance.

Twenty years later, just two years, Oak Ridge Baptist Church grew to 253 members, and in 1969 a building off I-45 was dedicated to being their new home. After many wonderful years in that building, they finally settled into a more permanent church facility on May 6, 2007. The congregation celebrated this move by marching from their temporary residence at Vogel Intermediate School to their new home on Hanna Road.

Fifty years have passed since the opening of their first building, but Senior Pastor Dr. Galen Cooper continues to keep the mission of the original five families alive, by connecting individuals throughout Oak Ridge, Spring, and The Woodlands through faith and community. Oak Ridge Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary.
Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I missed Constitution Week. It was commemorated from September 17–23 annually. The observance of Constitution Week was established by law in 1956 after the Daughters of the American Revolution petitioned Congress to set aside these days to celebrate the document which established the framework of our government and maintained our liberties.

Author Catherine Drinker Bowen called it the “Miracle at Philadelphia.” In May of 1787, delegates from several of the thirteen states met in what we now call Independence Hall. The Constitution emerged from their months of deliberations and was signed on September 17, 1787. Madison and John Blair signed for Virginia, while Washington signed as the convention’s president unanimously.

Their goal was to revise the Articles of Confederation then governing the Union, but soon a new charter took shape. They met through the hot Philadelphia summer, thinking, debating, and compromising about the nature and particular forms of the government that would serve the people of the United States. The Constitution emerged from their months of deliberations and was signed on September 17, 1787. Madison and John Blair signed for Virginia, while Washington signed as the convention’s president. Mason refrained from signing it without a Bill of Rights.

Virginia ratified the Constitution in the following year, calling for the Bill of Rights in exchange for the Constitution. In 1789 it took effect with Washington as the first president of the United States under the new Constitution. With Virginia’s ratification of the Bill of Rights in 1791, ten amendments were adopted, and more followed in the centuries since, but the Constitution endures to this day as our great charter.

Constitution Week recognizes the anniversary of this document, the ideals that inspired it, and the men who wrote it. I ask my fellow Virginians and Americans to join me in observing this occasion and reaffirm the timeless principles represented by the Constitution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID ROUZER
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on September 9, 2019 because I had an obligation in the state of North Carolina. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 516 and YEA on Roll Call No. 515.

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on September 9, 2019 because I had an obligation in the state of North Carolina. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 516 and YEA on Roll Call No. 515.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proclaim November 2, 2019 Science Education Awareness Day in New York State. The recognition of this day serves as a reminder of the importance of science education, at all levels, in the State of New York.

The Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS) is New York’s first science teacher organization. Under the leadership of Kenneth Huff, President of STANYS and a Middle School Teacher at Williamsville Central School District in the 26th Congressional District, the association is dedicated to promoting excellence in science education. Its mission is to work with educators, school districts, and communities to provide opportunities for students to actively participate in science education. STANYS is a leading voice in legislative affairs that affect science teachers and the teaching of science. This vital organization brings the collective concerns and suggestions of science educators to NYSED and state government officials. This organization also acts as a multi-purpose network for science educators of many levels and disciplines.

Science Education Awareness Day 2019 on November 2nd will fall during STANYS’S Annual Conference. This event draws a large community of Pre-K to University and Informal Science educators from across the state. The conference offers workshops for all teaching levels, information on the newest tools and technology, and prominent keynote speakers from the field. The theme for the 2019 conference is Transforming Innovations into Reality in Science. The conference offers 2.5 days of workshops for all science teaching levels and disciplines, renowned panelists, subject area institutes, receptions and socials, and vendors with new materials and technologies. The celebration of Science Education Awareness Day will add to the inspiring and energizing atmosphere of the event.

Madam Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to proclaim November 2, 2019 Science Education Awareness Day in New York State. This celebration is a fantastic way to increase public appreciation for science education and to showcase its importance in our schools and communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN KATKO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, on Roll Call No. 525, I mistakenly voted and would like to correct my vote to a YEA. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 525.

CONGRATULATING BILL HAMMES OF SHERRARD, ILLINOIS, WHO WAS NAMED CONSERVATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Hammes of Sherrard, Illinois, who was recently named the “Conservation Teacher of the Year” by the Illinois Farm Bureau Conservation Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Audubon Society.

Bill Hammes is an agriculture teacher at Sherrard High School where he has dedicated the last couple decades of his life to agricultural education. Hammes’ work has not gone unnoticed, as his class received the “Environmental Youth Group Award” in the 1980s and “lowater Award” in the 2000s. Hammes has supported his students inside and outside of the classroom, teaching them essential agricultural skills and helping them coordinate a Cover Crop Tour in 2017. As a FFA mentor, his students went on to positively impact the community from cultivating crops, serving local food pantries and more. Additionally, he has enriched the local community by developing an outdoor learning campus which includes a garden, greenhouse and cropland for Sherrard students. It makes me immensely proud to see such dedication to our environment and community.

Madam Speaker, I want to again formally congratulate Bill Hammes for being recognized for his great work. I am hopeful that communities across the state can learn from Hammes’ leadership and agricultural success.

