House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.
September 19, 2019.
I hereby appoint the Honorable Henry Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

HONORING JAN ALLEN
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. Adams) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Jan Allen, an extraordinary North Carolinian and a personal friend.

Jan was a trailblazer who worked tirelessly to level the playing field for women in politics in North Carolina, and she did a tremendous job at her work.

Twenty-two years ago, she founded Lillian’s List to get more women elected to political office at the State level. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time in the North Carolina General Assembly over those 21 years. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time throughout Congress, as well.

There is no way to qualify the impact that Jan had on the State of North Carolina, but I know that, because of Jan, more women have held office in the State and more women are continuing to run.

Thanks to Jan, laws have been passed to improve the lives of women, families, and children, and North Carolina is a better place to live for everyone.

My thoughts and prayers will continue to be with Jan’s family, her friends, and my entire North Carolina community. I thank Jan Allen for her work, and may the Lord continue to bless her and her family.

CATTLE COUNTRY NEEDS USDA’S MARKET INVESTIGATION
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. Johnson) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, this is a town where investigations can last for years, and sometimes, they cost millions. There are other investigations that are insignificant, little things. They are just meant to check a box so we can move onto the next task.

Yes, I think we all know that, in D.C., there are two types of investigations, investigations that are for show and investigations that are for real. Well, in cattle country, we need an investigation for real.

Times have been tough, really tough. The producers that I know, smart and savvy professionals, are telling me that what happened in that aftermath did real damage to the viability of their businesses and to their way of life.

That is why I was grateful to see USDA, under the Packers and Stockyards Act, open up an investigation into the cattle market. An investigation like that does not happen every day, and it has folks in South Dakota anxiously awaiting the results. I know that I am.

What I have seen so far, what I have heard so far from USDA, gives me a good feeling that they are conducting this investigation for real, that they are working hard to gather and analyze the pertinent data. They want to get to the bottom of this. They want to determine to what extent, if any, there were unfair trade practices or market manipulation. That kind of a determination, Mr. Speaker, won’t be easy. It will require real effort, real persistence, a real willingness to dig deep.

As I said at the beginning, there are two types of investigations in this town, those that are for show and those that are for real. It looks like USDA is conducting this investigation for real, and thank goodness for that, because our cow-calf folks deserve that, our feeders deserve that, and, Mr. Speaker, our country deserves that.

ELIMINATE FORCED ARBITRATION
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Cunningham) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1423, the Eliminate Forced Arbitration Act. This legislation would have a huge impact on our farmers and ranchers.

Cattle producers in my state have suffered extreme volatility in the markets. We need to make sure that they have the ability to make their own decisions on how to handle disputes.

Eliminating forced arbitration could mean the difference between profit and loss for many of our farmers and ranchers. It is time we take action to protect their rights and ensure that they have fair and just avenues to resolve disputes.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation and ensure that our farmers and ranchers have the tools they need to succeed.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
FAIR Act, which would eliminate forced arbitration clauses in employment, consumer, and civil rights cases, restoring the rights of consumers, workers, and small businesses to go to court. This is about respecting the Seventh Amendment, the constitutional right to a trial by jury, the right of every single American to get their day in court.

This is also about public accountability. This is about ending the ability of bad corporate actors to shield their wrongdoing and patterns of violation from public scrutiny.

Let me be perfectly clear: Forced arbitration clauses, which are often buried in the fine print in confusing legal jargon, put the interests of powerful corporations over American workers and consumers.

This impacts every single one of us. Every person in this room at some point has unknowingly ceded their rights away when entering into a contract to buy a new car, to start a new job, or sign up for a new credit card. This is hurting real Americans, from the elderly people who are mistreated in nursing homes, or employees working overtime but not getting paid, to servicemen who are fired or not rehired after returning from Active Duty. Very few of them are actually getting justice.

In the last 5 years, the number of consumers who have won a monetary award from forced arbitration averages to 382 people a year. Let me put this into perspective: On average, more Americans get struck by lightning every year than win a monetary award from an arbitration.

When corporations know that they can get away with such bad behavior and shield that bad behavior from coming to light, there is absolutely nothing incentivizing them to follow the law and treat consumers well.

It should go without saying, but this legislation is overwhelmingly popular. Research shows that 84 percent of Americans oppose forced arbitration. I urge every single one of my colleagues to vote “yes” for the FAIR Act and restore vital rights to American consumers, workers, and small businesses.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the privilege of being recognized here to speak on the floor of the United States House of Representatives. I come to the floor this morning, Mr. Speaker, to address a topic, and most of the words that I say will be from an article written by Roger Scruton, who is an author from Great Britain, a commentator on a new book by Douglas Murray, titled “The Madness of Crowds: Gender, Race and Identity.”

Some of this hits home so much, and it has so much to do with America, that I thought it was important I address this here this morning.

He says: “In every period of history, therefore, there have been opinions and sentiments . . . . but our situation in Western democracies today is a novel one . . . . The old customs have been torn asunder by a culture of repudiation, which encourages people to shape their lives according to an ‘identity’ of their own.”

Socialization no longer means what it used to mean. It means now becoming who you are without regard to the framework that existed in the civilization and the culture prior. “The punishments for saying, thinking, or implying the wrong thing . . . are real, serious, and largely impossible to deflect.”

That means that “the archive of your crimes is stored in cyberspace, and whenever those in power confess to them and sworn to change, they will pursue you for the rest of your life, just as long as someone has an interest in drawing attention to them. And when the mob turns on you, it is with an implacable intensity that bears no relation to the objective seriousness of your fault. A word out of place, a hasty judgment, a slip of the tongue, whatever the fault might be, it is sufficient, once picked upon, to put you beyond the pale of human sympathy.”

This is reflected in the book “The Madness of Crowds.”

“The emerging world of censorship is a world without forgiveness . . . in which the real virtues and vices that govern our conduct are ignored altogether or are decided to be irrelevant.”

“The crimes for which we are judged are existential crimes. Through speaking in the wrong way, you display one of the phobias or isms,” or they presume to know that you yourself have no relation to the objective seriousness of your fault. A word out of place, a hasty judgment, a slip of the tongue, whatever the fault might be, it is sufficient, once picked upon, to put you beyond the pale of human sympathy.”

Even “your accusers are not interested in your deeds; they are interested in you,” and what they are interested in is “whether or not you are ‘one of us,’” meaning actually one of them.

“Your faults cannot be overcome by voluntary apologize, for they adhere to the kind of thing that you are, and you reveal what you are in the words that define you,” as defined by your critics.

“These words may be taken out of context, even doctored to mean the opposite of what you said”—that is true with the author and certainly true with me—“but this will not affect the verdict, since there is no objective trial, no case for the defense,” no due process. You are accused by the mob, examined by the mob, and condemned by the mob. You have no right to defend yourself, to defend this on your own, then,” they say, “you have only yourself to blame. For the mob is by nature innocent. It washes its own conscience in a flow of collective indignation, and by joining it, you make yourself safe,” which is one of the reasons we see an epidemic of virtue signaling here in this Congress, Mr. Speaker.

The spirit of the mob has entered not only the language of public debate but also the sources of information and the institutions of decisionmaking. Censorship begins in the media themselves.

Cyberspace is censored and is controlled by about four major companies. George Orwell predicted this, but I think it has eclipsed even his magnificent imagination and the reality that we are dealing with today.

“Murray gives riveting examples of the way in which”—I will use this example—“whiteness has become a moral fault in the eyes of identity warriors on the American campus.” They now openly “condemn people for the color of their skin,” provided that it is the wrong color. The art of taking offense, “whole sections of the university curriculum are devoted to explaining to students that words, arguments, comparisons, even questions,” rhetorical or not, “are ‘offensive,’ regardless of the intention with which they are used,” or, actually, the language, the precise definition of the language.

“I invariably, the offense is given by the old majority culture and is taken on behalf of some privileged minority.”

Mr. Speaker, this is a shorthand version of what is going on in this country, what is going on in this Congress, what is going on in the media.

And I submit this, that we don't any longer have an objective news media. That center that used to be the truth has been completely, almost completely, vacated. Much of it has gone to the left. Some has gone to the right. And that peace of being able to pick up a newspaper and read it and believe that it is true today is no longer true today.

And the American civilization must come to grips with this and go to original sources, come to our own conclusions, adjust our civilization and our culture. If we fail to do so, we will be pitted against each other for a long time to come.

STOP GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR NATION

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by saying I certainly and clearly disagree with him and do not concur with him.

Mr. Speaker, in 1999, my son Huey became a victim of gun violence when he was murdered in an aborted robbery attempt as he was bringing groceries into his apartment on the South Side of Chicago.

Tragically, Mr. Speaker, my son’s death was not unique because literally
hundreds of men, women, boys, and girls are dying every day in our Nation due to gun violence.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, almost 40,000 Americans have died as a result of gun-related injuries in the year 2017, which is the most recent year for which complete data is available.

Almost 40,000 Americans have died as a result of gun-related injuries in the year 2017. In the city I love, the city I live in, the city of Chicago, over 279 citizens of our Nation have been murdered within the last year due to gunfire.

Mr. Speaker, these statistics should be a clarion call to action by this Congress, by this Nation, by this administration. That is why, Mr. Speaker, the committee that I am proud to serve on, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health will finally meet in my district on October 3 to convene a hearing to examine gun violence as a national public health issue. This is a hearing that I have been consistent about ever since 2017.

This hearing will convene community members, national experts, victims, academia, and law enforcement. All these individuals will gather in my district in the city of Chicago for one purpose and one purpose only: to discuss how we can better protect our Nation, our people, our boys and girls, our schoolchildren, our church-going citizens, our mosque-going citizens, our citizens who worship in synagogues all across this Nation, our movie theater-going citizens, our citizens who are in malls across this Nation enjoying themselves and shopping.

We need to have protection for all of our citizens driving along the highways. All of our citizens need to be protected, and this hearing will have the purpose of discussing how we can better protect our citizens and our communities from this epidemic, this widespread epidemic of gunfire, gun violence. As with any epidemic that this Nation faces, we will have experts come and speak to us.

Mr. Speaker, we must stop the violence. Save the children. Save the families.

MEMORIAL TO THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS AT FORT VANCOUVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. Herrera Beutler) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important chapter in my region's history that must be remembered, and it is significant to our whole Nation: the service of African American regiments known as buffalo soldiers.

Their service stations included Fort Vancouver; and afterward, some of them made our region their permanent home, men like Willie "Bill" Morehouse, who served their Nation with courage and honor.

The buffalo soldiers' place in southwest Washington history began in April of 1899. That date marks the assignment of African American soldiers from Company B of the 24th Infantry to the barracks at Fort Vancouver. This was also the first time in history that a unit from one of the Army's four African American regiments was included in Fort Vancouver's regular garrison of troops.

The buffalo soldiers' contributions to our Nation continued throughout subsequent conflicts. Two years ago, we lost a pillar within the greater Vancouver community, a member and president of the Moses Williams Pacific Northwest Chapter of the buffalo soldiers, "Bill" Morehouse. Bill was a member of the United States Army and the National Guard early in his life, with his military service spanning World War II and the Fort Vancouver barracks as a POW guard.

His contributions to our community went beyond his military service. Bill led toy and food drives for underprivileged kids, and he provided honor guard at military ceremonies and parades.

In just a few days, on September 21, a ceremony will take place to dedicate a permanent memorial at Fort Vancouver to Bill and to the buffalo soldiers so he will be honorably remembered. This memorial will help mark their unwavering commitment to our country, a commitment they made in the face of racism, unfair treatment, and adversity, policies of the past.

I am proud that their legacy will live on in Vancouver, that their fight will live on, and I pledge to do whatever I can to ensure that the buffalo soldiers' stories of service and sacrifice are not forgotten.

OUR ESTUARIES: NATIONAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY TREASURES

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I join millions of my fellow Americans in recognizing National Estuaries Week, which extends from September 14 to September 21.

We know that estuaries are those places where freshwaters or rivers meet the sea. Estuaries are also places where biodiversity is often at its zenith. They are the ecologies of our coastal communities. Wherever a watershed empties into the sea, we find an estuary.

My home in Florida is part of an estuary called the Indian River Lagoon, where the fresh and salt waters mix behind barrier islands to form what experts call a mesohaline estuary in the United States of America. My community and district depend on the lagoon to support a broad array of activities to meet our economic, environmental, and recreational needs.

My neighbors and I understand how much we depend on the lagoon. We strive to protect the sea turtles and the habitat of the manatees. When they are thriving, we know that fisher- men, boaters, businesses, and importantly, our families will thrive.

For years, I have worked for the health of the Indian River Lagoon and tried to help other communities keep their estuaries healthy. The challenges of the Indian River Lagoon are the same challenges faced by all the other estuaries. Last Congress, I joined with Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI to found the Congressional Estuary Caucus to support the National Estuary Program, foster research in estuary restoration and protection, and bring other resources to bear on sustaining our estuaries.

National Estuaries Week is a special time for a national celebration of our estuary efforts and for local estuary programs within the national program to bring the importance of estuaries to their communities and involve other citizens in their work. An important part of these goals is to communicate the value and importance of our estuaries and our coasts to key decisionmakers at the local, State, and Federal levels. That is what we are doing right now.

The 33rd National Estuaries Week at Restore America's Estuaries tell us that last year's celebration was a tremendous success, as organizations and volunteers from across the country gathered at their local bays or riverfronts and classrooms to celebrate and learn about the importance of our estuaries and how they benefit our daily lives. More than 30,000 volunteers across 21 States, Canada, and Guam participated in over 105 different estuary events.

Many of these events are posted online, and they give us a stunning picture of how each estuary, while being a national asset, is also a unique treasure to its communities. For example, in Palm Bay in my district, the Marine Resources Council, the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program, The Nature Conservancy of Florida, Act 2 Technologies, and the Tampa Bay Estuary Program held a rain barrel workshop and auction, heard from a distinguished panel of water quality experts, and dined on a fine barbecue meal. A speakers panel open forum focused on audience participation, facilitating questions and concerns, as well as the opportunity to present ideas and potential problems and solutions for our waterways.

We also celebrate National Estuaries Week as a time to recommit our effort in the caucus to achieve full funding for the National Estuary Program and to bring those resources to the communities that live on the estuaries' edge.

We can and we must work to assure that our estuaries and our environment are sustained.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in Earth. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; as we also forgive everyone that has sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Lo, as these elected officials handle the agenda before them today, may the words of their mouth and the meditation of their heart be acceptable in Your sight.

Lord, Your word declares that those who acknowledge You, paths will also be directed by You. I pray that we truly become one nation under God, united with liberty and justice for all.

Lord, touch each Representative today. Bless their family and the community they have the privilege of serving. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit I pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House its approval thereof. Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAPPAS 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.

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.

WELCOMING DR. BRYANT R. ALI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce and praise today as guest chaplain Pastor Bryant Ali. Pastor Ali has been my friend for almost 50 years. He has been the "pastor in the hood," as we call him, for 26 years at the New Psalmist Worship Center in Newark, New Jersey, a center he founded to bring the power of the Lord to those who have lost their way. He is a renowned author, community activist, counselor, teacher, and preacher in my district. His story is one that should inspire us all. Pastor Ali received his spiritual calling as a homeless man struggling with chemical addiction. He conquered those demons through the power of the Lord. He started preaching and pursued his calling.

Today, he has a doctoral degree in holistic theology. He serves as the president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Newark and Vicinity, and he is a spiritual counselor for the Newark Anti-Violence Coalition and serves on the board of the Newark Community Health Centers.

He is an outstanding clergyman, an incredible leader in my community, and a true inspiration. I am very proud to have him say a prayer for us today. My fellow Members, I would like to present the senior pastor of New Psalmist Worship Center, the Honorable Dr. Bryant Ali, who did an incredible job for us today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Ms. Gladys Barker Grauer, the "Mother of Newark Arts" for more than 70 years, after

HONORING SUCCESS OF SORINEX

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from the Washington and district offices, visiting schools, job-creating businesses, and chambers of commerce.

An amazing stop this year was at Sorinex in Lexington. Sorinex is a family-owned business that makes unique exercise equipment for professional teams, national Olympic teams, colleges, high schools, and the military. It is a classic example of a garage-originated business that now produces equipment worldwide.

The founder of Sorinex, Richard "Pops" Sorin, took us around the impressive facility. The beginning of the visit was a tour of its historic collection of over 100 years of weightlifting equipment. Not only does Sorinex create its custom equipment, but it also produces all of its own branded apparel. I am grateful Lexington is the home of their success.

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

Our sympathy to the family of Emily Clyburn and our congresswoman Jim Clyburn and daughters Mignon, Jennifer, and Angela.

HONORING GLADYS BARKER GRAUER

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Ms. Gladys Barker Grauer, the "Mother of Newark Arts," for more than 70 years, after
her passing recently at the age of 96. She was one of Newark’s most dedicated artists and art supporters who leaves a legacy of great contributions behind.

Fifty years ago, she opened the first art gallery in Newark, the Anna Stello Gallery, a place dedicated to art and encouraging artists of color to learn and express their unique talents. Through this gallery, Gladys helped inspire and launch the careers of African American artists across the city.

The museum has held the first exhibit of local artists, called Emerging and Established, in 1983. Gladys is one of the founding members of the Newark Arts Council, today known as Newark Arts. She even received the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Women’s Caucus for Arts.

Her art has been displayed locally, nationally, and even internationally. When visitors can see some of Gladys’ five murals, called Music Unites Us All, on the PSE&G Fairmount Heights Art Wall.

Gladys has been a blessing to our cultural scene and to me personally as a great friend and friend of all of her children. Gladys’ life reminds us of the value of art in society, and she will be sorely missed.

PRAYING FOR RESIDENTS OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the wake of a terrible storm that is devastating my district in southeast Texas as we speak today. Tropical Storm Imelda, which appeared out of nowhere. Highways and roads are flooding, and local authorities are advising folks to seek shelter. Relatives of mine have complained that they are now underwater, as well, and flooding.

Again, we seem to see these storms come out of nowhere. This one hit us by surprise. It wasn’t even a named storm, and once they named it, it seemed like, within just a few hours, it made landfall.

Our office is working with the Governor’s administration in Texas, Governor Abbott, and with the Trump administration to quickly get declarations of a Federal emergency to ensure that the resources and help necessary will be provided to our constituents there.

Right after votes today, I will be heading home as quickly as possible and will be doing all that I can to help the people of southeast Texas. We are a tough and resilient people in southeast Texas, and we live by the rule that we need to help our neighbors. We saw that in technicolor just 2 years ago with Hurricane Harvey and that devastation.

My prayers are with everyone in this storm right now, and my office will be working around the clock to do all we can, and I will head home.

HONORING CHRISTA MA Cauliffe

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all New Hampshire residents and Americans in support of the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act.

Christa McAuliffe was a dedicated high school social studies teacher who understood how history is defined by ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Christa dared to touch the future as a teacher and as an astronaut. Selected from more than 11,000 applicants for NASA’s Teacher in Space Program, she inspired the world and furthered our Nation’s commitment to exploration inside and outside the classroom. I remember watching the shuttle launch as a kindergarten student on January 28, 1986, feeling the pride that a New Hampshire teacher from just up the road in Concord was making history.

Although Christa McAuliffe and six other souls were tragically lost in the Challenger explosion, her legacy endures. The creation of the commemorating coin is one way we can honor her and all of our educators for opening doors of opportunity and challenging students to succeed. The proceeds from these coins will support FIRST Robotics, a program that is building the next generation of creators, leaders and dreamers. I urge my colleagues to pass this bipartisan legislation today.

HONORING FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and similar community care centers for at-risk children across our Nation.

Founded in 1957, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches have been improving the lives of at-risk children throughout our State with its comprehensive programs in six Florida locations, including one in my district, Live Oak, Florida.

The Sheriff’s Youth Ranches are credited with helping more than 152,000 children and families in Florida alone. I have visited them, and I admire their work. It goes well beyond basic care and provides a sense of security, guidance, and belonging to these children who are coming from incredibly difficult circumstances.