RECOGNIZING NORMAN R. VELIQUETTE FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MICHIGAN FARMERS HALL OF FAME

HON. JACK BERGMAN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to recognize Norman R. Veliquette for his induction into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame. Through his unparalleled leadership and devotion to excellence, Norm has become an indispensable part of Northern Michigan.

The Michigan Farmer’s Hall of Fame was created to promote excellence in farming and recognize those in Michigan who have made an extraordinary impact on the industry and their communities. None are more deserving of this honor than Norm. Over his nearly 50 years of farming, Norm has served as an active member of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Charter President of the Lowell Area Jaycees, and a founder of CherryKe, Inc., Great Lakes Packing Company, Cherry Bay Orchards, and CherrCo, Inc.—to name only some of his endeavors. In his long and successful career, Norm tackled the challenges the ever-evolving industry head on, proven himself to be a leader in Michigan’s cherry sector.

In addition to his work for Michigan’s agricultural industry, Norm has a long history of...
serving his community through the Elk Rapids School Board, Sacred Heart Church, Rotary Club, Northwestern Michigan College, and as the founder and long-time chairman of the Meadow Brook Foundation in Antrim County. He has also participated in multiple Agricultural People of people missions to Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine and has performed comedic monologues for the Elk Rapids Rotary Show for the past 35 years. Additionally, Norm has dedicated himself to public health through fundraising for the Rotary Foundation and the World Health Organization’s Global Polio Eradication Initiative. He has also participated in multiple missions for India’s polio National Immunization Day, and has published five books recounting his experiences.

Agriculture is the second-largest sector of Michigan’s economy, and the cherry industry serves a vital role for the people and communities of Northern Michigan. With today’s ever-evolving world, the work of industry and community leaders like Norm has been critical in shaping Michigan’s agricultural industry to the success story it is today. His impact on the people of Michigan cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to congratulate Norman Veliquette for his decades of service and his induction into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Norm all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING LILI MARSH AS THE BAKERSFIELD POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE HOMETOWN HERO

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lili Marsh, a constituent and community leader from Bakersfield, California. Today, Lili is being recognized as the 2019 Bakersfield Police Activities League Hometown Hero for exemplary service and leadership to the people of Kern County, which I represent.

Lili earned her Bachelor of Arts from Wooster College and has been a longtime resident in the Bakersfield community. While she has committed herself to an impressive number of civic organizations, her most passionate work has been in service to Kern County’s veterans. As Executive Director of Honor Flight Kern County, a chapter of the national organization she helped start, Lili organizes travel and accommodations in Washington for Kern County’s heroes so that they can see the monuments built in their honor. Many times, Honor Flight marks the first visit to our nation’s capital for these veterans, and Lili has been instrumental in giving these men and women the hero’s welcome they deserve upon reaching their nation’s capital.

However, Lili’s involvement with our veterans does not end with Honor Flight. Her most recent community improvement project has been the Portrait of a Warrior Gallery. This moving gallery is filled with portraits of today’s generation of men and women in the Armed Forces who have lost their lives following the 9/11 attacks. The Portrait of a Warrior Gallery is a project born of passion, love, and admiration of those who defend America and her ideals. Having worked with Lili on Honor Flight and numerous other veterans issues, she has the uncanny ability to identify the needs of our veteran community and the determination to see those needs met.

Along with being a nurse, Lili is many things to our community. But her passion and determination have enriched the lives of Kern County’s veterans and helped ensure our community continues to recognize these heroes among us.

I rise today for the American Legion, which is one of the nation’s most storied organizations. As Executive Director of Honor Flight and numerous other veterans groups, Lili is a true American. Her signature of leadership is the generosity of her heart, the compassion of her character, and the strength of her moral fiber. A true American, Lili Marsh’s achievements andlook forward to her many future successes.

HON. BARBARA LEE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2019

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from “The 1619 Project” published in The New York Times Magazine.

SPEECH OF

THE 1619 PROJECT


My dad always traced the American flag in our front yard. The blue paint on our two-story house was perennially chipping; the fence, or the rail by the stairs, or the front door, existed in a state of disrepair, but that flag always flew pristine. Our corner lot, which had been relined by the federal government, was along the river that divided the black side from the white side of our Iowa town. At the edge of our lawn, high on an aluminum pole, soared the flag, which my dad would replace as soon as it showed the slightest tatter.

My dad was born into a family of sharecroppers on a white plantation in Greenwood, Miss., where black people bent over white people’s houses. Like most young people, I thought I understood so little. My father knew exactly what he was doing when he raised that flag. He knew that the American flag was a badge of honor, not just of my country, but of his country. He knew that seeing the American flag meant the United States simply would not exist without us.

The Army did not end up being his way out. He was passed over for opportunities, his ambition stunted. He would be discharged under murky circumstances and then labor in a series of jobs for the rest of his life. Like all the black men and women in my family, he believed in hard work, but like all the black men and women in my family, no matter how hard he worked, he never got ahead.

So when I was young, that flag outside our house never made sense to me. Could this black man, having seen firsthand the way his country abused black Americans, how it refused to treat us as full citizens, proudly fly its banner? I didn’t understand his patriotism. It deeply embarrassed me.

I had been taught, in school, through cultural osmosis, that the flag wasn’t really ours, that our history as a people began with enslavement and that we had contributed little to this great nation. It seemed that the closest thing black Americans could have to cultural pride was to draw a vague connection to Africa, a place we had never been. That my dad felt so much honor in being an American felt like a marker of his degradation, his acceptance of our subordination.

Like most young people, I thought I understood so much, when in fact I understood so little. My father knew exactly what he was doing when he raised that flag. He knew that our people’s contributions to building the richest and most powerful nation in the world were indelible, that the United States simply would not exist without us.

In August 1619, just 12 years after the English settled Jamestown, Va., one year before the Puritans landed at Plymouth Rock and some 157 years before the English colonists even decided they wanted to form their own country, the distant African continent produced 20 to 30 enslaved Africans from English pirates. The pirates had stolen them from a Portuguese slave ship that had forcibly taken them from what is now the country of Angola. Those men and women who came ashore on that August day were the beginning of American slavery. They were among the 12.5 million who would be kidnapped from their homes and brought in chains across the Atlantic Ocean in the largest forced migration in human history until the Second World War. That number did not survive the grueling journey, known as the Middle Passage.
Before the abolishment of the international slave trade, 400,000 enslaved Africans would be sold into America. Those individuals and their descendents transformed the vast material wealth created by their bondage. Black Americans have also been, and continue to be, foundational to the idea of American freedom. More than any other group in the country's history, we have served, generation after generation, in an overlooked but vital role: It is we who have been the perfecters of this democracy.

But it would be historically inaccurate to reduce the contributions of black people to the vast material wealth created by their bondage. Black Americans have also been, and continue to be, foundational to the idea of American freedom. More than any other group in the country's history, we have served, generation after generation, in an overlooked but vital role: It is we who have been the perfecters of this democracy.

The United States is a nation founded on both an ideal and a lie. Our Declaration of Independence, approved on July 4, 1776, proclaims that “all men are created equal” and “endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.” But the white men who drafted those words did not believe them to be true. The enslavement of black people in their midst, “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness” did not apply to them.

Enslaved people could not legally marry. Enslaved people who had run away seeking refuge. Like many others, the writer and abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison called for the abolition of slavery. The Constitution protected the “property” of those enslaved black people, prohibited the federal government from intervening to end the slave trade. The slaves who lived in the United States for 20 years, allowed Congress to mobilize the militia to put down insurrections by the enslaved and forced states that had outlawed slavery to turn over enslaved people who had run away seeking refuge. Like many others, the writer and abolitionist Frederick Douglass called for the abolition of slavery.

The founding fathers could no longer blame slavery on Britain. The sin became this nation’s own, and so, too, the need to cleanse it. The shameful paradox of continuing chattel slavery in a nation founded on individual freedom, scholars today assert, led to a hardening of the racial caste system. This ideology, reinforced by the cruel and bloody institution from Europe, that in this enlightened country, the practice of slavery has its advocates among men in the highest stations.

With independence, the founding fathers could no longer blame slavery on Britain. The sin became this nation’s own, and so, too, the need to cleanse it. The shameful paradox of continuing chattel slavery in a nation founded on individual freedom, scholars today assert, led to a hardening of the racial caste system. This ideology, reinforced by the cruel and bloody institution from Europe, that in this enlightened country, the practice of slavery has its advocates among men in the highest stations.

The Constitution protected the “property” of those enslaved black people, prohibiting the federal government from intervening to end the slave trade. The Constitution contains 84 clauses. Six deal directly with the enslaved and their enslavement, as the historian David Wiltchek has written, and another four indirectly. The Constitution protected the “property” of those enslaved black people, prohibiting the federal government from intervening to end the slave trade. The Constitution contains 84 clauses. Six deal directly with the enslaved and their enslavement, as the historian David Wiltchek has written, and another four indirectly.

The Constitution protected the “property” of those enslaved black people, prohibiting the federal government from intervening to end the slave trade. The Constitution contains 84 clauses. Six deal directly with the enslaved and their enslavement, as the historian David Wiltchek has written, and another four indirectly. The Constitution protected the “property” of those enslaved black people, prohibiting the federal government from intervening to end the slave trade. The Constitution contains 84 clauses. Six deal directly with the enslaved and their enslavement, as the historian David Wiltchek has written, and another four indirectly.
they engaged in slavery or not. “had a con-
siderable psychological as well as economic in-
volution in the doctrine of black inferi-
orrity. While liberty was the inalienable right of all races, to be established by the
free, enslavement and subjugation became
the natural station of people who had any
discernible drop of ‘black’ blood.”