Without action by this House, on September 30, the title IV-E child welfare waiver will expire, adversely affecting the assistance provided to children’s homes across the country.

It is our responsibility to ensure that vital services to vulnerable children and families are not interrupted. We must guarantee that the system has the same amount of resources necessary to achieve safety and permanency for all of these children.

□ 1215

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ALS

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a light on one of my constituents, Mr. Dan Shultes.

Dan, who lives in Schuylerville County, is a wonderful family man with a wife, two young children, and a community that loves him dearly. At 42 years of age, he has, in just a matter of months, gone from being completely healthy to being diagnosed with ALS.

This devastating disease has stolen his ability to complete basic tasks such as brushing his teeth, feeding himself, or signing his name. When I saw him last month at a barbecue, he was confined to a wheelchair, surrounded by loved ones.

Stories like Dan’s should remind us how important it is to continue to raise awareness about ALS and motivate Congress to take every action possible to help the 30,000 Americans struggling with ALS. Congress must provide robust funding for disease research and create expedient pathways to market for new treatments and medications that could save or drastically improve the quality of life for those living with this disease. We should work tirelessly to provide guidance or therapeutic solutions as soon as possible.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend and colleague, Paul Tonko, a true ally in this fight, as we all work closely with the Shultes family.

May God bless Dan Shultes and his family.

RECOGNIZING GARY MABREY

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Gary Mabrey, for his retirement after 36 years of service as the CEO and president of the chamber of commerce serving Johnson City—my hometown—Jonesborough, and Washington County, Tennessee.

After joining the Air Force during the Vietnam war, Gary returned to northeast Tennessee to continue serving his community. After earning a master’s degree in city management from East Tennessee State University, he spent 10 years training government officials before joining the chamber of commerce.

As CEO and president of the chamber, Gary worked tirelessly to strengthen the economy of northeast
Tennessee. He attracted new businesses and supported the existing ones. He promoted education, local colleges, and regional charities. Gary's leadership was recognized when he was named to the U.S. Chamber national board.

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to call Gary my friend. I thank Gary for his service to our community during his tenure with the chamber, and I wish Gary and his beautiful wife, Jackie, all the best in their new retired life.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer my condolences to the Clyburn family.

WE MUST SHUT DOWN DETENTION CENTERS ON OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand several letters received from my constituents in Brooklyn, New York, New York teens who, like me, are disgusted by the ongoing injustice and inhumane treatment of Brown and Black children who are being held in detention centers at the southern border of our Nation. I will read one letter from Charlee, who is 16 years old, living in New York City:

"To my fellow teens,

"After hearing about your situation, I am sorry our country doesn’t welcome you with open arms.

"Trust that not everywhere is like this . . . America can be accepting and supportive.

"I hope you’ll be released and allowed to become part of a family.

"I hope you’ll get to see the better places of this country.

"You deserve to live freely and safely. I wish you luck.

"Believe that your future will be better and someday these detention centers will be shut down."

She is right. We must shut down these inhumane detention centers. We must put an end to the irreparable mental and physical damage being done to our most vulnerable in the United States. We must reunite these families, and we must stand on the right side of history.

RECOGNIZING GOD’S PIT CREW

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

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of God’s Pit Crew, a Virginia crisis response team of Fifth District constituents who have done incredible work providing aid and support in response to over 130 natural disasters across the country and around the globe.

That began in 1999 when Randy and Terri Johnson drove three truckloads of supplies to Oklahoma City after a devastating tornado. Twenty years later, their coalition of friends and neighbors has grown to over 400 members who have volunteered their time and skills to help those in need.

Most recently, these Danville residents provided aid to the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian this summer and to the wildfires in Paradise, California, late last year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing these Virginians for their service to our country and the communities and the work they have done for those in need.

God bless God’s Pit Crew.

MAKE HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, every student deserves the opportunity to pursue higher education and achieve their goals, but for too many Americans, especially low-income students or families in poverty, unexpected financial emergencies like sudden medical costs, transportation issues, or loss of employment can prevent them from completing coursework or even cause them to drop out of school altogether.

A broken-down car or a brief hospitalization should not derail a lifetime of hard work for any student. That is why I am proud to have partnered with Congresswoman KATIE HILL to introduce the CAMPUS Act, which provides emergency grants to students in need so they can continue their coursework and stay on track academically. This legislation provides a critical safety net for low-income students and brings us one step closer to making higher education accessible and affordable for all young people.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work being done at the VA to help prevent suicides.

An estimated 45,000 Americans die each year from suicide. Roughly 6,000 are veterans. That is over 16 per day, over 115 per week.

Suicide is a national public health issue, and it is important that we educate ourselves on how to recognize the warning signs.

In the spirit of Suicide Prevention Month, the VA has launched efforts to help deliver assistance to veterans, funding for additional research, strategies to educate communities about suicide prevention, and collaboration with public and private partnerships to implement tools to help curb suicides among our Nation’s veterans.

As a fellow veteran, I have seen firsthand some of the difficulties veterans face following their military service, and we owe to them our support after they have sacrificed so much. Veterans are all around us—neighbors, friends, and family members—and they deserve our utmost attention.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the VA for their support and their work in addressing this important issue.

HONORING DEVIN McQUEEN

(Mr. ROSE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Devin McQueen, who loved baseball and his friends, but loved his family more than anything.

I am here to honor his mom, Colleen McQueen; his dad, Derrick McQueen; his uncle, Michael McLaughlin; and all of his family.

Devin was only 15 when he passed away after battling multiple rare diseases and chronic illnesses.

I am so glad that our community came together and honored his life and spirit when we recently unveiled a beautiful sculpture in his memory. The sculpture in his honor is called “The Strength of a Giant.” It is a sculpture by artist Scott LoBaido of a boy pushing a large boulder towards a blue sky.

Ever upward and ever forward, with strength of a giant: that is what Devin’s life was all about.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to Devin: We won’t forget you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:


Hon. NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 3(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 19, 2019, at 9:09 a.m.:

That the Senate disagrees to the House amendment, agrees to Conference and appoints conference S. 1798.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-64)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together
Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116–212) on the deliberative report (Rept. No. 116–212) on the 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 of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States, is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date of its declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.


REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4378, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116–212) on the resolution (H. Res. 564) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116–212) on the resolution (H. Res. 564) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts?

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

General Leave

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to debate and extend their remarks.

The Speaker pro tempore. There is objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

The Speaker pro tempore. There was no objection.

Providing for Consideration of H.R. 4378, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 564 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 564

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against introduction of the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without interveningamendments. Any amendment offered during debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to reconsider the bill shall be in order. The Speaker pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts?

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to debate and extend their remarks.

The Speaker pro tempore. There is objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

The Speaker pro tempore. There was no objection.

Providing for Consideration of H.R. 4378, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 564 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 564

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against introduction of the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without interveningamendments. Any amendment offered during debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to reconsider the bill shall be in order.

And the Republican Senate is completely dysfunctional. It seems like we have a better chance of getting struck by lightning than seeing them pass a bill.

The House has passed bills that fund 96 percent of the government. Again, 96 percent of the government is funded by this action in the House. But the Republican Senate has passed zero. Nothing. What are they doing over there, Mr. Speaker?
Someone has to lead here to keep our government funded, and we are. No gamesmanship, just the cleanest possible plan to keep the lights on for another month.

So I encourage all my colleagues: let’s be ready enough to this uncertainty. Enough with the rhetoric. Enough with the sound and fury. Enough with the President’s inaction. Let’s pass this short-term CR and finally make bipartisan, bicameral negotiations on a long-term deal a reality.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts, the chairman of the Rules Committee, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for his kind words, and I mean that with all sincerity. We, obviously, have different opinions, we represent different parts of the country together well. I appreciate the manner in which my friend runs his committee and discharges his responsibility on that committee and to this entire House.

We are here today. Mr. Speaker, on a bill that represents one of the most fundamental responsibilities of the United States Congress. That is to fund the government to keep it open.

Today’s bill is a bipartisan continuing resolution ensuring that critical government funding will remain in place until November 21. The American people deserve no less.

H.R. 4378 is a bipartisan continuing resolution that will fund the government and keep it open for the American people while we complete our work on appropriations for fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I call this bill a continuing resolution, but I think the other word I used is much more important. That word is bipartisan. That is what this bill truly is: a bipartisan compromise between the two parties. It is amazing what we can get done when we agree to work together and move towards a common goal. In putting for forward this bill, that is exactly what we have done.

H.R. 4378 is a bipartisan compromise that ensures that we will keep the government open and operating through November 21. The American people deserve no less.

H.R. 4378 not only funds the government and keeps it open, but it also provides critical authorization extensions for some important programs.

One of these programs is the National Flood Insurance Program, the Special Diabetes Program, and the Special Diabetes Program for Native Americans.

Every one of these programs is of great importance to my district, but the same could be said of every other Member of the House. All of us have constituents who use these and other important programs every day. All of us have constituents whose lives are changed for the better because these programs are there. And if they were to expire and stop working, all of us—every last Member—would, rightly, hear about it from our constituents the following day.

The bill before us today is not a perfect bill, but that is the nature of a compromise. When the two parties agree to work together, both sides have to give up some things for the greater good. That is the nature of compromise and that is what we can do when we agree to set aside partisanship for the good of all those we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, while I cannot support the rule, I do support the underlying measure. I think it represents a real bipartisan achievement that every Member of the Chamber, Republican and Democrat alike, can and should support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, but urge support for the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I don’t have any other speakers on this side of the aisle, and I am prepared to close.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to H.R. 4261 to prohibit taxpayer funding in support of campaigns for the offices of Senators or Representatives.

Earlier this Congress, my Democratic friends, filed H.R. 1, which included a public funding scheme for congressional elections that would transfer hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars to congressional candidates, most particularly to incumbents. That bill included an astonishing 6-1 match for every dollar a congressional candidate received for the expenses of the middle class. Well, I think people wonder why this institution—the House—has enacted tax bills that favor billionaires and millionaires at the expense of the middle class. We have done that.

As an appropriator, I find it hard to think of a worse use of taxpayer dollars than creating a government-funded campaign ATM. At a time when we could be funding the National Institutes of Health to help find a cure for cancer, or fund needed infrastructure projects across the country, or bring broadband internet to rural areas, Democrats in the House of Representatives have instead made clear that they want to spend taxpayer dollars on themselves. Congress should take immediate steps to ensure that taxpayer dollars are never spent on congressional campaigns, and H.R. 4261 would accomplish that goal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the Record, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, while I certainly oppose the rule, I urge to urge support for the underlying measure. H.R. 4378 is a bipartisan continuing resolution that will fund the government and keep it open for the American people while we complete our work on appropriations for fiscal year 2020. It will also provide extensions for critical programs impacting constituents in every district in the Nation.

I want to associate myself with my friend’s remarks. While I haven’t voted for very many of the appropriations bills—I don’t think I voted for any of them that this Chamber has passed because I have some strong disagreements—this House has largely done its job. We have labored to complete the appropriations process here.

I am glad our friends in the Senate—and they had a reason to do this—they waited until we had a bipartisan deal with the administration in both chambers to the top-line level. But I agree with my friend that it is time to get to work. It is time for these bills in the Senate to start moving and get passed. Then we can sit down, have the appropriate negotiation between the two chambers, hopefully arrive at a bipartisan agreement, and present the legislation to the administration that, hopefully, the President will be willing to sign.

Again, I think buying the time we need here, without inconveniencing the American people, is a wise thing to do. I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support that and vote no on the previous question, no on the rule, but yes on the underlying legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the previous question and, obviously, yes on the rule.

Let me just say that we need to do something about campaign finance. I think our current system is corrupt. I think people wonder why this institution—the House—has enacted tax bills that favor billionaires and millionaires at the expense of the middle class. Well, I think you can tie that to the money. When people want to know why we can’t get the United States Senate to take up sensible gun control legislation, like universal background checks, I tell them to follow the money. I think we need to even the playing field so that middle class families, and those struggling to get into the middle class, are heard on this Hill as much as corporations and special interests have been over the past several years.

H.R. 1, which we passed in this House, I think is a step in the direction...
toward giving government back to the people and taking it away from big corporations, ending the practice of tax bills that just favor the very well-off and the well-connected, so I disagree with the gentleman’s amendment.

But let me say this is in conclusion. As my good friend Mr. Cole pointed out, this is a bipartisan compromise continuing resolution. I thank Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER, as well as my colleague from Oklahoma (Mr. Cole) who I know worked with the Appropriations Committee, for getting us to this point.

I wish we did not have to do continuing resolutions. In the future that would depend on whether our colleagues in the United States Senate want to get their act together and deliberate and legislate in a timely fashion. We need to pass this because our farmers are hurting. Our retailers, our small businesses, and our local manufacturers are hurting.

Virtually, anyone who sets foot into a store is forced to pay more for products today than before the trade war. That is $1,000 a year. That is $1,000, Mr. Speaker: $1,000 a year. That is $1,000, Mr. Speaker.

Virtually, anyone who sets foot into a store is forced to pay more for products today than before the trade war. That is $1,000 a year. That is $1,000, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 564; and

Adoption of House Resolution 564, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4378, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 564) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 197, not voting 9, as follows:
The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 196, not voting, 11, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yeas</th>
<th>Nays</th>
<th>Not Voting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ayes</td>
<td>nays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1411</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The result of the vote was announced as yeas 227, nays 196, not voting 11.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 561, I call up the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 561, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill as follows:

H.R. 4378
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE
SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to "appropria-
tions Act," contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as refer-
ring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

DIVISION B—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERV-
ICES EXTENDERS AND OTHER MAT-
TERS

TITLES I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS
TITLES II—OTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS
TITLES III—MEDICAID EXTENDERS
TITLES IV—MEDICARE EXTENDERS
TITLES V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS
TITLES VI—MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES
TITLES VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY TO USE DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AUTHORITY.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO INITIATE MULTI-YEAR PROCUREMENTS.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO PAY OBLIGATIONS.

SEC. 7. AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE FUNDS.

SEC. 8. AUTHORITY TO PAY EMPLOYEES.

SEC. 9. AUTHORITY TO PAY BILLS.

SEC. 10. AUTHORITY TO PAY EXPENSES.

SEC. 11. AUTHORITY TO PAY COMPENSATION.

SEC. 12. AUTHORITY TO PAY BENEFITS.

SEC. 13. AUTHORITY TO PAY INTEREST.

SEC. 14. AUTHORITY TO PAY PENALTIES.

SEC. 15. AUTHORITY TO PAY PENALTIES.

SEC. 16. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 17. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 18. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 19. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 20. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 21. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 22. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 23. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 24. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 25. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 26. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 27. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 28. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 29. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 30. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 31. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 32. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 33. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 34. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 35. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 36. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 37. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 38. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 39. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 40. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 41. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 42. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 43. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 44. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 45. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 46. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 47. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 48. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 49. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 50. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 51. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 52. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 53. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 54. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 55. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 56. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 57. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 58. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 59. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 60. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 61. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 62. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 63. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 64. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 65. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 66. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 67. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 68. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 69. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 70. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 71. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 72. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 73. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 74. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 75. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 76. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 77. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 78. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 79. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 80. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 81. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 82. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 83. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 84. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 85. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 86. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 87. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 88. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 89. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 90. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 91. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 92. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 93. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 94. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 95. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 96. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 97. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 98. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 99. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 100. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 101. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 102. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 103. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 104. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 105. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 106. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 107. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 108. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 109. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 110. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 111. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 112. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 113. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 114. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 115. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 116. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 117. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 118. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 119. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 120. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 121. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 122. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 123. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 124. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 125. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 126. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 127. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 128. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 129. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 130. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 131. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 132. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 133. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 134. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 135. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 136. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 137. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 138. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 139. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 140. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 141. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 142. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 143. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 144. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 145. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 146. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 147. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 148. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 149. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 150. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 151. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 152. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 153. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 154. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 155. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 156. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 157. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 158. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 159. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 160. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 161. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 162. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 163. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 164. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMAGES.

SEC. 165. AUTHORITY TO PAY DAMA
(1) to which other appropriations are not provided by this Act, but for which there is a current applicable TAFs that does receive an appropriation in this Act; or
(2) remain available for the same purposes and under the same conditions as provided in title IV of division D of Public Law 115–245: Provided further, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand

SEC. 120. In addition to amounts provided by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations of $15,496,000 to continue the implementation of the Hemp Production Program (section 10113 of Public Law 115–354).

SEC. 121. Amounts made available by section 101 for “International Trade Commission—Salaries and Expenses” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to continue the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–159).

SEC. 122. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Office of the Secretary” by inserting “to cooperative processors for re-“provided” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand

SEC. 124. (a) The remaining unobligated balances of funds as of September 30, 2019, from amounts provided by section 9013 of division A of Public Law 115–245: Provided, That such amounts that were previously designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to that section of that Act. (b) In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for the “Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative”, there is appropriated on September 30, 2019, an amount equal to the unobligated balances rescinded pursuant to subsection (a) of this section: Provided, That amounts made available pursuant to this provision are available until September 30, 2020, and shall be available for the same purposes and under the same authorities for which they were originally provided in Public Law 115–245: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to that section of that Act.

SEC. 125. (a) No funds shall be transferred directly from “Department of Energy—Power Marketing Administration—Colorado River Basins Power Marketing Fund, West-“that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and shall be available only if the President determines that such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

SEC. 117. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the requirements set forth in Section 142(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7523(g)).

SEC. 119. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Food and Nutrition Service—Child Nutrition Programs” to carry out section 7(q)(j) of the Agricultural Development and Food Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 1151–11), to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for the net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, as of September 17, 2019: Provided, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit a report, not later than October 31, 2019, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a comprehensive list of the rescissions or cancellations that will continue pursuant to section 101: Provided, That, if the Congress determines that the list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available as of October 1, 2019, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act.

(c) No later than November 11, 2019, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a comprehensive list of the rescissions or cancellations that will continue pursuant to section 101: Provided, That, if the Congress determines that the list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available as of October 1, 2019, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act.

(d) If this Act is enacted after September 19, 2019, or if the designation in subsection (e)(1) of this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2019.
for commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).


(1) substituting "$1,600,000" for "$1,000,000";

(2) substituting "$8,400,000" for "$9,000,000"; and

(3) inserting the following before the period: "; and of which $167,136,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses: Provided, That, of the funds provided under this heading, $150,000,000 shall be for the declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(2)): Provided, That the amount appropriated under such heading for disasters under this heading is designated by Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177)."

SEC. 132. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for "Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund" may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support hiring and operations required for programs and activities associated with the 2020 presidential election campaign.

SEC. 133. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for "Federal Emergency Management Agency—Operations and Support" may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out response and recovery activities under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

SEC. 134. Amounts made available under sections 1309(a) and 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a) and 4026) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for September 9, 2019.

(b) If this Act is enacted after September 30, 2019, this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2019.

SEC. 135. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for "Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support" may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out activities previously funded by the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Homeland Security, consistent with the fiscal year presidential budget request.

SEC. 136. (a) In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided to the "Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Facilities" at a rate for operations of $18,397,500, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out operations and activities associated with such facilities.

(b) In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided for "Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Facilities" at a rate for operations of $361,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

SEC. 137. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Health and Human Services for "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Public Health Preparedness and Response" and "Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund" may be obligated in the amount of $631,000 only, and used in accordance with the authorities and conditions, set forth in H.R. 2740, as passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 19, 2019.

SEC. 138. During the period covered by this Act, up to $20,000,000 of the unobligated amounts in the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund established by section 231 of division B of Public Law 115–245 may be transferred to "Department of Health and Human Services—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support" and shall be available until expended for Ebola preparedness and response activities without regard to the limitations in section 231 of such Act: Provided, That, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may transfer such amounts to any of the appropriations accounts under the heading "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention" for Ebola response activities: Provided further, That such transfer authority shall be in addition to such transfer authority provided to the Department of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 139. Section 114(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 101c(f)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for "September 30, 2019.

SEC. 140. Amounts made available by section 101 for "Department of Veterans Affairs—Veterans Benefits Administration—General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" and "Department of Veterans Affairs—Departmental Administration—Information Technology Systems" may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support projects and activities created by the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–23).

SEC. 141. Section 7 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635f) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for "September 30, 2019."

SEC. 142. Section 209 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6497) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for "September 30, 2019."

SEC. 143. Title II division L of Public Law 115–113, section 211 of division G of Public Law 116–6 shall be amended by striking "the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019," before "to remain available".

SEC. 144. Section 1209 of the America’s Health Care Costs and Access and Affordability Act (Public Law 115–245) is amended—

(a) by striking "and $126,500,000" and inserting "$126,500,000"; and

(b) by inserting 

"and $12,621,918 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019," before "to remain available".

SEC. 145. Amounts appropriated pursuant to this section for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, shall be subject to the requirements contained in Public Law 115–245 for funds for programs authorized under sections 330 through 348 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254 through 256).

SEC. 146. (a) Conforming Amendment. Section 50901(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act is amended by striking "and section 50901(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act" and inserting "section 50901(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act, and section 1101(d) of division B of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019."

SEC. 1102. DIABETES PROGRAMS.

(a) Type I. Title III section 330(b)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c–2) is amended by striking "2018 and

and inserting "2018 and

and $2,365,863 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019," before "to remain available".

(b) Type II. Section 330(c)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c–3(c)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting "and $2,365,863 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019," before "to remain available".

SEC. 1103. EXTENSION OF SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Section 510 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 710) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (i)—
(I) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025”; and

(ii) by striking “for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019” and inserting “for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019.”

TITLE III—MEDICAID EXTENDERS

SEC. 1301. EXTENSION OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 223(d)(3) of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 1396a note) is amended by striking “September 13, 2019” and inserting “November 21, 2019.”

SEC. 1302. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE FOR TERRITORIES UNDER MEDICAID PROGRAM.

Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “and for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025”; and

(2) by inserting after “for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019” the following: “(or, with respect to such period, for fiscal year 2020)”; and

SEC. 1303. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN FMAP FOR TERRITORIES—NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (B) OR (C) OF SUCH SECTION 119, AS SO AMENDED, IS AMENDED.

SEC. 1304. D&N REIMBURSEMENTS IN MEDICAID DSH ALLOTMENTS.

Section 1923(f)(7)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–4(f)(7)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “(aa)” and inserting “(aa), and (ff)”;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025” and inserting “for the period beginning November 22, 2019, and ending September 30, 2020.”

SEC. 1305. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR STATE HEALTH SERVICES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Title V—Human Services Extenders

Subtitle C—Medicaid

Section 1501. EXTENSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

SEC. 1401. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR QUALITY MEASURES, ASSESSMENT, INPUT, AND SELECTION.

SEC. 1402. EXTENSION OF FUNDING OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS.


(1) in clause (vi), by inserting “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(4) in clause (x), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(5) in clause (xi), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(6) in clause (xii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(7) in clause (xiii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(8) in clause (xiv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(9) in clause (xv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(10) in clause (xvi), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(11) in clause (xvii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(12) in clause (xviii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(13) in clause (xix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(14) in clause (xx), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(15) in clause (xxi), by inserting after clause (xv) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of $1,352,000.”;

(b) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AREA AGENCIES ON AGING—Subsection (b)(1)(B) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(4) in clause (x), by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of $1,352,000.”;

(c) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS—Subsection (c)(2) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of $1,352,000.”;

(d) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONTRACT WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR BENEFITS AND OUTREACH ENROLLMENT—Subsection (d)(2) of such section 119, as so amended, is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(4) by inserting after clause (ix) the following new clause:

“(x) for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, of $1,352,000.”;

SEC. 1403. EXTENSION OF TERMINATION DATE OF PATIENT-CENTERED OUTCOMES RESEARCH TRUST FUND.

Section 9511(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “September 30” and inserting “November 21.”

TITLE V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS

SEC. 1501. EXTENSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS HEALTH PROFESSIONS WORKFORCE NEEDS.

Activities authorized under the Social Security Act shall continue through November 21, 2019, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2019, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority through the date so specified at the pro rata portion of the total amount authorized for such activities in fiscal year 2019.
shall continue through November 21, 2019, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2019, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there be hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose.

**TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES**

**SEC. 1601. ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL HEALTH ENTITIES.**

Section 404(a) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76), as amended by section 408 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114–113), shall be applied by substituting “November 21, 2019” for “October 1, 2019”.

**SEC. 1602. INCREASING NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM.**

(a) **World Trade Center Responders.—** Section 3311(a)(4)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21(a)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “$25,000” and inserting “$75,000”.

(b) **World Trade Center Survivors.—** Section 3321(a)(3)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–31(a)(3)(A)) is amended by striking “$25,000” and inserting “$75,000”.

(c) **Rule of Construction Regarding Annual Funding Limitations.—** Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, shall alter the annual limitations on amounts paid to the World Trade Center Health Program Fund under section 3311(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–31(a)(2)).

**SEC. 1603. EXCLUDING AUTHORIZED GENERIC DRUGS FROM CALCULATION OF AVERAGE MANUFACTURER PRICE FOR PURPOSES OF THE MEDICARE DRUG REBATE PROGRAM; EXCLUDING MANUFACTURERS FROM DEFINITION OF WHOLESALER.**

(a) **In General.—** Subparagraph (C) of section 1927(k)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(k)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the subparagraph heading, by striking “INCLUSION” and inserting “EXCLUSION”;

(2) by striking “a new drug application” and inserting “the manufacturer’s new drug application”;

(3) by striking “inclusive” and inserting “exclusive”.

(b) **Excluding Manufacturers From Definition of Wholesaler.—** Section 1927(k)(11) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(k)(11)) is amended—

(1) by striking “manufacturers,”; and

(2) by striking “and”.

(c) **Effective Date.—** The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal quarter that begins after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 1604. MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

Section 1941(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w–1(b)), as amended by section 2 of Public Law 116–29, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “$1,000,000” and inserting “$50”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “$1,000,000” and inserting “$50”;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “2020” each place it appears and inserting “2025”;

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “2020” each place it appears and inserting “2025”;

(5) in subparagraph (A) of section 404(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, by striking $400 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

**TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS**

**SEC. 1701. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

(a) **Statutory PAYGO Scorecards.—** The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained by the House or Senate, and any reduction in PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(b) **Senate PAYGO Scorecards.—** The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on the PAYGO scorecard maintained by the Senate, and any reduction in PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(c) **Classification of Budgetary Effects.—** Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the conference report accompanying the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained by the House or Senate, and any reduction in PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

In addition to these provisions, extenders that have been negotiated by my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees will keep health programs that are critical to American families up and running.

By extending these programs and government funding through November 21, this CR will allow additional time to negotiate our differences and enact responsible long-term funding for priorities that help make our country safer and stronger.

As we negotiate, families, businesses, and communities across the country will have much-needed budget certainty with no disruption to vital services or to the pay of Federal employees.

After we pass this CR and the Senate moves forward with their process, Democrats will negotiate responsible appropriations bills that uphold our values and give working families a better chance at a better future.

Keeping government open and providing certainty for our communities must be a top priority. Our continuing resolution is a necessary step to that end.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, while the House did its work and passed 12 appropriations bills through committee and 10 off the floor, the Senate appropriations process is far behind. Because of this delay, we must pass a continuing resolution to avoid another government shutdown like the one that occurred late last year which caused real harm to our economy and to hardworking Americans.

With less than 2 weeks until the end of the fiscal year, a clean continuing resolution that keeps government open and funds key priorities is so important. This legislation avoids controversial policy provisions that have slowed down the appropriations process and that, if included, would jeopardize passage. For example, it does not include an anomaly requested by the Trump administration to allow wall building outside the Rio Grande Valley.

At the same time, the CR contains provisions that reflect shared priorities, including allowing the Census Bureau to ramp up preparations for the 2020 decennial Census, extending funding for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative for another year, ensuring that FEMA disaster relief can be spent as quickly as needed to effectively respond to disasters, ensuring the Department of Agriculture can operate moderate income and income-based loan programs, and extending the National Flood Insurance Program and authorization for the Export-Import Bank.

It provides a short-term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program.
and allows FEMA flexibility to respond to disasters.
I would much rather be here today in support of full appropriations bills, but I have confidence that, with more time, we will be able to come together to pass full-year appropriations bills that the President will sign into law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this continuing resolution so that we can get to work.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to start by congratulating Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER on working together. I want to congratulate the members of the Appropriations Committee.
I know there wasn’t always agreement. I am hopeful, as we go forward, we can reach agreement on the individual bills or the minibuses or omnibus that we will ultimately pass to fund government in a timely fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I know that Mrs. LOWEY and I worked together towards that objective. I want to congratulate all the members.

Mr. Speaker, I also am proud of the fact that we funded 96 percent of the government through this House prior to June 30 of this year. That has not been done in over a decade, and it was the hard work of the chair and the ranking member and the members of the committee. Even though there was not agreement on the substance at the end, without that cooperation, that could not have happened, so I thank the committee and its leadership.

As majority leader and as a member of the Appropriations Committee, albeit on leave, I am focused, and we are focused as a majority, on doing our job and providing certainty for the military, for Federal agencies, for workers, for businesses, and for the American people that the Congress can, in fact, do its work in a responsible way.

I regret that the Senate has not done its work. They have not passed a single appropriations bill, not one. By the time we came back in September, they had not passed a single bill out of committee.

So this CR is necessary, as the Senate failed to introduce even a single appropriations bill before August for the first time in more than three decades, let alone mark up or bring it to the floor, as I said.

That is why we need to make sure the government doesn’t shut down. We don’t have to have drama. We don’t have to have panic. We don’t have to have people saying: “Why can’t the Congress do its work?”

We are bringing this bill to the floor, and we are counting on the Senate to pass it today with, I hope, a large bipartisan vote and send it to the Senate. It is my understanding that they intend to pass this so that we will not have the angst, the lack of confidence in this institution, and the instability because coming right up to the precipice of closure is avoided.
To that end, we have on the floor, as I said, legislation to prevent a shutdown. This CR, this continuing resolution, authorizes the operations of government through November 21. There was some discussion about going into the middle of December.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my colleagues and I want to say to my committee, there is no reason on God’s green Earth we cannot complete our business on the appropriation process by November 21, not a single reason, except procrastination and an unwillingness to compromise.

Americans have sent people with different views to this Congress, but notwithstanding those differences in views, they expect us to be able to work.
One of the great pleasures that I have had in this Congress is serving on the Appropriations Committee, particularly when I went there. It, frankly, has become more partisan than it was when I first went on in January of 1983, I came to Congress in 1981. Sil Conte was the ranking member from Massachusetts on the Appropriations subcommittee on which I served and of the committee, and we were able to work together, resolve our differences. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the fact that Mrs. LOWEY and Ms. GRANGER have that same psychology.

This bill will extend the authorizations that would otherwise expire at the end of this month, including the Export-Import Bank, the National Flood Insurance Program, the Higher Education Act, and a number of important health programs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PALLONE, chairman of the committee, for working to make sure that we could do that in a timely fashion as well.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can pass this on a bipartisan basis, as I said, and move forward in good faith to do the job the American people sent us here to do: assure the operations of their government in an efficient and effective way on their behalf, a government that expands justice, opportunity, economic security, and strengthens our national defense.
We came to a bipartisan budget agreement on lifting spending caps in July, and that was a good first step. Next, we must come to a bipartisan agreement on how to divvy up the allotments to each of the 12 appropriations bills, with our distinguished colleague refer to as 302(b) allocations. We need to make progress and compromise on that issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my friends in the Senate to not squander the extra time this CR provides, approximately 7 working weeks, and come to agreement among themselves first and then with us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY, her subcommittee chairs, Ms. GRANGER and her ranking members for their hard work moving the House bills so expeditiously and producing a CR that will avert a shutdown at the end of September. We can get the job done.

So while continuing resolutions aren’t ideal, supporting a short-term CR to keep our government functioning is the only responsible vote today—and I will say that again. It is the only responsible vote today, for our national security, for our economy, and for the general welfare of the American people.

For instance, this bill will ensure the Department of Energy can maintain our nuclear weapons stockpile and the Corps of Engineers can dredge our ports and waterways so goods and materials can move freely.
I also appreciate that this bill recognizes our farmers. Agriculture faces uncertain times and the temporary relief provisions, while not a solution, do help.
I would also like to applaud the inclusion of a provision related to the specialty crop initiative. This program is vital to the success of potato farmers in Idaho.
We must avoid disruptions to these vital activities by passing this continuing resolution before us today and then working towards completing our work on the 12 appropriation bills, as the majority leader said, by November 21.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this continuing resolution.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTITZ), the distinguished chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.
Ms. KAPTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her great leadership. It is with, actually, great reluctance that I rise in support of today’s short-term continuing resolution, and I urge my colleagues so as well. While this continuing resolution will keep the lights on for the government of the United States, surely, this isn’t the most responsible course of action we could follow.

This extension of current funding means Federal agencies are effectively forced to operate on autopilot. They can’t begin any new programs or respond to shifting priorities. To force our Nation’s government to once again operate on a continuing resolution was bailed against by our Republican friends as particularly problematic for the Pentagon. And they are right. But it is the lack of action from our Senate Republican colleagues who deep-sixed their fiscal responsibility and their leadership that brought us here today.

their fiscal responsibility and their Republican colleagues who deep-sixed our Nation’s government to once again forced to operate on autopilot. They could follow.

most responsible course of action we have achieved. Very little.

Despite Democratic warnings for months about the need for a bipartisan budget agreement, it took until July to settle on top-line numbers. Only this very week our Senate colleagues willing to advance their first bills. Why might you ask? Because they are beholden to the White House. But this White House has consistently demonstrated its lack of regard for the Federal budget process itself, for Congress’ constitutional power of the purse, and for the constitutional separation of powers when it comes to Federal funding decisions.

So I suppose there is a bit of time to right these wrongs. But it will take real courage from congressional Republicans to separate themselves from the irresponsible campaign promises of the President. It will take serious commitment in the Senate to produce bills that can be conferenced with our House versions that are just waiting for conference.

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

Ms. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTOR. And by November 21, it will take bipartisan responsibility to support this body’s highest priority to fund the entire Federal Government for the remaining fiscal year 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this short-term resolution and demand our Republican colleagues get serious about reasonable expectations in a divided government. Let us compromise and let us govern as the people of the United States expect.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of this continuing resolution.

Having to pass a continuing resolution is never an ideal situation, as I think most Members of this body know. However, I support this CR because it will ensure that Congress can provide the basic services which so many of our constituents depend on.

I also support this bill because it provides us with the necessary time to negotiate those FY 2020 appropriations bills, bills that have already been referred to this afternoon, bills that I hope are both fiscally responsible and will avoid poisonous, partisan riders, unlike the bills that were passed over the summer in the House, which Republicans, frankly, cannot support.

This continuing resolution continues American farmers’ and ranchers’ levels with limited exceptions to ensure our government has the resources it needs to aid our constituents and help them where they need Federal assistance.

Serving as member of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I support the inclusion of language that ensures the Census Bureau will stay on track to deliver a full and accurate account of all Americans in the 2020 census that will be beginning in a few months, as well as the language that enables the International Trade Commission to meet its statutory mandates under the bipartisan American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act.

I am also pleased that this legislation continues funding for this account. We have already voted in support of these programs for the millions of Americans who depend on it.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has already voted in support of bipartisan, long-term extensions of these programs, and I am hopeful that we can reach a bipartisan agreement to get these extensions signed into law before the short-term patch expires in November.

Again, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY. I know she, JERRY NADLER, CAROLYN MALONEY, the New York representatives, are very concerned about healthcare in the aftermath of 9/11, so I particularly appreciate your support on that.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019. I am particularly pleased that H.R. 4378 includes a provision that will increase enrollment numbers for the 9/11 Federal Health Care Program, which provides healthcare and treatment for responders and survivors.

Since being notified 2 weeks ago that this program is approaching enrollment capacity, I have been working with my colleagues in the House and the Senate, as well as the administration, to come to an agreement to raise the enrollment cap in order to guarantee that new enrollees will continue to to these programs and that we were able to quickly come together on an agreement so that new enrollees will access this program for many years to come.

The bill, H.R. 4378, also includes temporary funding extensions for several Medicare extenders and public health programs, including funding for community health centers, Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories, and the demonstration program for certified community behavioral health clinics. This temporary patch will protect Americans’ access to these vital programs while Congress works toward a long-term agreement.

I am relieved that this bill will prevent any interruption of healthcare services, I want to stress that our work is far from done. We have to continue to work toward a bipartisan, long-term extension that provides funding capacity to continue to provide quality healthcare for millions of Americans who depend on it.

As I finish, I would like to note that this patch will keep the government of the United States open, but it is good to see her there. There aren’t too many of us left, but it is good to see her there.
also ensure the men and women serving the Nation, including my soldiers at Fort Hood, are paid on time. This is imperative and by itself is enough reason to support this bill.

Passage of this bill will give us time to finalize our FY20 appropriations process.

I look forward to working with my friend from Florida, the chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, to finish our bill. I am ready to go to work.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this continuing resolution.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the distinguished chairwoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank my colleague from Texas, the ranking member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, for being such an incredible partner in our work together, and I look forward to bringing our one-twelfth of this bill in for a landing when we complete the appropriations process for this fiscal year.

But, for now, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this continuing resolution which, yet again, puts us in a position of having to avoid another shutdown. The House has done its part, passing ten appropriations bills, but the Republican Senate has been delinquent in their responsibilities.

This resolution, thankfully, buys us time, time that avoids any budgetary anxiety that our families, businesses, and communities simply don’t need right now.

If Wall Street and Main Street agree on one thing, it is that government shutdowns help no one. What we all want is what this continuing resolution provides: a measure of stability. And, Lord knows, we need that right now, given current events.

It avoids divisive policy fights and embraces shared priorities, such as bolstering the 2020 Census Bureau preparations, which is a vital constitutional responsibility, and ensuring our critical health programs don’t expire. And named, it does not fund the President’s border wall, yet does provide much-needed Medicaid funding to Americans still recovering in Puerto Rico.

I am extremely proud of our leadership, particularly our chairwoman, for providing this budgetary certainty that our economy needs right now, and for ensuring that the priorities of working families are protected.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support our bill and I look forward to working with my fellow appropriators to bring the FY20 final bill in for a landing.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of this continuing resolution.

As an appropriator, and you have heard it from all of us, this is not the best choice—it is not our first choice—to do continuing resolutions. But this short-term CR is necessary to give the Senate time to move its appropriations bills through the process.

In the mean time, Mr. Speaker, this legislation is absolutely critical for our men and women in uniform, for our first responders, for our air traffic controllers, and so many other public servants who keep us safe each and every day.

This legislation also has a limited number of provisions that are, frankly, important to Members on both sides of the aisle. Let me just give you a couple of examples. Disaster response tools are in this CR and extension of flood insurance and relief for the men and women who help put the food on our table, the Americans.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, this legislation gives us the opportunity to complete our full-year appropriations bills by November 21.

I am absolutely confident that we can finish our bills by this date because we have a bipartisan budget deal that was signed by the President. I am particularly looking forward to working with Chairman Price to finalize a T-HUD bill to address the infrastructure, safety, and housing needs of our great country.

I also know that because of Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER, they will lead us through this process in a transparent, clear way, as they always have.

Mr. Speaker, again, we need to pass this bill. I urge a “yes” vote.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUellar), an outstanding member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. CUellar. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her leadership and her expertise on the Appropriations Committee, I also thank my fellow Texan, Ms. GRANGER, for her work on the Agriculture Appropriations bill I added on the Market Facilitation Program. And I thank both of them for working in a bipartisan way because, again, in support of this continuing resolution, we are here to build consensus, find common ground, and keep government working for our people.