This enshrined this think-
ing in the law in its 1857 Dred Scott decision,
ruling that black people, whether enslaved or free, were a separate race. This em-
abled them inferior to white people and, therefore,
 incompatible with American democracy. De-
mocracy was for citizens, and the ‘Negro race’
was to be his first assignment. After ex-
pected widespread white violence, black
enslaved people zealously engaged with the
democratic process. With federal troops tem-
pering widespread white violence, black
Southerners staked branches of the Equal
Rights League—one of the nation’s first
human rights organizations—to fight dis-
crimination and segregation; they headed
in deputies to the polls, where they placed
other formerly enslaved people into seats
that their enslavers had once held. The
South, for the majority of this country, began
to resemble a democracy, with black Americans
elected to local, state and federal offices. Some 16 black men
served in Congress—including Hiram Revels
of Mississippi, who became the first black
man elected to the Senate. (Demonstrating
just how brief this period would be, Revels,
along with Blanche Bruce, would go from
being the first black man elected to the last
for nearly a hundred years, until Edward
Brooke of Massachusetts took office in 1967.)

The government funded the Southern
state constitutions and legislatures and hundreds more in local
positions. These black officials joined with white Re-
sults, they were a caste apart from all other hu-
mans, then they did not require the rights
bestowed by the Constitution, and the ‘we’
in the “We the People” was not a lie.

On Aug. 14, 1862, a mere five years after
the nation’s highest courts declared that no
black American was an American. President Abraham Lincoln called a group of
five esteemed free black men to the White
House. It was one of the few times that black people had ever been
invited to the White House as guests. The Civil War had been raging for more than a year, and black abolitionists, who had been in-
creasingly pressuring Lincoln to end slavery,
must have felt a sense of great anticipation and
pride.

The freedman was not going well for Lincoln.
Britain was contemplating whether to inter-
vene on the Confederacy’s behalf, and Lin-
coln, unable to draw enough new white vol-
unteers for the war, was forced to reconsider
his opposition to allowing black Americans
to fight for their own liberation. The presi-
dent was weighing a proclamation that threatened to emancipate all enslaved people
in the states that had seceded from the
Union if the states did not end the rebellion.
The proclamation would also allow the for-
mely enslaved to stay in the Union and fight against their former “masters.” But
Lincoln worried about what the con-
sequences of this radical step would be. Like many Americans, he opposed
slavery as a cruel system at odds with American
ideals, but he also opposed black equality.
He believed that free black people were a “troublesome presence” incompatible with a
democracy intended only for white people.

“Free them, and make them politically and
socially equal?” he had said four years earlier. “Will not a Numerical table of this;
and if mine would, we well know that
those of the great mass of white people will not.”

That August day, as the men arrived at the
White House, they were greeted by the tow-
ering Lincoln and a man named James
Mitchell, who eight days before had been
given the title of a newly created position
called the commissioner of emigration. This
was to be his first assignment. After ex-
changing a few niceties, Lincoln got right to
it. He informed his guests that he had gotten
Congress to appropriate funds to ship black
people, once freed, to another country.

“Who is the last country of this? This is,
perhaps, the first question for proper con-
sideration,” Lincoln told them. “You and we
are different races. . . . Your race suffer very
greatly, by living black people of the
North, to write the most egalitarian state
constitutions the South had ever seen.

You can imagine the heavy silence in that
room, as the weight of what the president
said momentarily stole the breath of these
five black men. It was 243 years to the month
since the first of their ancestors had arrived
on these shores, before Lincoln’s family, long
before most of the white people insisting
that this was not their country. The Union
was founded as a refuge to keep the South from splitting off, yet black
men had signed up to fight. Enslaved people
were fleeing their forced-labor camps, which we like to call plantations, trying to
join the fight against slavery, effort, serving as spies, sabotaging confeder-
ates, taking up arms for his cause as well
as their own. And now Lincoln was blaming
them for the war. “Although many men en-
gaged on either side do not care for you one way or the other . . . without the institution
of slavery, the South could not have an existence,” the presi-
dent told them. “It is better for us both,
therefore, to be separated.”

As Lincoln closed the remarks, Edward
Thomas, the delegation’s chairman, in-
formed the president, perhaps curtly, that
they would consult on his proposition. “Take
your full time,” Lincoln said. “No hurry at
all.”

Nearly three years after that White House
meeting, these black officials were considered at
Appomattox. By summer, the Civil War
was over, and four million black Americans were
suddenly free. Contrary to Lincoln’s view,
that slavery was not a social, not even a polit-
ical, but a religious issue, freedmen rejected
with the sentiment of a resolution against
black colonization put forward at a conven-
tion of black leaders in New York some dec-
ades before: “This is our home, and this our
country. Beneath its sod lie the bones of our
fathers . . . Here we were born, and here we
will die.”

The formerly enslaved did not take up
Lincoln’s offer to abandon these lands is an
astounding testament to their belief in this
nation’s founding ideals. As W.E.B. Du
Bois wrote, “Few men ever worshiped Freedom
with half such unquestioning faith as did
the American Negro for two centuries.” Black
Americans had long called for universal
equality and believed, as the abolitionist
Martin Delany said, “that God has made
of one blood all the nations that dwell on the
face of the earth.” Liberated by war, then,
xempted of the institutional oppress-
sors as Lincoln and so many other white
Americans feared. They did the opposite.
During this nation’s brief period of Recon-
struction, after the Civil War, black people
—one of the last nations in the Americas
to outlaw slavery. The following year, black
Americans, exerting their new political
power, pushed white legislators to pass the
Civil Rights Act, the nation’s first such law
and one of the most expensive pieces of civil
rights legislation Congress has ever passed.