We need to set aside partisanship and bias, and think about and vote for what is best for our country. This measure allows us to continue the conversation while we keep government open and functioning.

This bill will extend several programs that are expected to expire at the end of the month. For example, it permits USDA to access the full $30 billion under the Commodity Credit Corporation to assist our hardworking agricultural producers across the U.S.

It supports our farmers and ranchers through the Market Facilitation Program.

It extends funding for local community mental and substance use disorder treatment, which is so important to our communities.

It allows the Census Bureau to continue with the 2020 Census preparation, which is so important for all parts of the country.

It supports small businesses by ensuring the continuing operation and funding of SBA loan programs.

It maintains critical disaster and emergency funding.

It supports rural communities by maintaining funding for water and waste loan programs.

It also supports public health initiatives by extending funding for community health centers and graduate medical education.

We need to continue working together as Democrats and Republicans, and with our Senate folks, to make sure that we get this done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to support the continuing resolution and continue bipartisanism, and for that, I thank them.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member GRANGER for the time but also for her important leadership on this important bill.

I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her continuous work and leadership in seeking common ground on this continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member GRANGER noted, we find ourselves in a difficult position today, so we are deliberating a continuing resolution instead of passing full-year appropriations. It is important, though, that we follow our constitutional duty to maintain government operations.

This bill will keep the government open. It will support essential public policies, and it will minimize the drama in the budgetary process.

One of our constraints is that the Senate did just start marking up its bills, as has been noted, last week.

Mr. Speaker, I will focus my comments on the agricultural portion of the bill. On a positive note, in that regard, the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee passed its bill last week.

Until the majority leader decides to bring the Agriculture appropriations bill to the floor, and it passes, we have no option other than to wait for the Senate to move through the process. Until that time, Chairman Brown and I will be ready to start conferencing the Agriculture appropriations bills with our Senate colleagues.
Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee’s Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee. The majority did recognize the hardship that our farmers are facing, and for that, I am very grateful.

I would like to make a plea to keep farmers and ranchers out of any political disputes. America’s farmers are hurting, and now is the time for further bipartisan solidarity.

Second, Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects an oversight in the disaster spending bill to help sugar beet farmers in the Upper Great Plains. These hardworking farmers have been devastated by 2 years of flooding, and they do deserve equal assistance to others who have faced unprecedented damage to their crops and their livelihoods due to extreme weather events.

Mr. Speaker, I support this continuing resolution. Let’s keep working hard to finish the rest of the job.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased, yet 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY, and I thank the leadership for bringing this CR and health extenders legislation to the floor.

The bill contains critical Medicaid relief for my district, the Virgin Islands. It extends the disaster-related 100 percent Federal funding to sustain Medicaid on our islands through November 21.

While the territories are part of America, and we are American citizens, Federal law unfairly places Medicaid funding caps on the islands—unlike the State of Hawaii. Our funding is open-ended and it requires them to pay a much greater percentage of Medicaid than the States.

Supplemental funding has only been provided on a temporary basis. Without the fix in this bill, the rate of Federal funding would plummet nearly 50 percent points to the permanent, capped level of 55 percent.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, despite my disappointment that a continuing resolution is necessary at this point in time.

The alternative is a government shutdown, which would only serve to hurt the American people by depriving them of critical services, not to mention wasting their money.

For example, this bill continues the environmental reviews in permitting that are necessary for economic and energy development. This bill also guarantees that our beloved national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and other public lands stay open for business, especially for those who depend on tourism and those who have already booked visits for the upcoming holidays.

This bill continues the flow of funding critical to all the communities working to upgrade their infrastructure so that citizens can continue to have access to clean and safe water.

This bill ensures that our Nation will continue to meet its moral and legal obligations to sovereign American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes, whose ancestors paid in advance with their lives and their lands for peace and the promise of basic services like education, public safety, and access to healthcare.

For these reasons and more, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same. There is so much more upon which we agree than disagree.

Let us act on what we agree upon so that our constituents can continue their daily lives without interruption.

This bill continues the operation of programs upon which we already agreed only 7 months ago. Vote “yes.”

I thank the ranking member for yielding me this time.

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

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

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

Without action, the government will shut down in the next 2 weeks, causing undue harm for our economy and hardworking families. This is unacceptable.

The continuing resolution will provide budget certainty for families, businesses, and communities while we negotiate long-term funding for our priorities and fight to give every person a better chance at a better life.

I urge support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 564, the previous question is on the engrossment of the bill.

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 balance of my time.

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.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule 20, this 15-
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote was taken and which are nays or votes, or ordered to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

Ms. Waters. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 239) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be called the “Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS. Congress finds the following:

(1) Christa McAuliffe was a social studies teacher at Concord High School in Concord, New Hampshire.

(2) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the State of New Hampshire, was the first American teacher to travel into space and became the first participant in the Teacher in Space program.

(3) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the State of New Hampshire, was the first participant in the Teacher in Space program.

(4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as “FIRST”) was founded to inspire young people to be science and technology innovators.

(5) The mission of FIRST “is to inspire young people to be science and technology innovators, by engaging them through hands-on, experiential mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.”

(6) 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of FIRST.

(7) Each year, more than 1,000,000 children from the United States and more than 86 countries participate in a FIRST program.

(8) Studies have shown that alumni of FIRST programs are more likely to become scientists and engineers and to volunteer in their communities.

(9) FIRST is dedicated to carrying on the mission of Christa McAuliffe of inspiring students and creating a new generation of dreamers and innovators.

(10) 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS. (a) Denominations.—In commemoration of Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 $1 coins, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.00 inches; and

(3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) Legal Tender.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

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

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

CHRISTA MCAULIFFE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 2019

This Act may be called the “Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be called the “Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS. Congress finds the following:

(1) Christa McAuliffe was a social studies teacher at Concord High School in Concord, New Hampshire.

(2) In 1985, Christa McAuliffe was selected to be the first participant in the Teacher in Space program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(3) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe and 6 other astronauts were tragically killed during the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

(4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as “FIRST”) was founded to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

(5) The mission of FIRST “is to inspire young people to be science and technology innovators, by engaging them through hands-on, experiential mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.”

(6) 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of FIRST.

(7) Each year, more than 1,000,000 children from the United States and more than 86 countries participate in a FIRST program.

(8) Studies have shown that alumni of FIRST programs are more likely to become scientists and engineers and to volunteer in their communities.

(9) FIRST is dedicated to carrying on the mission of Christa McAuliffe of inspiring students and creating a new generation of dreamers and innovators.

(10) 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS. (a) Denominations.—In commemoration of Christa McAuliffe, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 $1 coins, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.00 inches; and

(3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(b) Legal Tender.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote was taken and which are nays or votes, or ordered to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.
SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall bear—

(A) the image of and the name of Christa McAuliffe on the obverse side; and

(B) a design on the reverse side that depicts the legacy of Christa McAuliffe as a teacher.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2021”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the family of Christa McAuliffe, FIRST, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ending on December 31, 2021.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins; and

(2) the surcharge provided under section 7(a) with respect to the coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins, including—

(A) labor;

(B) materials;

(C) dies;

(D) use of machinery;

(E) overhead expenses;

(F) marketing; and

(G) shipping.

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of the coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. PURCHASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of $10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and section 8(b), all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the FIRST robotics program for the purpose of engaging and inspiring young people, through mentor-based programs, to become leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(c) AUDITS.—The FIRST robotics program shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, with respect to the amounts received under subsection (b).

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act result in no net cost to the Federal Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated for support of innovation, including the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping, is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b), the Speaker, in the name of the FIRST Committee on Education and Labor, the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee, the Financial Services Committee, and the Committee on Financial Services, submits to the House of Representatives—

(a) an explanation of the legislation; and

(b) a financial assurance that the legislation will be self-supporting.

Mr. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereafter.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by taking just a few minutes to recognize a dear friend of mine, a member of the Financial Services Committee, Congressman SEAN DUFFY of Wisconsin.

SEAN has been a good friend of mine since the very beginning of when he started running for Congress, and I have had the pleasure of serving with Mr. Duffy since he came to Congress in 2011.

As we say on the committee, known for his punctuality, it is kind of amazing that he is here now. This might be the first time he has been in all his 9 years of service in the House.

SEAN has been a huge asset for the Financial Services Committee and his constituents in the Seventh District of Wisconsin. He has worked on national issues of importance, like flood insurance; large issues, like international regulation of insurance agreements; as well as important, smaller issues that are very important to people’s lives, like mold and lead-based paint remediation and providing better options for residents of public housing or assisted housing. He has been a great advocate for his constituents, and I have been honored to work with him as a colleague.

He has led three separate subcommittees on the Financial Services Committee. He has had a meaningful impact on public policy. He has developed meaningful relationships on both sides of the aisle in this institution and has been willing to have some of the bigger debates on policy. He played an active role in the divisible in the party. He has always done so with a joyful heart and a fantastic capacity for communicating.

At some points, to the dismay of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, including the chairwoman of the committee, the debate can sometimes get rough-and-tumble, but he always does it with a smile on his face; and you can have a conversation with him afterwards, no matter how difficult or challenging the conversation or debate.

And while SEAN has been a colleague, I have counted him as an adviser and a friend and somebody I knew I could talk to even in the toughest of times.
SEAN is leaving because of his family. He has made a decision that it is the right thing for his family, to depart our institution and our schedule and the challenges of public life at this time in his family life. He has got a beautiful family, some of whom are here today.

So we wish SEAN and Rachel Duffy the best, and we will keep them, certainly, in our thoughts, but forever in our prayers and in our hearts.

I thank SEAN so much for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 239, the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Upton), the dean of the Michigan delegation, who has the bill here in the House, H.R. 500, and who has gathered more than 300 co-sponsors on this bill to see it across the line.

We know the story of Christa McAuliffe. In fact, one of my first memories of understanding what NASA did was to see the tragedy of the loss of the shuttle and the human tragedy of somebody who is such a dedicated public servant, dedicated to her classroom, to teaching, but, also, her willingness to put herself on the line to be a great advocate for teaching and for education.

Christa McAuliffe had a meaningful impact on people’s lives, and this is a representation of that. It is a fantastic undertaking and we have had here today. Due to the great work of Congressman Upton, we have wide, bipartisan support for this important and meaningful act before us.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I want to thank Mr. MCHENRY for his leadership as ranking member of the committee, and for his bringing this to the floor.

I want to thank my very good friend, not my Republican friend, very good friend, FRED UPTON, for his work and his leadership on this piece of legislation, and my dear friend, ANNIE KUSTER, for her leadership.

This is personal for me. I am so happy to rise in support of this legislation.

I went to Georgetown Law School, and I set up practice just about 5 or 7 miles from here in the late sixties. And in the seventies, late seventies, I had a law clerk; he also went to Georgetown Law School. He was a young, bright, extraordinarily able individual. His name was Steve.

Steve is now a Federal District Court Judge in New Hampshire. He had an extraordinary wife, and her name was Christa. Steve and Christa became very dear friends of Judy’s and mine.

In those days, I had enough time to sail, and I had a sailboat. Steve and Christa, from time to time, would go sailing with Judy and me and perhaps some of my children. I remember Christa with the wind in her hair, beautiful outside, more importantly, beautiful inside, full of life, full of excitement, full of vision for what she, as a teacher, could do for her children.

Some of you may recall that Christa’s motto as the Teacher in Space was: “I touch the future. I teach.” And she was looking forward with such excitement, not only to leave the bounds of Earth, but to return to Earth and engage with her students; to share her experience; to share the excitement and adventure of going into a new frontier that we call space.

It is so appropriate that we pass this coin bill in her name. Christa was my friend. She is so truly the best of us, as were her fellow astronauts on that fated day at the beginning of 1986, that, for a few seconds, burned so brightly with so much hope, and whose lives were snuffed out in an instant as the CHALLENGER blew up.

Christa, during the course of the competition to be the teacher in space, would visit my office that was in the Longworth Building, in the back of the building on the fifth floor.

Mr. Speaker, every time she would come to Washington, she would come to my office, and we would visit as she was participating in the competition, and I saw her excitement and her anxiety. Often, we lived NASA news as it was. As well because, out of those 10,000, they chose her to be the representative of the most important profession in our country, the teaching profession, without whom our society cannot succeed.

It is so appropriate that this coin bill, as the chairwoman has said, will benefit a program called FIRST, that Dean Kamen, one of the great engineers and inventors in our country and, indeed, the world, established; and now we have literally thousands of thousands and thousands and thousands of young people all over this world participating in S.T.E.M. activities and, particularly, robotics, who will be enabled to pursue this program more fully.

Surely, no one is going to vote against this bill, but we can all be very proud of the fact that we not only memorialize an extraordinary fellow citizen, fellow human being, who, as Kennedy said, brought her energy and her faith and her devotion to making her country, her community, and our children better.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for bringing this bill to the floor. I thank Mr. MCHENRY for his support. I thank Mr. Upton, and I thank Ms. KUSTER.

This is a thing that is good to do. America is better for Christa McAuliffe’s life.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my strong support for this bill.

Christa McAuliffe was more than just a teacher and an American hero who lost her life in the pursuit of science and our understanding of the universe. Christa was a friend.

Her husband, Steven, now senior judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire, worked as my law clerk for two years.

I got to know Christa then, and before the couple moved to New England, Christa taught in Prince George’s County schools in my district.

As a graduate of Bowie State University and then as a teacher for eight years in Prince George’s County, she inspired so many young people in Maryland to dream big and aim for the stars.

Kind, intelligent, and compassionate—Christa was a perfect choice for the “Teacher in Space” program, to which she was selected out of more than 11,000 applicants.

Christa was the ideal candidate.

She could connect with anyone; her personality was magnetic.

She had a way of inspiring every student to give his or her best, and she radiated a joy and love of teaching every time she entered a classroom or stood up to speak.

With trademark poise and determination, Christa approached the challenge of space flight like she did all others: with boundless passion.

I remember when she spoke to over 12,000 people from Prince George’s County School System after her selection for the “Teacher in Space” program.

Everyone in the audience—from the youngest students to the oldest teachers, parents and guests—we all felt like we were about to go on the journey alongside her.

Christa spoke about her goals for the Space Shuttle, how she wanted to get students and teachers around the country excited about science and space.

She spoke of how the ‘new frontier’ of space belongs to all of us as the children of Earth.

She told us that she would be returning to teaching after her journey to space, because that was what she loved, and nothing could stop her from doing what she loved.

Of course, tragically, we know that she never had that chance.

Today, I have an opportunity to help make sure that Christa can continue to inspire and instill lessons about science and space.

Even more than three decades after she and the six astronauts perished in the CHALLENGER disaster, we can carry on her legacy by promoting S.T.E.M. learning with this new commemorative coin program named in her memory.

The proceeds will benefit the F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Program, which engages and inspires future generations to become leaders in S.T.E.M. fields. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating Christa’s life and building on her legacy by supporting this legislation with strong, bipartisan approval.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, if I may inquire how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina has 15 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the dean of the Michigan delegation.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the dean of the Michigan delegation.
Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. McHENRY for his leadership on this, and for his co-sponsorship. I want to particularly cite STENY HOYER, not only as a great friend, but as one who really helped shepherd this to the floor today.

These are not easy. In fact, I talked to a colleague earlier today who has got another coin bill, and I told him I don’t know if I can ever do another one of these again. It takes a lot of work.

This has been bipartisan from the very start, and I want to thank my friend, MIKE CRAPO, who used to be on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, who now chairs the Senate Finance Committee.

But particularly, I want to thank my three colleagues that I see on the other side here, DEBBIE DINGELL, ANNIE KUSTER, and CHRIS PAPPAS, for their help to make sure that we could, in fact, get more than 290 cosponsors, which is the magic number to try and get this thing done.

It is, as Mr. HOYER, the majority leader, said, an important piece of legislation; it really is. It is, in essence, the Senate companion. Our bill, H.R. 500, is the companion to the Senate bill, S. 239, which passed at the end, just before the August break in the Senate.

But we only do two coin bills a year.

And as one that helped buttonhole Members about this, there is no cost to the Treasury. That is important. All of the costs are firstborn; the sale of the coins all goes to reimburse the Treasury to the costs that are associated, and then the profits from the coins go to the particular cause; in this case, it is FIRST.

Many of us on both sides, all across the country, have seen FIRST competitions in high schools, with high schools, tens of thousands of high school students over the last 10, 15 years.

More than 3,500 individual corporate sponsors help to enlist people to be encouraged to go into the math and science fields, to compete, to develop robots, to compete against each other, to work with each other, build team partnerships, and it really makes a difference.

In fact, there is a story that the current Air Force Academy Superintendent apparently said earlier this year that one of the first things that they look at for students for admission to the Academy is: Did they participate in FIRST? Because they know that if they did, that is an outstanding outside-school activity and they know that they are on the right path.

What this coin is going to do, with Christa McAuliffe’s picture, but the other six astronauts that were with her on that fateful January day, the sale of that coin is going to help FIRST, which was set up by Dean Kamen, who, many years ago, had done prosthetics so that our veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan are actually able to be functional in a way that makes up for the loss of those particular limbs.

He is such an enthusiastic supporter of this program that you see it everywhere in the State of the Nation, but all around the world now, in terms of competition. And they have provided financial assistance. I think more than $50 million in scholarship loans, to students looking to move on to higher education, particularly engineering.

So this coin is going to be a sellout. I am looking forward to 2021 to getting my coin for sure and helping the cause.

I would note that our State, in Michigan, under Governor Snyder, and now Governor Whitmer, a Republican and a Democrat, they have authorized in their budget at least $10 million a year to help offset the costs that are associated with the students as they participate in this program that often start by going on to become teachers and to pursue careers in science and education and public policy.

Christa’s legacy can be seen all over the State of New Hampshire; from the Christa McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, which is a planetarium in our town, to Christa McAuliffe Middle School in Concord. And I am proud that this coin will help cement Christa’s place in American history for generations to come.

So it is fitting that the proceeds from this coin will support FIRST Robotics, a nationwide leader in STEM education, founded, as Mr. UPTON said, by New Hampshire inventor, Dean Kamen, to help fulfill Christa’s legacy by helping students discover the wonders of the world through education and science.

I was so proud to work with my colleagues and friends, FRED UPTON, DEBBIE DINGELL, and my new colleague from New Hampshire, CHRIS PAPPAS, to help ensure that the cosponsors needed to pass this bill. I appreciate Leader HOYER’s and Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS’ willingness to move this bill and to honor Christa McAuliffe.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.
to pursue their dreams has had a lasting impact on children everywhere. To honor her and keep her dream alive for the next generation, my dear friends Representative UPTON, who has been incredible, Representative ANNE KUSTER, and Representative APPAS, Michigan and New Hampshire, have worked together for this, and I thank them for their leadership.

The bill will mint a commemorative coin, with the proceeds going to support the New Hampshire-based non-profit FIRST, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.

Each year, they host the first robotics competition, and we see young people building these robots, encouraging and inspiring them to invest in science and math. I try to go to them every time I can. I was just at an all-women's one last Saturday. They strive to inspire young people to be leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

There is no better way to honor the memory and life of Christa McAuliffe than to continue to inspire and encourage young people to be at the forefront of innovation and technology.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

It is amazing how a teacher can touch lives. Christa McAuliffe taught and loved her students in her classroom, not just in her community, but by what she means to the American people and how her contribution is marked in the American psyche of what teachers are and what they represent in such a significant way.

The Challenger tragedy was a massive loss for us as Americans in terms of human life, certainly. But it is marked in American history, and it is marked in American history in a very special way and has a quite different feel because of Christa McAuliffe.

The work put in to bring a coin bill to the floor is extraordinary, and I have to say this: The challenge to get a coin bill to the House floor is enormous under our rules. Under a bipartisan understanding, we have a massive hurdle in order to get here. It is not a normal process to bring a bill to the floor. It is an onerous and difficult one. That is why we have so few bills to strike. The coin bill was able to make it to the floor.