And black officials stepped up for the first time, prohibited housing discrimi-
nation and gave all Americans the right to
buy and inherit property, make and enforce
contracts and seek redress from courts. In
1868, Congress ratified the 14th Amendment,
ensuring citizenship to anyone born in the
United States. Today, thanks to this
amendment, every child born here to a Euro-
pean, Asian, African, Latin American or
Middle Eastern immigrant gains automatic
citizenship. The 14th Amendment also, for
the first time, constitutionally ensured
 all Americans, exerting their new political
democracy and citizenship—the right to vote—to all
men regardless of “race, color, or previous
condition of servitude.”

But it would not last.

Anti-black racism runs in the very DNA of
done, as the planet, saving for Clark
Lincoln who, by living black people of the
North, to write the most egalitarian state
constitutions the South had ever seen.

They helped pass more equitable tax legis-
lation and laws that prohibited discrimination
in public transportation, accommodation and
housing. Perhaps their biggest achieve-
ment, the most democratic of American institutions: the
public school. Public education effectively
did not exist in the South before Reconstruc-
tion. McCrady was among those who
private schools, while poor white children
went without an education. But newly freed
black people, who had been prohibited from
learning by law, pressured white legislators
to take in their own children but for white chil-
dren, too. Black legislators also helped pass
the first compulsory education laws in the
South. By the 1890s, formerly enslaved people
were now required to attend schools like their
Northern counterparts. Just five years into
Reconstruction, every Southern state had
enshrined the right to a public education
for all children into its constitution. In some
states, like Louisiana and South Carolina,
small numbers of black and white children,
but largely extended schooling to blacks.

Led by black activists and a Republican
Party pushed left by the blatant recal-
For this fleeting moment known as Recon-
brella, black people, who had been prohibited
enroll slavery, the federal government de-
marked by black people, who had been prohibited
from learning by law, pressured white legislators
that for unity’s sake, it would problem and that for unity’s sake, it would

September 12, 2019 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks E1145

were desperate for an education. So black
legislators successfully pushed for a uni-
~
1877, President Rutherford B. Hayes, in order to secure a compromise with Southern Democrats that would grant him the presidency in a contested election, agreed to pull federal troops from the South. As the troops went, white Southerners quickly went about eradicating the gains of Reconstruction.

The systemic white suppression of black Americans after the Civil War continued between the 1880s and the 1920s and 30s became known as the Great Nadir, or the second slavery. Democracy would not return to the South until the 1960s.

White Southerners of all economic classes, on the other hand, thanks in significant part to the policies and laws black people had championed, experienced substantial improvement in their lives even as they forced black people back into a quasi slavery. As Waters McIntosh, who had been enslaved in South Carolina, lamented, “It was the poor white man who was freed by the war, not the Negroes.”

Georgia pine flew past the windows of the Greyhound bus carrying Isaac Woodard home to Winnsboro, S.C. After serving four years in the Army in World War II, where Woodard had earned an honorable discharge earlier that day at Camp Gordon and was headed home to meet his wife. When the bus stopped at a small drugstore in Atlanta, Woodard got into a brief argument with the white driver after asking if he could use the restroom. The driver got up and told Woodard to get off the bus. Crisp in his uniform, Woodard stepped from the stairs and saw the police waiting for him. Before he could speak, one of the officers struck him in his head with a billy club, beating him so badly that he fell unconscious. The blows to Woodard’s head were so ferocious that he fell into a cell the next day, he could not see. The beating occurred just 4½ hours after his military discharge. At 26, Woodard would never see again.

There was nothing unusual about Woodard’s horrific maiming. It was part of a wave of systemic violence deployed against black Americans after Reconstruction, in both the North and the South. As the egalitarian spirit of post-Civil War America evaporated under the desire for national reunification, many white Americans simply believed that the very presence of black people served as a problematic reminder of this nation’s failings. White America dealt with this inconvenience by constructing a savagely rigid system of racial rules that excluded black people almost entirely from mainstream American life—a system so grotesque that Nazi Germany would later take inspiration from it for its own racial policies.

Despite the guarantees of equality in the 14th Amendment, the Supreme Court’s landmark Plessy v. Ferguson decision in 1896 declared that the racial segregation of black Americans was constitutional. With the blessing of the highest court, no federal will to vindicate black rights, starting in the late 1800s, Southern states passed a series of laws and codes meant to make slavery’s racial caste system permanent by denying black people political, social equality and basic dignity. They passed literacy tests to keep black people from voting and created all-white primaries for electing the U.S. Congress. Black people were prohibited from serving on juries or testifying in court against a white person. South Carolina prohibited white tenant farmers from voting with the same rights as white owners.

Memphis had separate parking spaces for black and white passengers. In Baltimore, an ordinance outlawing black people from moving onto a block more than half white and white people from moving onto a block more than half black. Georgia made it illegal for black and white people to be buried next to one another in the same cemetery. Alabama public libraries—libraries that their own tax dollars were paying for—Black people were expected to jump off the sidewalk to let white people pass and call white people “whitey” even though they had been their neighbors all their lives. Whites regularly denied black people service, placing “Whites Only” signs in their windows. States like California joined Southern states in banning any housing developments for white people, while local school boards in Illinois and New Jersey mandated segregated schools for black and white children. This caste system was maintained through wanton racial terrorism. And black veterans like Woodard, especially those with the audacity to wear their uniform, had since the Civil War been the target of particular violence. This intensified during the two world wars because white people understood that once black men and women who had experienced life outside the suffocating racial oppression of America, they were unlikely to quietly return to their subjugation at home.

As Senator William Monday of Mississippi said on the Senate floor during World War I, black servicemen returning to the South “inevitably lead to disaster.” Giving a black man “military airs” and sending him to defend the flag would bring him “to the conclusion that his political rights must be respected.”

Many white men in the uniforms of America’s armed services not as patriotic but as exhibiting a dangerous pride. Hundreds of black veterans were beaten, maligned, and lynched. We like to call those who lived during World War II the Greatest Generation, but that allows us to ignore the fact that many of this generation fought for democracy abroad while brutally suppressing democracy for millions of American citizens. During the height of racial terror in this country, black men and women were subject to castrations, burned alive and dismembered with their body parts displayed in storefronts. This violence was meant to terrify and conf- orate people. This was a profound and important, it served as a psychological balm for white supremacy. You would not treat human beings this way. The extremity of the violence was a symptom of the psychological mechanism necessary to absolve white Americans of their country’s original sin. To answer the question of how they could prize liberty and freedom for all and simultaneously deny liberty to an entire race back home, white Americans resorted to the same racist ideology that Jefferson and the framers had used at the founding. This ideology—that black people belonged to an inferior, subhuman race—did not simply disappear once slavery ended. If the former enslaved and their descendants became educated, if we thrived in the jobs we were good at, then the entire justification for how this nation allowed slavery would collapse. Free black people posed a danger to the country’s idea of itself as exceptional, a refuge in which the nation preferred not to peer. And so the inhumanity visited on black people by every generation of white America justified the inhumanity.

Just as white Americans feared, World War II ignited what became black Americans’ second sustained effort to make democracy real. As the editorial board of the black newspaper The Pittsburgh Courier wrote, “We wage a two-pronged attack against our enemies at home and abroad who will enslave us.” Woodard’s blinding is largely seen as one of the catalysts for the decades-long rebellion we have seen through the civil rights movement. But it is useful to pause and remember that this was the second mass movement for black civil rights, the first being Reconstruction. That era of slavery’s end near, black people were still seeking the rights they had fought for and won after the Civil War: the right to be treated equally by public institutions, which was guaranteed in 1866 with the Civil Rights Act; the right to be treated as full citizens before the law, which was guaranteed in 1868 with the 15th Amendment; and the right to vote, which was guaranteed in 1870 by the 15th Amendment. In response to black de- cause of black Americans, black and brown struggled them from trees, beat them and dumped their bodies in muddy rivers, assas- sinated them in their front yards, burned alive and dismembered with their body parts displayed in storefronts. For the most part, black Americans fought back alone. Yet we never fought only for ourselves. The bloody freedom struggles of these rights must be the foundation for every other modern rights struggle. This nation’s white founders set up a decide- dently undemocratic Constitution that ex- cluded women, Native Americans and black people, and did not provide the vote or equal- ity for most Americans. But the laws born out of black resistance guarantee the fran- chise for all and are based not just on race but gender, nationality, religion and ability. It was the civil rights movement that led to the passage of the Im- migration and Nationality Act, which upended the racist immigration quota sys- tem intended to keep this country white. Be- cause of black Americans, black and brown immigrants from across the globe are able to come to the United States and live in a coun- try in which legal discrimination is no longer allowed. It is a truly American story that some Asian-Americans, among the groups able to immigrate to the United States because of the civil rights struggle, are now suing universities to end programs designed to help the descendants of the enslaved.

The nation cherishes freedom more than those who have not had it. And to this day, black Americans, more than any other group, embrace the democratic ideals of a common good. We are the most likely to support pro- grams like universal health care and a high- er minimum wage, and to oppose programs that harm the most vulnerable. For in- stance, black people are more likely to support pro- grams designed to help the descendants of the enslaved.

The truth is that as much democracy as this nation has today, it has been born on the backs of black resistance. Our founding fathers may not have actually believed in the kind of freedom for black people that we believe in today. As one scholar, Joe R. Feagin, put it, “Enslaved African-Americans have been among the foremost freedom-fighters this country has produced, and we have believed in this country with a faith it did not deserve. Black people have seen the worst of America, yet, somehow, we still be- lieve in its best.”