Now, the House floor is one last Saturday. They strive to inspire young people to be leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

There is no better way to honor the memory and life of Christa McAuliffe than to continue to inspire and encourage young people to be at the forefront of innovation and technology.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

It is amazing how a teacher can touch lives. Christa McAuliffe taught and loved her students in her classroom, not just in her community, but by what she means to the American people and how her contribution is marked in the American psyche of what teachers are and what they represent in such a significant way.

The Challenger tragedy was a massive loss for us as Americans in terms of human life, certainly. But it is marked in American history, and it is marked in American history in a very special way and has a quite different feel because of Christa McAuliffe.

The work put in to bring a coin bill to the floor is extraordinary, and I have to say this: The challenge to get a coin bill to the House floor is enormous under our rules. Under a bipartisan understanding, we have a massive hurdle in order to get here. It is not a normal process to bring a bill to the floor. It is an onerous and difficult one. That is why we have so few bills to strike. The coin bill was able to make it to the floor.

Now, the House floor is one last Saturday. They strive to inspire young people to be leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

There is no better way to honor the memory and life of Christa McAuliffe than to continue to inspire and encourage young people to be at the forefront of innovation and technology.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this.
Paragraph (A) determination of amount of award; denial of award.

(A) Determination of amount of award.

(i) Discretion.—The determination of the amount of an award made under paragraph (2) shall be in the discretion of the Board.

(ii) Criteria.—In determining the amount of an award made under subparagraph (A), the Board shall take into consideration—

(I) the significance of the information provided by the whistleblower to the success of the disciplinary proceeding;

(II) the degree of assistance provided by the whistleblower and any legal representative of the whistleblower in a disciplinary proceeding; and

(III) the programmatic interest of the Board in deterring violations by making awards to whistleblowers who provide information that lead to successful enforcement.

(B) Denial of award.—No award under subparagraph (A) shall be made—

(i) to any whistleblower who is, or was at the time the whistleblower acquired the original information submitted to the Board, a current or former employee of—

(I) an appropriate regulatory agency (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934);

(II) the Department of Justice;

(III) a self-regulatory organization (as such term is defined in section 34 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934);

(IV) the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board; or

(V) a law enforcement organization;

(ii) to any whistleblower who is convicted of a criminal violation related to the Board finding for which the whistleblower otherwise could receive an award under this section;

(iii) to any whistleblower who gains the information through the performance of an audit of financial statements required under the securities laws and for whom such information would be contrary to the requirements of section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78j-1); and

(iv) to any person who fails to submit information to the Board in such form as the Board may, by rule, require.

(B) Required representation.

(A) Permitted representation.—Any whistleblower who makes a claim for an award under paragraph (2) may be represented by counsel.

(B) Required representation.

(i) In general.—Any whistleblower who anonymously makes a claim for an award under paragraph (2) shall be represented by counsel if the whistleblower anonymously submits the information upon which the claim is based.

(ii) Disclosure of identity.—Prior to the payment of an award, a whistleblower shall disclose the identity of the whistleblower and provide such other information as the Board may require, directly or through counsel, for the whistleblower.

(iii) No contract necessary.—No contract with the Board is necessary for any whistleblower to receive an award under paragraph (2), unless otherwise required by the Board by rule.

(iv) Appeals.—Any determination made under paragraph (3) shall be appealable to the extent, including whether, to whom, or in what amount to make awards, shall be in the discretion of the Board. Any such determination, except the determination of an award if the award was made in accordance with this paragraph, may be appealed to the Commission not more than 30 days after the determination is issued by the Board. The Commission shall review the determination made by the Board in accordance with section 107(c).

(II) Prohibition against retaliation.

(A) Prohibition against retaliation.

(i) In general.—No employer may discharge, demote, suspend, threaten, harass, directly or indirectly, or in any other manner discriminate against, a whistleblower in the terms and conditions of employment because of any lawful act done by the whistleblower in providing information to the Board in accordance with this subsection; or


(III) Representation information.

(iv) in representation information regarding any conduct that the whistleblower reasonably believes constitutes a potential violation of any law, rule, or regulation subject to the jurisdiction of the Securities Exchange Commission (including disclosures that are required or protected under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934)."
Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California? There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank Representative GARCIA for this important piece of legislation that establishes whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. This program is similar to the program that was created by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act for the Securities and Exchange Commission.

At the SEC, this program has proven to be extremely successful and has been instrumental in incentivizing whistleblowers to report suspected misconduct while protecting them from retaliation by their employers. According to the SEC, the SEC's whistleblower program has awarded approximately $381 million to 62 individual whistleblowers since the program began.

Given the PCAOB's critical mission to protect investors and further the public interest by ensuring informative, accurate, and independent audit reports of public companies and SEC-registered brokers and dealers, it is vital that PCAOB whistleblowers are incentivized to come forward and are protected from employer retaliation.

Due to the success of this program and its proven track record at the SEC, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise to speak on H.R. 3625, the PCAOB Whistleblower Protection Act. I thank the Congresswoman from Texas for her leadership on this bill and for her work on the committee.

Madam Speaker, businesses have a self-interest in detecting and eliminating illegal activity as swiftly as possible within their organizations. As such, including whistleblowers and clients of audit firms, generally strive to comply with the law because, ultimately, violating the law hurts investors and, thereby, hurts their business and hurts their reputation. Violating the law is bad for business, right? It hurts the company's reputation, its value. It keeps business partners away. It breeds distrust in the marketplace. We know all of these things.

However, sometimes, businesses need someone to call out bad behavior or illegal activity. Whistleblowers play an important role in rooting out bad behavior that harms the markets, that harms Mr. and Mrs. 401(k), average, everyday investors, which most of us are.

Moreover, it is important to appropriately incentivize whistleblowers to either report potentially unlawful activity internally or to appropriate government authorities. That is why we have whistleblower statutes. That is why this is a good piece of legislation.

To that end, I am glad to see that this bill, which will establish rewards for certain whistleblowers whose tips lead to violations of PCAOB rules, as we normally call it on the Financial Services Committee—monetary sanctions.

This builds on the structure of the SEC's whistleblower program in a recent bill that was passed out of the House the last week of July that protects internal whistleblowers as well.

Additionally, I want to note that the provision in this bill that states that, to the maximum extent possible, the PCAOB shall coordinate with the Office of the Whistleblower at the SEC in carrying out the law under this bill.

The SEC whistleblower has been around for quite a while. They have the good regard of both parties, I think, in terms of how they respond. We want to make sure that experience is well coordinated with this new whistleblower authority at PCAOB.

I hope that, where possible, the SEC's Office of the Whistleblower can provide significant assistance to the PCAOB, if not handle it themselves. The whistleblower claims itself. They have that type of experience. I think it would be proper for that agency to do that and to ensure that it is done in the most cost-effective manner for the taxpayer and for the investors as well.

This legislation is good, in that it provides flexibility for that best delivery system as the SEC and Peekaboo go about this.

Again, I thank my colleague from Texas for hard work on this bill and for bringing an important piece of legislation that is good for taxpayers, good for investors, and really good for the stability of the markets and the belief in the stability of the markets. I urge a "yes" vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, this legislation is very simple. It would establish a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board based on the program Congress established at the Securities and Exchange Commission under Dodd-Frank.

The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board was originally established to ensure proper oversight of audits of public companies. This was done after the implosion of Enron and its accounting firm Arthur Andersen, something that was very painful to many in my district in Houston.

In the Dodd-Frank Act Congress passed, it expanded the whistleblower program at the SEC to both provide individual protections for whistleblowers who come forward to the Commission and made them eligible for monetary awards if their information led to enforcement action. Likewise, under my bill, individuals would be eligible for a reward program upon the successful completion of disciplinary action. Whistleblowers would be incentivized to come forward when they suspect violations of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; the rules of the PCAOB and the SEC, and other rules, laws, and professional standards governing audits of public companies. Importantly, these whistleblowers would also be protected against retaliation from their employers.

On July 1, this House overwhelmingly passed the Whistleblower Protection Reform Act by a vote of 410–12.

This bill uses the very same whistleblower protections that the House passed in that piece of legislation. This legislation would implement a key recommendation that the Project on Government Oversight board made in a recent report.

Madam Speaker, as one can see from that report, it is likely more could be done to strengthen this oversight board and its enforcement abilities, but I am confident that this bill is a good first step.

One of the reasons that investors from around the world invest in America is the stability and transparency of our public markets. Congress, the private sector, and regulators have all worked hard to make transparency a selling point around the world. This bill is just one small tool in the toolbox of making sure that transparency and the investor faith it generates in this country continue.

Supporters of this bill include the National Whistleblower Center, The Institute of Internal Auditors, and Public Citizen. This bill passed by voice vote out of committee.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairwoman WATERS and the ranking member, Mr. MCHENRY, and their staffs for working with us to incorporate some of the bipartisan suggestions that I believe make this bill stronger by ensuring that the SEC and the PCAOB coordinate in their whistleblower efforts. These changes make this bill stronger, and I thank them for their bipartisan support.

Madam Speaker, I will close by simply saying that PCAOB works. Let's
keep it going. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation, and I ask for their support.

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

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague from Texas—though new to this legislative body, she has shown experience in how she has legislated here—and the willingness of the Democrat majority staff on the committee to work with my staff to ensure that we have a bill that is functional and right and can get wide support, as it should. So I thank the gentlewoman for this, which it may be her first legislative undertaking through the committee, and I want to commend her for the work that she has done.

I address the Chair in saying that, but I think it is important that this body understands that there is good legislation that happens on our committee, on our legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), the ranking member of the Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets Subcommittee, and my friend and colleague.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I do need to point out, while this bill had passed by a voice vote, it does not mean that it did not have opposition, and I rise today to express my concern with this bill which would establish this whistleblower incentive program at the PCAOB.

Now, my opposition to this should not be interpreted as opposition to a whistleblower—in fact, it is the opposite of that—or a whistleblower program, but there are a number of reasons why I believe, and I think are clear, that this is a redundant program that would cover all of these other projects in order to get this duplicative program off the ground.

So, in light of these concerns, I believe that the gentleman and I conceived bill that likely has one purpose: to provide another avenue for plaintiffs’ bar to enrich itself. That is a massive concern that I and so many others involved in this have.

It is incumbent upon those who support this bill to explain why they believe that, auditors who play such a critical gatekeeping function in our capital markets, should be potentially offered the prospect of monetary bounty for disrupting the effective functioning of the audit process as it is today, especially in light of the SEC’s well-established whistleblower program that would cover all of these particular circumstances.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the ranking member yielding time to me.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for his comments. Certainly, there is a diversity of thought among our colleagues on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), who is the author of this legislation, and she will sufficiently describe why this bill is not redundant.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I will be brief, just two points: Number one, it is not redundant. If it were, we would have the National Whistleblower Center and The Institute of Internal Auditors wouldn’t see a need for it, and neither would the report that we have now placed in the RECORD. It is needed, and certainly we need to support it.

Secondly, in terms of costs, the cost for implementing this bill will be offset by the increase in fees that the board will collect from the accounting boards for which they have oversight. So there will be no additional costs. It will be offset.

Madam Speaker, it is needed, and I urge adoption of this bill.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I reserve the right to close.

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

Whistleblowers provide an important function. We want to make sure that they are not constrained by this legislation. Obviously, the Securities and Exchange Commission have shown themselves good actors in terms of implementing the whistleblower law that we currently have on the books, and I anticipate, with the capacity for implementation, that there could be that kind of coordination between PCAOB and the SEC in order to implement this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, Madam Speaker, I congratulate the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA). I am very proud of the work that she is doing on the Financial Services Committee. We are here today on this particular legislation, but this particular legislator, who serves on the Financial Services Committee, has undertaken to produce legislation that is so meaningful, not only for her district and for her State, but for this country.

I am very pleased about this bill today, and I join her in saying it is certainly not redundant.

Madam Speaker, I think the gentleman on the opposite side of the aisle from Michigan almost forgot why he came here, because he used the word ‘redundant’ at least six or seven times, and he repeated it and repeated it because I think it was difficult for him to find other words to try and explain why he was on the floor today opposing this bill.

The SEC has demonstrated the value of whistleblowers. And, yes, the whistleblowers are compensated, but they save our government money. They save the SEC money. They save harm from being done to those investors that we should be protecting.

Madam Speaker, again, I can’t say enough about Congresswoman GARCIA and this bill and the work that she is doing, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill (H.R. 3625), as amended, was passed.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPRaisal Fee transparency act of 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3619) to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with the authority to modify annual registry fees for appraisal management companies, to maintain a registry of trainees and certified appraiser compliance, and to allow grants to States to assist appraiser and potential appraiser compliance with the Real Property Appraiser.
Qualification Criteria, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3619

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019.”

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REGISTRY FEES FOR APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES.


(1) in clause (i), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(2) by inserting after and below clause (ii) the following:

“except that if the Appraisal Subcommittee determines that the fees established under clause (i) or (ii) result in adverse consequences or are otherwise not appropriately tailored to meet the goals of this paragraph, the Appraisal Subcommittee may establish a new formula for fees, which new formula may not take effect until the Appraisal Subcommittee submits a report to the Congress justifying its decision to establish such a new formula, setting forth the new formula, and explaining how the new formula will affect appraisers.”

SEC. 3. TRAINEE APPRAISERS.

(a) MAINTENANCE ON NATIONAL REGISTRY.—Paragraph (3) of section 1103(a) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3332(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking “in order to maintain the minimum criteria established by the Appraiser Qualification Board for a trainee appraiser license and is credited by a State appraisal authority as a trainee appraiser”;

(2) by inserting “trainee appraiser” after “trainee”;

(3) by striking “as a trainee” and “trainee”;

(b) ANNUAL REGISTRY FEES.—Subparagraph (A) of section 119(a)(4) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3332(a)(4)(A)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “including trainee appraisers,” after “transactions,”;

(2) by inserting “except that the Appraisal Subcommittee may, in its discretion, charge a fee for trainee appraisers not exceeding $20 after “$40,” and

(3) by striking the period at the end and adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

“‘12’ (TRAINEE APPRAISER.—The term ‘trainee appraiser’ means an individual who meets the minimum criteria established by the Appraiser Qualification Board for a trainee appraiser license and is credited by a State appraisal authority as a trainee appraiser.”

SEC. 4. GRANTS TO NONPROFITS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR APPRAISER EDUCATION AND TRAINING EFFORTS.

Paragraph (5) of section 1109(b) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3332(b)(5)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“and institutions of higher education after ‘licensing agencies,’.”

SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT TO DISCLOSE APPRAISAL FEES.

Section 4(c) of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2603(c)) is amended by striking “may” and inserting “shall.”

SEC. 6. INCLUSION OF DESIGNEE OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ON APPRAISER SUBCOMMITTEE.

The first sentence of section 1011 of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3310) is amended by inserting “the Department of Veterans Affairs,” after “Protection.”

SEC. 7. 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 the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in a report to the Congress submitted prior to the vote on passage.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019.

In June, the Financial Services Committee held a hearing on a variety of issues relating to the appraisal process. The issue of appraisal industry reform might not be an exciting headline, but honest, educated, and, importantly, independent appraisals help ensure the safety and soundness of mortgage lending.

We know how the last financial crisis happened, and it started with mortgages, so it is really important that appraisals are accurate and true.

As neutral parties, appraisers help determine the fair market value of assets for both lenders and purchasers.

Yet, much of the current appraisal framework remains an antiquated, confusing maze of overlapping and conflicting State and Federal rules. These inefficiencies harm appraisal quality, lower competition, and inhibit market innovation.

Building a 21st century housing finance system requires us to do better.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert it here.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. McHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act, and I want to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for bringing this bill to the House.

This bill would provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility to adjust the structure and amount of the fees they charge to appraisal management companies to alleviate concerns that the current statutory requirements governing these fees are too rigid and would have put pressure on appraisal management companies to pass on the burden of unnecessarily high fees to appraisers and reduce the number of appraisers that they work with.

At a time when some areas of the country are experiencing an appraiser shortage, we cannot afford to make it harder for appraisers to obtain work.

This bill would also create a national registry of appraiser trainees, much like there is already a national registry of licensed appraisers. This is one small step that will help facilitate the entry of new appraisers into the industry.

Finally, this bill would provide consumers with a separate disclosure of fees paid to the appraiser and fees paid to the appraisal management company in order to enhance their understanding of the costs associated with their mortgage.

These are reforms that are broadly supported by the appraisal industry and will make meaningful changes to this industry and help ensure its critical part of the home buying process.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for offering this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.
the fees to the management companies when one is used in a transaction.

Finally, the bill adds a representative from the Veterans Administration to the current seven member Federal Appraisal Subcommittee, along with HUD, the OCC, FHFA, FDIC, NCUA, and the CFPB. If you're listening at home, don't worry about the details of it. It is basically every Federal regulator in Washington has a seat at the board. We are now putting the VA on there because the VA Administration supervises as well for veterans. So let's get them all at the table and let's have them all communicate. That covers the national mortgage market that we currently have. This is good legislating. That is basically what I am saying.

I think it is a welcome thing to add veterans to the mix on the subcommittee. They currently make up roughly 10 percent of mortgages annually, so it is really important they have a voice on the board and a seat at the table, especially, around this important issue.

Their input will help the subcommittee promote greater uniformity in its supervisory role. Taken together, these reforms will help sort out some of the antiquated, confusing, and overlapping appraisal rules.

This bill was reported out of the Financial Services Committee unanimously, I commend its sponsor and co-sponsor, Chairwoman WATERS for yielding the balance of my time. Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019. I thank my colleagues for their hard work. He will work with Republicans where he can, but he tries to beat us on most days. But on this one, he worked with Ranking Member DUFFY in order to have this bipartisan bill before us today.

Representative CLAY is a tough Democrat, who represents his State well, and is a tough negotiator. What we have just before us is a really good bill because of the quality of legislation—not easy legislating, but tough legislating—that Representative CLAY is about on the Financial Services Committee and here in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this meaningful reform, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), the chair of the Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Fee Transparency Act of 2019. I thank Chairwoman WATERS for yielding the time, as well as the support that she has given.

Let me also thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for his support of this legislation, as well as the ranking member of the subcommittee, Mr. DUFFY, who I hope will be replaced with someone just as competent as Mr. DUFFY has been.

This bill would provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility to determine the structure and amount of the fee charged to appraisal management companies, provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with greater flexibility to utilize fee proceeds to partner with different entities to ensure compliance with Federal appraisal standards, add a representative from the Department of Veterans Affairs to the Appraisal Subcommittee, create a national registry of appraisers in training, and provide consumers with greater transparency in the disclosure of fees paid by appraisal management companies.

Madam Speaker, as you are well aware, a significant part of the housing market is comprised of veterans, as was mentioned, but currently the Appraisal Subcommittee does not have representation from the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill would add a designee from the VA, which further acknowledges the unique critical role of our veterans.

Though this bill does not directly address the hearing that we held back in June was the lack of diversity in the appraisal industry, which currently does not have many women or minorities. That is one of the reasons this bill adds a national designee to the regulatory subcommittee, which would help bring new people into this unique and very important industry.

Lastly, the bill makes it Federal law to disclose to consumers the fee that they pay for their appraisal. This consumer-friendly addition to the bill promotes transparency and ensures that the opaque world of appraisals is becoming more understandable to the average home buyer.

I will add that one of the most compelling parts of the appraisal hearing was the testimony of scholar Andre Perry of the Brookings Institution where he discussed in-depth the research of his colleagues which demonstrated that the appraisal industry has contributed to the growing racial wealth gap.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the support of the House of this important legislation.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I, again, thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for all of his hard work. This bill will remove another impediment to obtaining homes for everyday Americans by making more appraisers available to home buyers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SHUTDOWN GUIDANCE FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2290) to require the Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging financial institutions to provide additional resources to individuals and businesses affected by a Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2290

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act”.