They say our people were born on the water.
When it occurred, no one can say for certain. Perhaps it was in the second week, or the third, but surely by the fourth, when they had not seen their land or any land for so many days that they lost count. It was after fear had turned to despair, and despair to resignation, and resignation to an abiding understanding. The tidal eternity of the Atlantic Ocean had severed them so completely from what had once been their home that it was as if nothing had ever existed before, as if everything and everyone they cherished had simply vanished from the earth. They were no longer Mbundu or Akan or Fulani. These men and women from many different nations, all shackled together in the suffocating hull of the ship, they were one people now.

Just a few months earlier, they had families, and farms, and lives and dreams. They were free. They had names, of course, but their enslavers did not bother to record them. They had been made black by those people who believed that they were white, and where they were heading, black equaled “slave,” and slavery in America required turning human beings into property by stripping them of every element that made them individuals. This process was called seasoning, in which people stolen from western and central Africa were forced, often through torture, to stop speaking their native tongues and practicing their native religions.

But as the sociologist Glenn Bracey wrote, “Out of the ashes of white denigration, we gave birth to ourselves.” For as much as white people tried to pretend, black people were not chattel. And so the process of seasoning, instead of erasing identity, served an opposite purpose: In the void, we forged a new culture all our own.

Today, our very manner of speaking recalls the Creole languages that enslaved people innovated in order to communicate both with Africans speaking various dialects and the English-speaking people who enslaved them. Our style of dress, the extra flair, stems back to the desires of enslaved people—shorn of all individuality—to exert their own identity. Enslaved people would wear their hat in a jaunty manner or knot their head scarves intricately. Today’s avant-garde nature of black hairstyles and fashion displays a vibrant reflection of enslaved people’s determination to feel fully human through self-expression. The improvisational quality of black art and music comes from a culture that because of constant disruption could not cling to convention. Black religious practices, so often impugned by mainstream society, are themselves an act of resistance. Our last names belong to the white people who once owned us. That is why the insistence of many black Americans, particularly those most marginalized, to give our children names that we create, that are neither European nor from Africa, a place we have never been, is an act of self-determination. When the world listens to quintessential American music, it is our voice they hear. The sorrow songs we sang in the fields to soothe our physical pain and find hope in a freedom we did not expect to know until we died became American gospel. Amid the devastating violence and poverty of the Mississippi Delta, we birthed jazz and blues. And it was in the deeply impoverished and segregated neighborhoods where white Americans forced the descendants of the enslaved to live that teenagers too poor to buy instruments used old records to create a new music known as hip-hop.

Our speech and fashion and the drum of our music echoes Africa but is not African. Out of our unique isolation, both from our native cultures and from white America, we forged this nation’s most significant original culture. In turn, “mainstream” society has coveted our style, our slang and our song, seeking to appropriate the one truly American culture as its own. As Langston Hughes wrote in 1926, “They’ll see how beautiful I am. And be ashamed—I, too, am America.”

For centuries, white Americans have been trying to solve the “Negro problem.” They have dedicated thousands of pages to this endeavor. It is common, still, to point to rates of black poverty, out-of-wedlock births, crime and college attendance, as if these conditions in a country built on a racial caste system are not utterly predictable. But crucially, you cannot view those statistics while ignoring another: that black people were enslaved here longer than we have been free.

At 43, I am part of the first generation of black Americans in the United States to be born into a society in which black people had full rights of citizenship. Black people suffered under slavery for 250 years; we have been legally “free” for just 50. Yet in that briefest of spans, despite continuing to face rampant discrimination, and despite there never having been a genuine effort to redress the wrongs of slavery and the century of racial apartheid that followed, black Americans have made astounding progress, not only for ourselves but also for all Americans.

What if America understood, finally, in this 400th year, that we have never been the problem but the solution?

When I was a child—I must have been in fifth or sixth grade—a teacher gave our class an assignment intended to celebrate the diversity of the great American melting pot. She instructed each of us to write a short report on our ancestral land and then draw that nation’s flag. As she turned to write the assignment on the board, the other black girl in class locked eyes with me. Slavery had erased any connection we had to an African country, and even if we tried to claim the whole continent, there was no “African” flag. It was hard enough being one of two black kids in the class, and this assignment would just be another reminder of the distance between the white kids and us. In the end, I walked over to the globe near my teacher’s desk, placed a random African country and claimed it as my own.

I wish, now, that I could go back to the younger me and tell her that her people’s ancestry started here, on these lands, and to boldly, proudly, draw the stars and those stripes of the American flag.

We were told once, by virtue of our bondage, that we could never be American. But it was by virtue of our bondage that we became the most American of all.
Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5453–S5483

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2469–2478, and S. Res. 309–312.

Measures Reported:


S. 2470, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–102)


S. 1273, to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims. (S. Rept. No. 116–105)

Measures Passed:

Wheeling, West Virginia Semiquincentennial: Senate agreed to S. Res. 310, recognizing the semiquincentennial of the community of Wheeling, West Virginia.

Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act: Senate passed H.R. 1200, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

Patriot Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 311, expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”.