SEC. 2. SHUTDOWN GUIDANCE FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than the end of the 24-hour period beginning at the date on which the Federal Government shutdown guidance is issued pursuant to subsection (a), the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, in consultation with State banking regulators and other appropriate Federal and State agencies, issue shutdown guidance to the financial institutions they regulate encouraging the financial institutions to—

(1) work with consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown;

(2) recognize that consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown may lose access to credit and face temporary hardship in making payments on debts such as mortgages, student loans, car loans, business loans, or credit cards;

(3) consider prudent efforts to modify terms on existing loans or extend new credit to help consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown, consistent with safe-and-sound lending practices; and

(4) take steps to prevent adverse information being reported in a manner that harms consumers affected by a shutdown, including by prohibiting modifications to credit arrangements intended to help consumers fulfill their financial obligations from being reported to, and coded by, consumer reporting agencies on a consumer’s credit report in a manner that hurts the creditworthiness of the consumer.

(b) NOTICE OF GUIDANCE DURING A SHUTDOWN.—Not later than the end of the 24-hour period beginning at the start of a shutdown, the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, issue a press release to alert financial institutions, consumers, and businesses to the existence, and content, of the guidance issued pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) POST-SHUTDOWN REPORT TO CONGRESS AND UPDATED GUIDANCE.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date a shutdown ends, the Federal financial regulators shall, jointly, issue a report to Congress containing an analysis of the effectiveness of the guidance issued pursuant to subsection (a).

(2) UPDATED GUIDANCE.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date a report is issued under paragraph (1), the Federal financial regulators shall update the guidance issued pursuant to paragraph (a) if any shortcomings are identified in such report.
(d) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) Consumers affected by a shutdown.—The term ‘‘consumers affected by a shutdown’’ means an individual who is an employee—

(A) the Federal Government, and who is furloughed or excused from a furlough during the shutdown;

(B) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 702 of title 41, United States Code) or other business, and who has experienced a substantial reduction in pay due to the shutdown; or

(C) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 702 of title 41, United States Code) or other business, and who has experienced a substantial reduction in income due to the shutdown.

(2) Consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown.—The term ‘‘consumers and businesses affected by a shutdown’’ means—

(A) a consumer affected by a shutdown; and

(B) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 702 of title 41, United States Code) or other business that has experienced a substantial reduction in income due to the shutdown.

(3) Federal financial regulators.—The term ‘‘Federal financial regulators’’ means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the National Credit Union Administration.

(4) Shutdown.—The term ‘‘shutdown’’ means any period in which there is more than a 24-hour lapse in appropriations as a result of a failure to enact a regular appropriations bill or continuing resolution.

SEC. 3. 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 under 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 SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Waters), and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHenry) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Speaker pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2290, Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act, a bill introduced by one of our colleagues and a new member of the Financial Services Committee, Representative WEXTON of Virginia.

Last December, President Trump shut the government down for an unprecedented 35 days, resulting in missed paychecks for countless government employees and contractors. About 800,000 Federal employees were furloughed and another 4 million or so Federal contractors were negatively affected.

The resulting damage was significant. Many of our constituents, who did nothing wrong at all, found it hard to make essential payments—such as payments on mortgages, rent, student loans, car loans, business loans, or credit cards—when their income was temporarily limited.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office estimated the shutdown cost the American economy $18 billion and it delayed approximately $11 billion in Federal discretionary spending for compensation and purchases of goods and services.

Should there be another government shutdown in the future, this bill will help ensure that, at a minimum, there is timely guidance provided by financial regulators to encourage financial firms to work with and help affected consumers. Consistent with prudent lending practices, firms would be encouraged to modify payment terms or extend credit, when appropriate, and prevent adverse information from being reported that might hurt a consumer’s credit score.

During the October 2013 shutdown, regulators issued guidance to financial institutions on day nine of the shutdown, urging firms to do what they could to help affected consumers.

On January 11, 2019, financial regulators issued a joint statement to provide guidance to financial institutions, again encouraging them to help consumers affected by the shutdown. However, the guidance did not come until the 20th day of the shutdown and only came after I wrote regulators the day before prodding them to issue such critical guidance.

This delay is unacceptable, whether it is 9 days or 20 days, and there is no reason why regulators should not prepare the appropriate guidance now and issue a press release within the first 24 hours of any future shutdown to remind financial institutions to help affected consumers, as H.R. 2290 would require.

Furthermore, H.R. 2290 builds on H. Res. 77 that I sponsored and was passed by the House on a voice vote in January by the Speaker of the House to require that financial institutions and other entities that proactively work to help consumers affected by any future government shutdown.

Passing the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act will help ensure guidance is provided to financial firms in a timely manner and that there is no ambiguity that struggling consumers affected by a shutdown, through no fault of their own, get the assistance that they need.

I commend the work of Representative WEXTON on this very important legislation. I support the bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Federal employees impacted by the government shutdown and express my support for Federal regulators and financial institutions supporting consumers in need of assistance in the event there is a lapse in Federal funding.

We just passed a continuing resolution to keep the government open earlier today. So the good news is, this fall does not look like storm season for Federal employees, and, hopefully, the contents of this act won’t have to be used. I think that is a good thing. I think we can all agree that is a good thing. On a bipartisan basis, we should agree that it is a good thing.

Whether it is a missed credit card payment or an unexpected medical expense, government shutdowns can leave Federal employees, contractors, and others in dire circumstances, facing economic hardship through no fault of their own.

Madam Speaker, if you look at government shutdowns under the Carter administration, the Reagan administration, and the Clinton administration, the lapse in funding impacted people’s lives, and we don’t want Federal employees to be held hostage due to the inability of Congress and the executive branch to come to terms on Federal funding.

H.R. 2290 requires Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging institutions to work with individuals impacted by a government shutdown. It also requires the regulators to provide Congress with a report analyzing the effectiveness of that guidance. It is proper.

I remind my colleagues that guidance does not constitute a formal rule-making. Unlike a rule, guidance is non-binding. This bill sets out best practices for both regulators and financial institutions, and they should take that guidance seriously.

I also want to reiterate that this legislation conveys no new authority on Federal financial regulators. Let’s make that clear. I know that many financial institutions and regulators are already implementing the best practices contemplated by this legislation.

Six months or 7 months after the Federal Government shutdown, I think we have already seen that the regulators have taken action. Institutions have historically been cognizant of the needs of consumers who find themselves in these types of unforeseen situations. In fact, last fall, more than 100 banks took it upon themselves to offer loan modifications, interest rate extensions, payroll advances, or low- or zero-interest rate loans, among other accommodations, to those impacted by

We just passed a continuing resolution to keep the government open earlier today. So the good news is, this fall does not look like storm season for Federal employees, and, hopefully, the contents of this act won’t have to be used. I think that is a good thing. I think we can all agree that is a good thing. On a bipartisan basis, we should agree that it is a good thing.

Whether it is a missed credit card payment or an unexpected medical expense, government shutdowns can leave Federal employees, contractors, and others in dire circumstances, facing economic hardship through no fault of their own.

Madam Speaker, if you look at government shutdowns under the Carter administration, the Reagan administration, and the Clinton administration, the lapse in funding impacted people’s lives, and we don’t want Federal employees to be held hostage due to the inability of Congress and the executive branch to come to terms on Federal funding.

H.R. 2290 requires Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging institutions to work with individuals impacted by a government shutdown. It also requires the regulators to provide Congress with a report analyzing the effectiveness of that guidance. It is proper.

I remind my colleagues that guidance does not constitute a formal rule-making. Unlike a rule, guidance is non-binding. This bill sets out best practices for both regulators and financial institutions, and they should take that guidance seriously.

I also want to reiterate that this legislation conveys no new authority on Federal financial regulators. Let’s make that clear. I know that many financial institutions and regulators are already implementing the best practices contemplated by this legislation.

Six months or 7 months after the Federal Government shutdown, I think we have already seen that the regulators have taken action. Institutions have historically been cognizant of the needs of consumers who find themselves in these types of unforeseen situations. In fact, last fall, more than 100 banks took it upon themselves to offer loan modifications, interest rate extensions, payroll advances, or low- or zero-interest rate loans, among other accommodations, to those impacted by
the shutdown. Those are positive actions. We know that those positive actions made a difference during that period of uncertainty.

Federal financial regulators have also played an important role in ensuring that for consumers affected by a shutdown. In January of this year, the FDIC, the OCC, the National Credit Union Administration, the Federal Reserve, the CFPB, and the Conference of State Bank Supervisors partnered with financial institutions to work with consumers who were negatively impacted. They took it upon themselves to do that, and they had the authority to do so.

In a related financial institution letter, the FDIC encouraged all supervised institutions to consider prudent arrangements that would increase the potential for creditworthy borrowers to meet their obligations.

While I agree with my colleagues across the aisle that we should encourage banks to work proactively with consumers affected by a shutdown, we must also encourage financial regulators to provide some type of clarity as well, as we do exactly that. I think this bill is sufficient. It deals with the four walls of governance and the data held within government, and I think it is a good piece of legislation that codifies existing practices.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON), a new member of the Financial Services Committee.

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill, H.R. 2290, the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act.

This legislation would help protect Federal employees, government contractors, and small business owners from some of the financial hardships that arise from a government shutdown.

The shutdown that lasted from late December 2018 through January of this year, the longest in our Nation’s history, stretched 35 days and cost the economy billions of dollars.

For more than a month, paychecks were put on hold for 800,000 Federal employees and work-stop orders went on to Federal contractors, resulting in tens of thousands of layoffs. Unlike Federal workers, contractors did not receive backpay.

Hundreds of families saw their lives upended. Missing one paycheck is a hardship, but missing two can be devastating. Not only were people struggling to make their rent or mortgage payments, some had to rely on food pantries to feed their families or ration their insulin because they couldn’t have the copay. This was through no fault of their own.

During this time, a lot of companies stepped up with offers of assistance for people impacted by the shutdowns, including banks and credit unions that offered flexible payment options and no-interest loans.

This was especially important for employees in the national security community. There were still significant difficulties that can damage their credit scores and put their security clearances and, therefore, their livelihoods at risk.

While it is positive to see so many lenders taking proactive steps to mitigate the impact of the shutdown, there were still significant shortcomings that are identified.

I want to read part of a letter that I received from a desperate constituent in the middle of the last shutdown. She wrote, "My husband and I recently sold our home and put an offer on another home in the area... The mortgage financing for our new home was all set before the government shutdown. Our closing date is set for January 29, 2019, on the new house. Today, we learned that the mortgage company is denying our mortgage application because I am furloughed. They consider me unemployed and too much of a risk to finance."

Thankfully, my constituent and her lender were able to work through this problem. The mortgage was eventually approved, but this never should have happened in the first place.

My legislation would essentially automate the process by requiring Federal financial regulators to release guidance within 24 hours of the start of a shutdown. It also includes reporting requirements on the effectiveness of the guidance and requires regulators to fix any shortcomings that are identified.

Madam Speaker, despite the uncertainty and the hardship of the last few years, Federal workers have shown a steadfast commitment to service. They serve in every congressional district in every State, carrying out countless vital responsibilities on behalf of the American people. They deserve way better than the way they have been treated.

I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for ushering this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

We should all work to make sure that there is never again a government shutdown. However, if one occurs, this bill will ease the burden on many vulnerable workers and families.

Once again, I commend the gentlewoman from Virginia for bringing this legislation to the House, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I think this legislation puts to rest the need for the Financial Services Committee to legislate around the government shutdown. I am glad we were able to put that to rest, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2290, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the House, by voice vote, passed the bill, H.R. 2290, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 550

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) 2015 marked the 70th anniversary of the Allied victory in World War II and the restoration of peacetime across the European and Pacific theaters.

(2) The United States Merchant Marine (in this section referred to as the “Merchant Marine”) was integral in providing the link between domestic production and the fighting forces overseas, providing combat equipment, fuel, food, commodities, and raw materials to troops stationed and war planning missions.

(3) Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King acknowledged the indispensability of the Merchant Marine to the victory in a 1945 letter stating that, without the support of the Merchant Marine, “the Navy could not have accomplished its mission”.

(4) President, and former Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, Dwight D. Eisenhower acknowledged that “through the prompt delivery of supplies and equipment to our armed forces overseas, and of cargoes representing economic aid to friendly nations, the American Merchant Marine has effectively helped to strengthen the forces of freedom throughout the world”.

(5) Military missions and war planning were contingent upon the availability of resources and the Merchant Marine played a
vital role in this regard, ensuring the efficient and reliable transoceanic transport of military equipment and both military and civilian personnel.

(6) The Merchant Marine provided for the successful transport of resources and personnel despite consistent and ongoing exposure to enemy combatants from both the air and the sea, including from enemy bomber squadrons, submarines, and mines.

(7) The efforts of the Merchant Marine were not without sacrifices as the Merchant Marine bore a higher per-capita casualty rate than any other branch of the military during the war.

(8) The Merchant Marine proved to be an instrumental asset on an untold number of occasions, participating in every landing operation by the United States Marine Corps, from Okinawa to Iwo Jima.

(9) The Merchant Marine provided the bulk tonnage of material necessary for the invasion of Normandy, an invasion which, according to a 1944 New York Times article, "would not have been possible without the Merchant Marine".

(10) In assessing the performance of the Merchant Marine, General Eisenhower stated, "every man in this Allied command is quick to express his admiration for the loyalty, courage, and fortitude of the officers and men of the Merchant Marine, who have shown upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us."

(11) In the late September 1944 speech, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated that the Merchant Marine had "delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations at sea, saving every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult, and dangerous transportation job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding for our merchant fleet's record during this war."

(12) The feats and accomplishments of the Merchant Marine are deserving of broader public recognition.

(13) The United States will be forever grateful and indebted to these merchant mariners for their effective, reliable, and courageous transport of goods and resources in enemy territory throughout theaters of every variety in World War II.

(14) The goods and resources transported by the Merchant Marine bore a higher per-capita casualty rate of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

(15) The Congressional Gold Medal could be an appropriate way to shed further light on the service of the merchant mariners in World War II and the instrumental role they played in winning that war.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the United States Merchant Marine during World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE MUSEUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the American Merchant Marine Museum, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENATE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the American Merchant Marine Museum should make the gold medal given to the Museum under paragraph (1) available to the public, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the United States Merchant Marine and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the United States Merchant Marine.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, fees, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. 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 SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCENRHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill, H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

For the last two Congresses, Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS from Indiana has taken this measure on. We passed it out of the House last Congress. It didn't make its way through the Senate.

Madam Speaker, I commend the hard work that my colleague Mrs. Brooks put into this legislation around this really important recognition of those who served and fought valiantly in their own way during World War II. So many lives were sacrificed by merchant mariners during World War II.

I thank my colleague Mrs. Brooks for her work to make this day possible, and I thank my colleague Mr. GARAMENDI for his work this Congress to take this across the line for a really nice, bipartisan piece of legislation recognizing the unsung heroes of World War II.

In World War II, merchant mariners sailed across the Atlantic. They traveled abroad, delivering precious cargo to support the war. In the moment of most severe crisis for the United Kingdom, it was our merchant mariners who fed the island nation of Great Britain. It was our merchant mariners and our foodstuffs that fed Europe post-World War II, as well.

Was our merchant mariners who risked their lives in treacherous seas, before the concept of a convoy was invented in World War II, to protect the lives at stake, cargo at stake, the ships
I am very pleased that the House is taking up the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act, H.R. 550.

I am proud to have worked on this bipartisan legislation with my original coinponsors, Representative DON YOUNG of Alaska, and Representative SUSAN BROOKS, who I see is joining us here on the floor, finally getting this bill to the floor this session.

This is not the first session. Five years of work leading up to this point, three Congresses. Mrs. BROOKS, last year, carried this, and we got it out of this House and then to the Senate. My hope is that the Senate will finally send this bill to the President’s desk so it can be signed into law.

Our bill would award the Congressional Gold Medal to our American merchant mariners who served during World War II, including those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Following the award of this medal, given to the American merchant mariners who served during World War II, it will be on display at the American Merchant Marine Museum at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Long Island, New York. It will be there displayed in honor of our nation’s merchant marines.

In 1944, Franklin Delano Roosevelt said that the Merchant Mariners had “delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and dangerous transportation job ever undertaken.”

Indeed, the Merchant Marines suffered the highest per capita casualty rate of any other branch of the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. As said earlier, 1 out of every 26 American casualties in World War II was a merchant mariner. An estimated 8,300 American mariners lost their lives. Another 12,000 American mariners were wounded. They were on duty.

Regrettably, the merchant mariners were not granted veteran’s status until 1988, when Congress finally came around to recognizing the need for this. Awarding the Congressional Gold Medal, as our bill does, would finally give merchant mariners from our Nation’s Greatest Generation the honor and respect that they are owed.

Lastly, I want to thank the more than 300 Members of this House who co-sponsored this to come to the floor for passage, and I also want to thank Mrs. BROOKS and Mr. YOUNG, who carried on in the previous Congresses.

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS).

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

I want to thank the chairwoman and the ranking member for bringing this bill to the floor, but I very much want to thank the fine gentleman from California, Representative GARAMENDI, for leading the effort this Congress.

Many Members of Congress have been involved in this, including one of my former colleagues, Representative Janice Hahn, whom I worked with closely. They have continued to try to bring this effort before the American people and before this House.

Merchant mariners, today, are Federal civilian employees providing a dual mission. One is to provide a civil service career in the Navy while assigned aboard U.S. Government-owned ships that support the Navy’s warfighters and warfare platforms around the world. But, Madam Speaker, as you have already heard, often forgotten, merchant mariners are an integral part of our armed services today and in our Nation’s history, especially during World War II.

They took part in every invasion during World War II, from Normandy to Okinawa. They provided the greatest sealift in history, and they became the difference between victory and defeat.

With an estimated 9,300 casualties, they bore a higher per capita casualty rate than any other branch of the military during World War II. Even so, they were not recognized as veterans until 1988, and they never received the benefits that other World War II veterans received under the GI Bill.

While I was at home many years ago in Indianapolis, I met with a group of family members of merchant mariners and some who served actually during World War II. So it was because of that meeting that I learned so much about their service and decided to take up the mantle in trying to work with Representative Hahn at that time to get the recognition that they deserved.

These loyal, brave men put their lives on the line for the cause of freedom and selflessly answered their Nation’s call to duty. They worked in a bipartisan way, to get it across the finish line, to formally pay our respect to all of these deserving men and recognize the countless sacrifices and contributions of merchant mariners in our history.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI), who is a member of the Ways and Means Committee. Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the Chairwoman WATERS for yielding to me today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 550, the bipartisan Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act.

I want to express my deep gratitude to Representative DON YOUNG, Representative GARAMENDI, Representative SUSAN BROOKS for carrying this message forward.

This act will award this body’s highest honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, to midshipmen who fought on behalf of our country during World War II. This is particularly important to me because I represent the district that is
home to the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, and the Congressional Gold Medal will be housed there at that location.

This is so wonderful that this is finally being done. I am a proud member of the Board of Visitors at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point.

Kings Point, I want everyone to know, is the only service academy whose students engage in combat during times of war. In fact, during World War II, over 7,000 of these students answered our Nation’s call to duty, and 142 students gave the supreme sacrifice.

Today, only 600 of these veterans are still alive. Ralph Crump is one of those veterans.

In 1941, Mr. Crump went on his first cruise as a freshman cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. He was quickly promoted to third assistant engineer.

After his first cruise, Ralph was prepared to return to Kings Point to finish his schooling when his captain told him there was no replacement engineer and he needed to sail for Russia. Over the next 8 months, Ralph and his convoy suffered heavy casualties in the Mediterranean, China, Burma, and India.

Crump later sailed ships taking exiled U.S. diplomats back to Asia, returning with prisoners of war liberated from a Japanese camp near Shanghai.

Ralph finally graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy a year later, in 1946. Today, there is a Ralph Crump wing in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans named in his honor.

This is just one example of so many merchant mariners who did so much during this time, but I especially want to point out the students who served during wartime from the Merchant Marine Academy.

Brave men and women like Ralph at the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, as well as the mariners who served across the country, deserve this highest recognition. It is not too late. It is time we recognize their sacrifice and award them the much-deserved Congressional Gold Medal.

Madam Speaker, I applaud my colleagues again for their leadership, and I ask the whole House to support our brave merchant mariners.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), whom I have known for many, many years. We served in the California legislature together, and, of course, I am not surprised that he took time out to recognize those who have not been given credit for their work and what they have done in support of our country. This is typical of Mr. GARAMENDI and the way that he has conducted himself throughout his entire career.

I also want those Members who have come to the floor today to join in this very special recognition. This is a bipartisan bill that honors those who answered our Nation’s call to duty, regardless of the danger and without expectation of accolades. This is a way that we give these courageous mariners the recognition they have more than earned.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The motion is agreed to, and the bill (H.R. 2613) to require the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a study on the use of emerging technologies within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and for other purposes, is ordered to the House of Representatives and working for its passage.

I would just say a word about the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), whom I have known for many, many years. We served in the California legislature together, and, of course, I am not surprised that he took time out to recognize those who have not been given credit for their work and what they have done in support of our country. This is typical of Mr. GARAMENDI and the way that he has conducted himself throughout his entire career.
September 19, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H7811

(B) whether AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies can be further leveraged to make FinCEN’s data analysis more efficient and effective;

(C) how FinCEN could better utilize AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) how it can use new technologies to improve its data collection and analysis to detect and report suspected financial crime.

This bill turns the lens onto the Financial Crime Enforcement Network, FinCEN, to ensure that it could itself—through its law enforcement partners—better utilize these technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information FinCEN collects and stores to provide investigative leads to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, and other Federal agencies (collective, “Agencies”), and better support its ongoing investigations when referring a case to the Agencies.

(2) INCLUSION OF GTO DATA.—The study required under this subsection shall include data collected through the Geographic Targeting Orders (“GTO”) program.

(b) REFORM.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives containing—

(1) all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a);

(2) with respect to each of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), section 1(1); any best practices or significant concerns identified by the Director, and the applicability to AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies with respect to U.S. efforts to combat money laundering and other forms of illicit finance; and

(3) any policy recommendations that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector, FinCEN, and Agencies through the implementation of innovative approaches, in order to meet their Bank Secrecy Act (as defined under section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) and anti-money laundering compliance obligations.

(c) BANK SECRECY ACT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘Bank Secrecy Act’ means—

(1) subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code;

(2) section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; and

(3) section 1 of title I of Public Law 91–508.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2613, the Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act, and I urge all Members to support it.

I ask unanimous consent that all Members to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague, for his hard work on this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we have no additional speakers on this legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GONZALEZ), my colleague and author of the bill.

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, and I thank the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS), chairwoman of the Committee on Financial Services, and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), my friend and ranking member, for his kind words and all his work to bring this legislation to the floor today.

The Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act is a bipartisan bill that I introduced along with the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), my friend, and it is supported by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS), my friend from across the aisle.

The bill takes a stand to block a major tool used by cartels, terrorist organizations, traffickers and the like, to finance their illegal activities and put our Nation and the people living in it at risk.

Money laundering enables the shipment of deadly drugs like opioids and fentanyl into communities like mine in Ohio that has been disseminated by the opioid crisis. Money laundering finances cartels who wreak havoc on our southern border and the communities that surround it and my recent bipartisan trip to the border. And money laundering proliferates the horrors of human trafficking, which continues to exist across our country, despite government and private industry efforts to both prevent victims and cut off trafficking routes.

My bill makes sure that we are using the best technology we have available to find and stop the money laundering that makes all these crimes not only possible, but financially profitable for cartels, traffickers, and terrorists.

My bill requires the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCen, to...
study the implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, digital identity technologies, blockchain, and other new and innovative technologies to better identify and prevent money laundering in our financial services industry.

Additionally, this bill would require the study of how FinCen could better utilize these technologies to more quickly disseminate the information it collects to Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement.

It is my firm belief that we must leverage the use of emerging technologies in order to make our government operations more efficient and upgrade the toolkit that enables our law enforcement to effectively go after bad actors.

Finally, H.R. 2613 would require that the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Service Network report to the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Banking Committee on policy recommendations. The recommendations would allow the private sector, FinCen, and other Federal agencies to improve coordination and communication through advance technology solutions. This will help Congress ensure that we are providing the necessary support for our law enforcement community to effectively fight illicit activity based on these recommendations.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I thank those who have helped push it forward.

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close if the majority has no more speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, we are prepared to close. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I once again thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GOSKALEC) for bringing this bill before the House.

Improving the use of technologies can only improve our response to the wide range of crimes that FinCen combats. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2613.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HIDDEN FIGURES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1396) to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine Johnson and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1396

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 1955, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (referred to in this section as “NACA”) hired 5 women to serve as the first “computer pool” at the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory where those women took on work making calculations that male engineers had made previously.

(2) During the 1940s, NACA began recruiting African-American women to work as computers and initially separated those women from their White counterparts in a group known as the “West Area Computing unit” where the women were restricted to segregated dining and bathroom facilities.

(3) Katherine Johnson was born on August 26, 1918, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

(4) In 1953, Katherine Johnson began her career in aeronautics as a computer in the segregated West Area Computing unit described in paragraph (2).

(5) As a member of the Flight Research Division, Katherine Johnson analyzed data from flight tests. After NACA was reorganized into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this section as “NASA”), Katherine Johnson—

(A) calculated the trajectory for Alan Shepard’s Freedom 7 mission in 1961, which was the first human spaceflight by an individual from the United States;

(B) coauthored a report that provided the equations for describing orbital spaceflight with a specified landing point, which made her the first woman to be recognized as an author of a report from the Flight Research Division;

(C) was asked to verify the calculations when electronic computers at NASA were used to calculate the orbit for John Glenn’s Friendship 7 mission; and

(D) provided calculations for NASA throughout her career, including for the Apollo missions.


(7) Dr. Christine Darden was born on September 10, 1942, in Monroe, North Carolina.

(8) In 1962, Dr. Christine Darden graduated from Hampton Institute with a B.S. in Mathematics and a teaching credential.

(9) Dr. Christine Darden attended Virginia State University where she studied aerosol physics and earned an M.S. in Applied Mathematics.

(10) Dr. Christine Darden began her career in aeronautics in 1967 as a data analyst at NASA’s Langley Research Center (referred to in this section as “NASA”) before being promoted to aerospace engineer in 1973. Her work in this position resulted in the production of low-boom sonic effects, which revolutionized aerodynamics.

(11) Dr. Christine Darden completed her education by earning a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from George Washington University in 1983.

(12) While working at NASA, Dr. Christine Darden—

(A) was appointed to be the leader of the Sonic Boom Team, which worked on designs to minimize the effects of sonic booms by testing wing and nose designs for supersonic aircraft;

(B) wrote more than 50 articles on aeronautics and communication through advance technologies, blockchain, and other new and innovative technologies to better identify and prevent money laundering in our financial services industry.

(C) became the first African American to be promoted to a position in the Senior Executive Service at Langley.

(13) Dorothy Vaughan was born on September 28, 1919, in Kansas City, Missouri.

(14) Dorothy Vaughan began working for NACA in 1943. Dorothy Vaughan—

(A) started at NACA as a member of the West Area Computing unit;

(B) was promoted to be the head of the West Area Computing unit, becoming NACA’s first African-American supervisor, a position that she held for 9 years; and

(C) became an expert programmer in FORTRAN as a member of NASA’s Analysis and Computation Division.


(16) Mary Jackson was born on April 9, 1921, in Hampton, Virginia.


(18) After petitioning the City of Hampton to open its doors to her to take state-level courses in math and physics at night at the all-White Hampton High School, Mary Jackson was able to complete the required training to become an engineer, making her NASA’s first female African-American engineer.

(19) Mary Jackson—

(A) while at NASA and NASA—

(i) worked in the Theoretical Aerodynamics Branch of the Supersonic Transonic Aerodynamics Division at Langley where she analyzed wind tunnel and aircraft flight data; and

(ii) published a dozen technical papers that focused on the boundary layer of air around airplanes; and

(B) after 21 years working as an engineer at NASA, transitioned to a new job as Langley’s Federal Women’s Program Manager where she worked to improve prospects of NASA’s female mathematicians, engineers, and scientists.


(21) These 4 women, along with the other African-American women in NASA’s West Area Computing unit, were integral to the success of the early space program. The stories of these 4 women exemplify the experiences of hundreds of women who worked as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at NASA beginning in the 1950s and their handmade calculations played an integral role in—

(A) aircraft testing during World War II;

(B) supersonic flight research;

(C) sending the Voyager probes to explore the solar system; and

(D) the United States landing the first man on the lunar surface.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of 5 gold medals of appropriate design as follows:

(1) One gold medal to Katherine Johnson in recognition of her service to the United States as a mathematician.

(2) One gold medal to Dr. Christine Darden for her service to the United States as an aeronautical engineer.
In recognition of their service to the United States during the Space Race—
(A) 1 gold medal commemorating the life of Dorothy Vaughan; and
(b) 1 gold medal commemorating the life of Mary Jackson.

One gold medal in recognition of all women who served as computers, mathematicians, and engineers at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration between the 1930s and the 1970s (referred to in this section as “recognized women”).

(a) DESIGNS AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the awards under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike each gold medal described in that subsection with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(b) TRANSFER OF CERTAIN MEDALS AFTER PRESENTATION.—
(1) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—
(A) After the award of the gold medal commemorating the life of Dorothy Vaughan under subsection (a)(3)(A) and the award of the gold medal in recognition of women under subsection (a)(4), those medals shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution where the medals shall—
(i) be available for display, as appropriate; and
(ii) made available for research.

(B) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should make available for research the medals received under subparagraph (A) for—
(i) display, particularly at the National Museum of African American History and Culture; or
(ii) loan, as appropriate, so that the medals may be displayed elsewhere.

(2) TRANSFER TO FAMILY.—After the award of the gold medal commemorating the life of Mary Jackson under subsection (a)(3)(B), the medal shall be given to her granddaughter, Wanda Jackson.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.
Under regulations that the Secretary may promulgate, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under this Act, at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.
(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.
(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SEC. 7. 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 “Budayetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” as determined for purposes 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 SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE
Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

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

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

There was no objection.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.
from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON), chairwoman of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act.

I thank the ranking member of the committee, Mr. LUCAS, for joining me in introducing this bill and for his efforts to help secure the necessary support to bring the bill to the floor. I also wish to thank the leadership for his leadership in championing an identical companion bill in the Senate, which passed out of the Senate by unanimous consent in March.

I also wish to thank the 309 bipartisan cosponsors in the House.

The “Hidden Figures” of NASA include the now-well-known women mathematicians and engineers Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson.

Their stories, portrayed in the 2016 “Hidden Figures” book and film, represent the stories of hundreds of women computers, mathematicians, and engineers working at NASA and its precursor organizations, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, NACA, from the 1930s to the 1970s.

In the early days of the space program, women and their talents were critically important but often overlooked. Women were typically not permitted to serve in any visible position or recognized publicly for their contributions.

Women of color faced the additional daily indignity of racial discrimination.

In spite of these challenges, these women chose to apply their considerable talents to help achieve what was, arguably, one of the Nation’s crowning technological achievements: landing the first humans on the Moon.

The success of the NASA space program was due, in large part, to their brilliance, hard work, and perseverance in the face of adversity.

What better example can we hope to give our sons and daughters?

This bill will bestow Congress’ highest civilian honor in recognition of the achievements of Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and all the other women computers, mathematicians, and engineers at NACA and NASA during this important time in our history.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3589) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his service to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader, as amended.

The question was taken, and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GREG LEMOND CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3589) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his contributions to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader, as amended. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3589
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS. The Congress finds the following:

(1) Gregory James “Greg” LeMond was born in Lakeport, California, on June 26, 1961.

(2) Greg began cycling at the age of 14, winning an astonishing 11 straight races to begin his career.

(3) Greg took home a full suite of medals at the 1980 world championships, including gold, silver, and bronze, emerging victorious in the road race and placing in both team and track pursuit events.

(4) At age 18, Greg became the youngest cyclist in the history of the sport to be selected for the United States Men’s Olympic team.

(5) Greg emerged victorious in the 1983 Circuit de la Sarthe, becoming the first American in history and the youngest rider ever to win a major pro-am cycling event on the European continent.

(6) At age 19, Greg signed his first professional contract.

(7) In 1982, Greg made the first of several remarkable recoveries, returning from a broken collarbone to win the silver medal at the world championships in Great Britain.

(8) The Tour de France, the world’s premier cycling competition, was first held over a century ago, in 1903.

(9) The Tour de France takes place over 23 days, covering an extraordinary 2,200 miles, winding through multiple mountain ranges, spanning multiple nations, and is viewed universally as the epitome of a young person on a bicycle, attempting to accomplish feats no other American had achieved.

(10) Greg has not only reached the pinnacle of international sport, but has devoted his time and resources to assisting his fellow athletes.

(11) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(12) In 1987, while recovering from a broken collarbone and an appendectomy, Greg was deemed unlikely to ever ride a bicycle again, and likely survived only due to the abnormal strength of his cardiovascular system.

(13) Greg mounted the greatest comeback in the history of American sports, taking home an astonishing victory at the 1989 Tour de France, following multiple surgeries, life-threatening gunshot wounds, tendon repair, and an appendectomy, winning by eight seconds in the closest finish in the history of the Tour de France.

(14) Greg would win a third Tour de France victory in 1990.

(15) Greg is the only American to win the Tour de France.

(16) Greg has vocally spoken out to champion healthy sport amongst athletes of all ages and competition levels.

(17) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(18) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(19) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(20) More than any other cyclist, Greg personified the “breakaway” culture of American cycling in the 1970s and 80s, viewed universally as the epitome of a young person on a bicycle, attempting to accomplish feats no other American had achieved.

(21) Greg has not only reached the pinnacle of international sport, but has devoted his time and resources to assisting his fellow athletes.

(22) Greg has demonstrated the commitment to excellence, generosity, community, and tenacity that makes him an example for all to follow.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his contributions to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with such suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 of this Act at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act shall be considered for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5334 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.
Outside of the world of sports, LeMond and his wife, Kathy, have worked through various charitable initiatives to support victims of childhood abuse and various childhood illnesses.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. Thompson for joining me in introducing this bill this Congress. I urge Members to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act.

First, I thank my colleague from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for his work on this important, bipartisan legislation.

I support the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act. I support it because Greg LeMond is a legend, one of the cycling world’s best, and the only American ever to officially win the Tour de France.

When fans of cycling think of LeMond, they think of firsts. In 1983, LeMond was the first American to win an elite world road championship. In 1984, LeMond was the first cyclist to sign a million-dollar contract. In 1986, he was the first American to win the Tour de France.

Finally, in 1989, he was the first cyclist to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated as Sportsman of the Year.

Madam Speaker, Greg “LeMonster” LeMond recovered from a near-fatal hunting accident in 1987 to go on to win two more Tours de France. He won those two with buckshot that was lodged in the lining of his heart.

What an incredible athlete. What an incredible physical specimen, what a tenacious spirit, and what an icon that is a fantastic representation for our children to understand that you can be an elite athlete and do so abiding by the normal human constraints by which we are all bound.

Doing it with intensity, with training, with focus, with practice, and with such a great deal of success over his amazing career, Greg LeMond is an icon in the sports world and is deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal. He represents some of the finest qualities that we have as Americans.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), chairman of the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures.

Mr. THOMPSON of California, Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3589, my legislation to award Greg LeMond with a Congressional Gold Medal. I thank Mr. Graves from Georgia, the coauthor and lead Republican on this bill. This is a bipartisan measure.

It is clear by the number of coauthors that Greg LeMond has tremendous respect in this Chamber.

It was pointed out that he was born in California, Madam Speaker, but he is your favorite son as well, having grown up in Nevada.

Madam Speaker, Greg LeMond stands atop the list of the greatest American cyclists in our history. His accomplishments speak for themselves: the only American in history to officially win the Tour de France, a three-time Tour de France champion, the youngest American ever selected for the U.S. Olympic team, the first American in history to win a major cycling tournament in Europe, and the winner of 22 races overall.

These achievements alone would place Greg firmly among the greatest of American athletes, but they don’t tell the full story.

Greg’s career has embodied many of our most cherished and fundamental values: sportsmanship, sacrifice, and being a good teammate.

Greg won the Tour de France three times, but he could have won even more. In 1984 and 1985, Greg LeMond was in a position to win the tour, in position to win another title for himself, but instead, both times, Greg LeMond chose to deputize himself to his teammates, sacrificing a chance at the title himself to ensure that one of his teammates would emerge victorious.

Greg would continue to demonstrate that selflessness for the rest of his life. In addition, Greg personified the ideals of perseverance and commitment, never more so than during the 1989 Tour de France, because, in 1987, as you heard, while recovering from a broken wrist and collarbone, Greg LeMond was shot during a hunting accident.

Doctors removed over 40 shotgun pellets from his abdomen. He was told that he would never ride a bike again. Frustrated, LeMond vowed to rush through a recovery, and 18 months later, Greg LeMond mounted one of the greatest comebacks in American sports history, winning the 1989 Tour de France by 8 seconds, the closest margin of victory in the history of that event.

That victory, on the heels of his gunshot wounds, an appendectomy, a broken wrist, and a fractured collarbone, was the last time an American won the Tour de France.

In the years since, Greg LeMond has devoted himself to helping others. He and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous community causes: helping victims of sexual abuse and supporting research into various childhood illnesses.

Greg LeMond has worked to promote clean and healthy sporting habits and to encourage young people to live healthy, active, engaged lifestyles.

More than any other cyclist in our history, Greg LeMond was the epitome of the “Breaking Away” culture: a young kid on a bike, trying to do things no American had ever done.
good in his community. It is fitting and proper that we honor him with the Congressional Gold Medal. I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bill.

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

For decades, Greg LeMond has exemplified the breakaway culture of American cycling and is the embodiment of talent, tenacity, and selflessness that is universal in American sports.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3589, the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal, which I've had the honor of working with Mr. THOMPSON of California on—a great partner and advocate in recognizing Greg LeMond's achievements.

Mr. LeMond created a trail in American cycling, down which thousands of American cyclists have followed.

Over a thirteen-year professional career, he raced to three wins at the Tour de France, one of the foremost races in endurance sports, and became the first non-European to wear the yellow jersey.

Since his retirement, Greg and his wife Kathy have devoted thousands of hours to advocating against doping in sports, promoting athletic integrity, and serving others. As the lead Republican on the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, which includes anti-doping funding, I owe their existence in part to Greg's legacy.

The House Budget Committee, provided that the vote on passage.

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.

SEC. 8. 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 SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.
Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert the same material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY) as well as Representatives TAKANO and GALLAGHER for their work on this bill which would honor the Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

The Purple Heart was established by General and future President George Washington in 1782 and is one of the oldest and most recognized American military medals awarded to servicemen who were killed or wounded by enemy action.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located in New Windsor, New York, just 2 miles from the town of Newburgh, where General Washington signed the order creating the Purple Heart. Its mission is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of the Armed Forces from the time of its creation.

The Hall of Honor is a memorial to the brave men and women who have been wounded or died during combat, and work ensures that their sacrifices are not forgotten. Currently, there are over 200,000 names installed at the Hall of Honor.

This bill would provide tangible support to the Hall of Honor by directing the West Point Mint to produce commemorative coins in recognition of the work of the Hall of Honor. Proceeds from the sale of this coin would fund improvements to the museum itself to help expand the understanding and respect for those who have served and sacrificed.

Additionally, proceeds would go toward special projects like the Purple Heart Patriot Project, which provides resources for Purple Heart recipients and their families from all across the Nation to visit the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Museum.

I thank Mr. MALONEY, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. GALLAGHER for joining me in introducing this bill this Congress, and I urge Members to vote "yes."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act.