National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 312, designating the week beginning September 8, 2019, as “National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week”.

National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to request from the House of Representatives the return of the papers to S. 1790, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, to provide for a correction; provided further that if the House of Representatives agrees to the Senate’s request, upon receipt of the papers from the House of Representatives in the Senate, notwithstanding passage of the bill, the amendment at the desk be agreed to and the papers be returned to the House.

Subsequently, the Senate having received the papers with respect to S. 1790, notwithstanding the passage of the bill, Inhofe Amendment No. 938, of a perfecting nature, was agreed to and the measure was returned to the House.

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (PM–28)
A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 5 p.m., on Monday, September 16, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, September 12, 2019, ripen at 5:30 p.m.

Howery Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Kenneth A. Howery, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of John Rakolta, Jr., of Michigan, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Destro Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Robert A. Destro, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Kenneth A. Howery, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

McIntosh Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Brent James McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Robert A. Destro, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Callanan Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Brian Callanan, of New Jersey, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Brent James McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 60 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. EX. 280), Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2020.

By 85 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 281), Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

Jennifer D. Nordquist, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

Messages from the House:

Measures Referred:

Executive Communications:

Additional Cosponsors:

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted:

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Privileges of the Floor:

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—281)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:21 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5483.)
Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill (S. 2470) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2474) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020; and

302(b) subcommittee allocations of budget outlays and new budget authority allocated to the committee in H. Con. Res. 71, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ryan McCarthy, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Army, and Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, who was introduced by Senator McSally, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

GLOBAL INSURANCE REGULATORY AND SUPERVISORY FORUMS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine developments in global insurance regulatory and supervisory forums, after receiving testimony from Steven E. Seitz, Director, Federal Insurance Office, Department of the Treasury; Thomas Sullivan, Associate Director, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and Eric A. Cioppa, Maine Bureau of Insurance, Augusta, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 4295–4327; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 62; and H. Res. 553–556, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 3356, to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–203, Part I).

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Kyle Wright, II, Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, Collinsville, Illinois.

Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act: The House passed H.R. 1146, to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 530.

Rejected the Curtis motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 189 yeas to 229 nays, Roll No. 529.

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–30, modified by the amendment printed in part C of H. Rept. 116–200, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill.

Rejected:

Young amendment (No. 1 printed in part D of H. Rept. 116–200) that sought to state that the repeal shall not take effect until the Alaska Natives who live and work closest to the proposed oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain of ANWR are thoroughly consulted regarding the effect of the bill on their quality of life and future (by a recorded vote of 193 ayes to 230 noes, Roll No. 526);

Gosar amendment (No. 2 printed in part D of H. Rept. 116–200) that sought to allow the bill to go into effect when DOI, in consultation with DOL, certifies that the bill will not harm Caribou herd populations (by a recorded vote of 187 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 528).

H. Res. 548, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 205), (H.R. 1146), and (H.R. 1941) was agreed to Tuesday, September 10th.


Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, September 13th, and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, September 17th for Morning Hour debate.

Consensus Calendar: Representative Speier presented to the clerk a motion to place on the Consensus Calendar the bill H.R. 1773, to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition and other material to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations, it having accumulated 290 co-sponsors.

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the emergency declared in Proclamation 7463 with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of American, minority and women jobs (by a recorded vote of 184 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 527); and
September 12, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — DAILY DIGEST

September 11, 2001 is to continue in effect beyond September 14, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–62).

Senate Referrals: S. 178 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7696.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7685–86, H7686, H7687, H7689, and H7689–90. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE FUTURE OF IDENTITY IN FINANCIAL SERVICES: THREATS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Committee on Financial Services: Task Force on Artificial Intelligence held a hearing entitled “The Future of Identity in Financial Services: Threats, Challenges, and Opportunities”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on a Resolution for Investigative Procedures. The Resolution for Investigative Procedures passed, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

INTERPOL


COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.
Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bergman, Jack, Mich., E1138, E1140, E1141, E1142
Brady, Kevin, Tex., E1144
Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E1140, E1142
Griffith, H. Morgan, Va., E1142
Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E1138, E1140, E1142
Hudson, Richard, N.C., E1138
Katko, John, N.Y., E1142
Kennedy, Joseph P., III, Mass., E1139
Lee, Barbara, Calif., E1143
Levin, Mike, Calif., E1139
Long, Billy, Mo., E1137
McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E1143
Neguse, Joe, Colo., E1137
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1138
Rouzer, David, N.C., E1142
Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E1139
Schrader, Kurt, Ore., E1138
Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E1140
Smith, Adrian, Nebr., E1138
Thornberry, Mac, Tex., E1137
Torres, Norma J., Calif., E1139
Walorski, Jackie, Ind., E1137
Webster, Daniel, Fla., E1138

The Congressional Record (USPS 087-390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ⨯Public access to the Congressional Record is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at www.govinfo.gov, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the Congressional Record is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202–512–1800, or 866–512–1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197–9000, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll-free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ⨯Following each session of Congress, the daily Congressional Record is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ⨯With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the Congressional Record.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Record, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.