I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY) for his work on this important bipartisan legislation. I thank him for his hard work and sincere advocacy for Purple Heart, those that our Nation honors with the Purple Heart and who have sacrificed to honor us as a nation.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is a New York State facility that is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories of all Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across all conflicts.

Enrollments at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor are voluntary and are made by Purple Heart recipients, their families or friends. Currently, there are 1,065 Purple Heart recipients enrolled from the great State of North Carolina, representing World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

These courageous men and women are recognized by the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor because, surprisingly, there is no comprehensive list of recipients maintained by the Federal Government. That is a separate issue we can deal with at a separate time.

But I think that the work that Congressman MALONEY has taken upon himself and the enormous labor it takes to get a bill like this to the House floor.

In fact, the only award for which there is no list is the Medal of Honor. Madam Speaker, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is an organization that deserves the recognition and the commemorative coin that this bill will strike. I urge my colleagues to support this bill. It is another good piece of bipartisan legislation.

Again, I want to commend the author of the legislation, Mr. MALONEY, for his hard work and advocacy on behalf of those who have received the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY), chairman of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Coin Act, and urge my colleagues to support its passage.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, located in my district in New Windsor, New York, has a mission to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all service branches and across generations so we can ensure that all recipients are remembered. The hall also serves as a living memorial to our veterans’ sacrifice.

My bill would honor the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and all our Purple Heart recipients with a commemorative coin produced at the United States Mint at West Point, right down the road. Proceeds from the sale of the coin would be directed to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, Incorporated, for projects and programs that raise awareness about the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor and pay tribute to the memory and sacrifices of all our servicemen and -women who were wounded or killed in combat.

Too often, the voices of our veterans are not heard, and, as our veterans get older, particularly our World War II veterans, their memories and experiences are in danger of being lost. These stories are the most powerful record we have to document the sacrifice of our soldiers and their families. Stories like that of Corporal Richard Lay, a New Yorker who served in the Marines during Vietnam. Corporal Lay was born in Manhattan to a father who, himself, had served during World War II.

In 1968, during his service in Vietnam, Corporal Lay’s unit was ambushed by Vietcong soldiers in what he describes as ‘‘a day of hell.”’ During the ambush, he was injured by shrapnel from a nearby enemy blast. The Marines wanted to send Corporal Lay back to the United States because of his injuries, but he insisted on remaining on the front lines with his fellow marines to finish his tour of duty.

After his tour ended, Corporal Lay went home to serve as a New York City Police Officer for 13 years.

I am reminded of the story of Richard Drago, a sergeant in 1970 stationed near the Cambodian border in Vietnam. Rich, whom I know, and his company were attacked while providing artillery support for forward operations. While operating a machine gun, Drago was badly wounded but remained unwavering in his support for his unit. After his tour ended, Corporal Lay wanted to send Corporal Lay home to a father who, himself, had served during World War II.

In 1930, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor was established in New York City. Corporal William B. Tiebout. Corporal Tiebout served in the National Guard, enlisted in the Army, and was, in May of 1918, wounded in action while serving in Belgium. He sustained shrapnel wounds to his legs and was wounded again when his military hospital was strafed by German aircraft. He was discharged from the Army in 1919 but...
never received his Purple Heart. He served again during World War II and responded to another call to defend freedom, enlisting this time in the Navy and serving as an aircraft inspector in Bethpage, New York.

Despite serving in two world wars and being wounded, Corporal Tiebout was never awarded the medals he had earned. Presenting the Purple Heart to his family was something I will never forget. It was 95 years overdue, but time could not diminish the debt we owed to Corporal Tiebout for his service to our Nation and his sacrifice in defense of our freedom.

These are the stories that remind us of what it is that is the very best in the American spirit. Nothing exemplifies the love of country more than the heroism of our Purple Heart veterans, the veterans I just highlighted and so many more whose names will never be read out in this sacred Hall but whose heroism is precious, nonetheless.

The Purple Heart Hall of Honor houses hundreds of thousands of stories of patriotism and resilience. We have been working for years to get this bill passed, and I am so proud and grateful for the support of our military service organizations that supported this legislation, especially the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

For volunteers like Stephanie Keegan who lost a son who served with honor and came home with invisible wounds, their efforts will guarantee that we will finally produce this coin to honor Purple Heart veterans, bolster the important work of the hall and the National Purple Heart Honor mission and support the mission of the West Point Mint.

Congratulations to all, and let’s pass this measure in honor of all of our wounded heroes and their families.

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

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

I want to again thank Mr. MALONEY for introducing this legislation, and all the cosponsors. We must work to guarantee the stories of our Purple Heart recipients are not forgotten. This shows our commitment to this important mission and to helping future generations understand the recipients’ sacrifices.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. SAN NICOLAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1830, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1058. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institute of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

REAUTHORIZE THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, every day, Americans volunteer within their communities to help family, friends, and neighbors, including our Nation’s elderly. Personally, I have had the opportunity to deliver Meals on Wheels on many occasions, and I have seen the impact it has had on our seniors.

For me, this is the most rewarding experience of my life. It is about being there for seniors when they need us most, and it is something I am proud to be a part of.

Madam Speaker, the Older Americans Act is a critical program that supports older Americans, including the 55 million seniors in our country. It is a program that has been providing vital services and support to seniors since 1965.

Reauthorizing the Older Americans Act is necessary to ensure that these vital programs continue to support our seniors. It is a program that impacts the lives of millions of older Americans and their families.

HONORING DORNELL COUSETTE

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

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Tuscaloosa Police Department Investigator Dornell Cousette.

Officer Cousette was tragically killed in the line of duty Monday night. He was only 40 years old. He leaves behind two young children and his fiancé.

As a 13-year veteran of the Tuscaloosa Police Department, and a veteran of the United States Army, Officer Cousette was loved and respected in the Tuscaloosa community.

This awful event reminds us that the men and women of law enforcement do not get the appreciation they deserve. Not only are they the first responders in the truest sense, but they have wives and husbands. They have children that they care for. They are active members of their communities. They put their lives on the line to protect. They deserve our thanks and gratitude and our prayers.

I offer my sincerest condolences to the family of Officer Cousette. We can all be proud of the record of service and sacrifice he leaves behind. Dornell Cousette will not be forgotten.

FORCED ARBITRATION IS UNJUST

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support and endorse the FAIR Act, of which there will be a vigorous debate on the floor of the House tomorrow.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I was very pleased to be a cosponsor of that legislation and to explain to Americans what forced dispute arbitration is. It is arbitration almost without your knowledge.

This bill will provide the opportunity for individuals who are forced into arbitration to be able to waive that particular provision.

In fact, one of the saddest cases is that of someone who utilized Massage Envy, a company where this person was trying to relieve their pain and, unfortunately, was assaulted on the massage table. All they wanted to do was to get out of their contract, but when they checked the little box to get out of their contract, they checked the box to say that you must go into forced arbitration. You must wait weeks and months and days and years.

I want to take note of the fact that this is not about trial lawyers. It is about justice. I am glad that the Nation has lawyers who can stand before the bar and in the courts to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Forced arbitration is an injustice. This repeals that injustice.

I am a strong supporter of the FAIR Act, and the fact is that it gives justice to those who have no other remedy. Let’s pass the FAIR Act.

RECOGNIZING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Suicide Prevention Month.

Depression and suicide ideation affect all ages, genders, and backgrounds, and thousands of Americans die each year. Suicide is the 9th leading cause of death in the United States. There are an estimated 1.7 million attempts each year. In 2017, suicide rates in
Pennsylvania exceeded the national average.

Mental health professionals, advocacy organizations, survivors, and allies take this month to combat the stigma of discussing mental health and connect those with suicidal thoughts to a network of professional responders. If you think a loved one is struggling with depression or ideation, just ask. People in need can often feel relieved when someone asks about their well-being in a caring way. Acknowledging and expressing their thoughts may be the first step in reducing risk.

I encourage anyone who is struggling with thoughts of suicide to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Ms. HILL of California, Madam Speaker, I am both a millennial and one of the youngest Members of Congress. I joined Congress at a moment when communities from California to the Bahamas are enduring the effects of climate change. In my own community, Santa Fe Springs, the wildfires that have swept through our region have led to a death toll of 84, 63 homes destroyed, and 1,070,000 acres scorched.

As the climate crisis grows, those of us who have refused money from Big Oil and who will be the ones who have to live with the effects of climate change, it is upon ourselves to fight for our generation and the generations to come.

Tomorrow, young people across the world will begin a week of climate action with the Global Climate Strike. We may not have made this mess, but we will fight to clean it up.

That is why I sent a letter to Donald Trump, along with 110 of my fellow Members of Congress, to call for a renegotiated NAFTA deal that meaningfully addresses the climate crisis. From moderates to progressives, we are coming together to call for binding climate standards and a recommitment to the Paris climate agreement in the updated NAFTA.

That is not what Trump has in mind. The current NAFTA 2.0 deal that Trump negotiated with Mexico and Canada fails to mention climate change.

We cannot afford to pass another trade deal that is on the wrong side of our historic fight to tackle climate change. With 76 percent of Americans now saying that climate change is a crisis or a major problem, it is common sense that our trade deals should support, not undermine, climate action. In fact, this is a longstanding demand, one that leading environmental organizations, labor-environment coalitions, climate economists, and Members of Congress have been elevating over the last 2 years of NAFTA talks.

The fact of the matter is that the climate crisis threatens our communities and our future every single day. While we are fighting to tackle the crisis, we are seeing corporate polluters pad the pockets of too many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to protect their bottom lines. I see colleagues in both Chambers of Congress who won’t have to deal with the repercussions of their actions bargaining with my future and the future of generations to come.

This cycle must end now. It is past time for rhetoric and empty promises. We need new policies that offer real solutions to the climate crisis. That doesn’t include just H.R. 9, which, to be honest, has very little chance of being taken up in the Senate. It also has to include our trade policies.

The reality is that this moment is too important to throw away. This is an unprecedented opportunity to put our money where our mouth is on climate. We should ensure that any renegotiated NAFTA prioritizes climate
by including binding climate standards and getting a guarantee from Trump himself that the United States will remain a member of the most universal and basic worldwide climate agreement for our health, for our safety, for our future, and for the people.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative HILL, and I very much appreciate her leadership.

Over the next several days, the eyes of the world will turn to the climate crisis with the Youth Global Strike for Climate set to take place in over 150 countries just before the United Nations holds a Climate Action Summit in New York City.

While millions of people across the globe call for action on climate change and world leaders come together to show how they will honor their commitment to the Paris Agreement, it is safe to say that the White House won't step up to lead, let alone take any meaningful action. Instead, the Trump administration is pulling us out of the Paris Agreement, which nearly 200 countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe and all in between have signed.

While President Obama created a leading role for the United States on the world stage, the Trump administration has retreated.

The U.N. Secretary General has called on all leaders to come to the Climate Action Summit with concrete, realistic plans to enhance their nationally determined contributions by 2020, in line with reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent over the next decade and to net zero emissions by 2050.

The United States has an important opportunity to show leadership and to push other countries to follow us, and that is how we should evaluate all of these measures, on the basis of followthrough. That requires that we lead.

That is critically important, the work that we do. The amount of collective action that will be needed must start with leadership from the United States. That is the only way we are going to combat the climate crisis.

I was very proud to help introduce, among other bills, the Climate Action Now Act, the first major climate change legislation that we had in the 116th Congress, in fact, that we have had for a number of years in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill would prohibit the administration from withdrawing the United States from the Paris Agreement and would also call on the President to develop and make public a plan for how the Nation will meet the pollution reduction goals in the Paris Agreement.

The bill isn’t just about staying in Paris. It is about creating good-paying, green jobs right here in America. It is about solving the climate crisis by protecting our air. It is about defending our national security from the threats that climate change poses. It is about again leading in the world.

That is how the United States should be leading. We should set the example. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE), my friend.

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. Levin) so much for yielding.

Madam Speaker, 12 years, we are told that we have 12 years to limit the effects of climate change on our planet and ensure a better world for our children, our grandchildren, and future generations to come—12 years.

I mean, it really seems like a long time, but now scientists are saying that the actions we take in the next 18 months will determine our ability to meet our climate goals by 2030.

In 18 months, we will experience two more winters and another summer, each bringing with them more extreme weather and more catastrophic natural disasters. The stakes are high.

Less predictable climates produce lower crop yields, drive up the costs of healthy care, increase death rates due to extreme weather events and heat waves resulting from a changing climate may worsen a growing array of public health problems like waterborne diseases, asthma, mental illness, heart disease, stroke, and more.

In Wisconsin, from where I hail, we still remember the deadly chill of the polar vortex this past winter, matched only in intensity by the summer’s record-setting heat, heavy downpours, and flooding. Our storm in July produced severe enough damage that several counties across Wisconsin received Federal disaster relief funding.

But do you know what, Madam Speaker? Disaster funding can help rebuild communities, but it cannot prevent them from being torn apart by climate change.

As we debate which urgent actions must be taken within the next 18 months to prevent further decay of our climate, we must work not only to support a swift transition away from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, but also to fortify our communities.

The fact is climate change has a disparate impact on low-income and minority communities. Indeed, these communities are disproportionately impacted by other environmental hazards, and we are just piling on.

Air pollution from both stationary and mobile sources are a primary source of environmental health risks, particularly in urban areas. Low-income, high-minority population communities, which unfortunately are highly segregated, tend to be closer to industrial sources of pollution, including chemical plants, steel mills, oil refineries, hazardous waste plants, and hazardous waste incinerators.

One study found that Blacks, the poor, and people with low educational attainment were substantially more likely to live within 1 mile of a polluting facility, and that within urban areas, racial disparities were particularly evident in the Midwest and the West.

As it pertains to our warming climate, another study found that, as urban areas heat up, so-called urban heat islands, low-income and high-minority communities will boast higher heat indexes during extreme heat events thereby compounding the already dire and deadly impacts that heat waves have on urban populations. Or, just to put it bluntly, the urban poor in dozens of large U.S. cities will actually experience more heat than the wealthy simply by virtue of where they live.

With climate change, extreme heat is expected to become more common and more severe for the poor and already vulnerable communities. This will likely result in increases in heat-related deaths, including strokes and respiratory complications, kidney disease, and can be especially harmful to outdoor workers, children, our elderly, and low-income households.

It is also worth mentioning that these communities, which already suffer resource deficits, cannot simply relocate out of flood zones. They also face challenges adopting new clean energy technologies.

While the White House administration continues to fiddle when it comes to taking the threat of climate change seriously and exercising leadership, while they ignore the admonition of science that if we don’t do something within the next 18 months we may not be able to reverse these impacts within 12 years, I will tell you something. In June, my city of Milwaukee announced a comprehensive action-based plan to meet the U.S.’ commitment under the Paris climate accord, despite what this administration is doing. We are moving forth to create green infrastructure and to create jobs.

In August, our Wisconsin Governor, Tony Evers, signed an executive order aimed at eliminating the use of carbon-based fuel in Wisconsin by 2050. We also created a diverse task force comprised of city and county officials that will chart a path to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent of 2015 levels by 2030 and eliminate them altogether by 2050, a goal which I wholeheartedly support.

But let’s just keep this real, Madam Speaker. While actions by State and local officials are welcome and necessary, we know they can’t do it alone. On such a vital issue, the Federal Government should not lead from behind. The Federal Government cannot be missing in action and absent from the table, and it will be absolutely critical for them to ensure that we protect and help the most vulnerable populations. They have access to adequate healthcare, clean drinking water, healthy food, quality air, and affordable housing.
But leading from behind is exactly what this administration is doing. Besides pulling out of the Paris climate accord without any plan or alternative for addressing climate change, this administration has moved to roll back the Obama era Clean Power Plan and other efforts to address greenhouse gas emissions.

We must not only make sure that we recognize the disparate impacts of climate change as we act, but we must also bring our most at-risk citizens to the table and educate them and discuss the actions that we will take together to address climate change.

We need to do right by our fellow human beings and by our beloved shared planet and protect ourselves and our planet against the threats we face today and in the future. Even if this administration wants to turn its back, this House must not. We must continue to pass legislation that will help us meaningfully address climate change.

Twelve years from now? Eighteen months from now? How about right now?

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative Huffman for those powerful words.

Madam Speaker, I also want to address something that has been in the news, and that is the President's announcement yesterday that he will revoke California's waiver under the federal Clean Air Act to set its own auto emissions standards. This is something, as a native southern Californian, that is near and dear to my heart.

So many southern Californians have had to endure poor air quality over the years, and this, honestly, is something that has never been partisan. Since the late 1960s, California has been able to set its own air quality standards, because the standards that we set when Ronald Reagan was Governor of California in the 1960s exactly preceded those standards set by the Federal Government.

Clean air is not a partisan issue. This is absolutely ridiculous that the administration would want to go after California once again in this manner.

So another thing to refute are the claims made by the President about vehicle safety and cost—completely baseless. Fuel-efficient cars meet the same exact safety standards as any other auto and have proven to be more cost-effective. The auto manufacturers want to accelerate the transition to more electric vehicles, more sustainable vehicles.

Everybody wants California to be able to have its own standards, with two exceptions: President Trump and Big Oil. Those are the only two exceptions. So it is pretty clear to see whose direction the President is taking when it comes to this decision.

We also need to acknowledge that his decision has flown in the face of established climate science. Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in our country. The science tells us that greenhouse gas emissions are driving climate change. So we should be doing everything we can to reduce those emissions from transportation.

The Clean Air Act clearly gives California the authority to set its own emission standards, and this authority has been repeatedly confirmed by the courts, the Congress, and previous administrations, Republicans and Democrats alike.

Again, this is not a partisan issue. Even the auto companies want to see this happen.

So why are we still here? Why are we fighting over this ridiculous assumption by the President that he can roll back five decades of progress for cleaner air in California?

We are not going to let it stand. I will do everything in my power as a Member of Congress, as I know my colleagues will, and California will prevail.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. Huffman), my friend and the Representative from California’s 24th District.

Mr. Huffman. Madam Speaker, from the Representative of the northernmost district on the coast of California, I really do want to thank my friend from southern California for yielding to me. San Diego and Orange Counties are so well-served by his intelligent, principled leadership, and especially on this issue, this existential crisis that we are trying to confront of global climate change. The gentleman’s leadership on this issue has certainly been noted.

Madam Speaker, our leader, Speaker Pelosi, did a very unusual thing today on the eve of this global climate strike. She mentioned that we are gathered here to be building on the Paris climate agreement. They will be working together to figure out how we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent over the next decade.

But if the American people get it and all of these young people all over the world get it, it is fair to ask: Where is American leadership right now? Where is this administration right now? Unfortunately, Mr. LEVIN alluded to the worst of it: this fight over California’s clean air authority. They are trying to take us backward in the wrong direction.

We just don’t have time for that if we are serious about this crisis.

Mr. Huffman. Madam Speaker, I would ask Congressmen LEVIN if he knows how many of those times, the 50 times that we have used that Clean Air Act authority, how many of those were revoked?
Zero. It has never been revoked. It has always been upheld, and it has been wildly successful in helping California improve air quality, reduce smog, and improve public health. We have added jobs and the economy has continued to grow.

We have been able to do all this in a way that helped stimulate the auto industry, to innovate, and to bring new and very desirable models of vehicles to market that wouldn’t be there if it weren’t for California’s leadership on clean car standards, and, of course, more than a dozen other States that have followed suit and joined us as clean car States.

What President Trump is trying to do is absolutely unprecedented in American history and it is legally dubious. He is wrong on the law and he is wrong on the policy. It is the most serious assault on State authority and on public health that you could imagine.

And yet, with this administration, hey, it is just another day in the Trump White House, unfortunately.

This House, of course, the people’s House, gets it. We have already started to take action. We are working to block the Trump administration’s worst efforts.

Just last week, a bipartisan majority of this House voted to approve my bill to protect the Arctic refuge from this crazy “drill everywhere” mandate that they put into the Republican tax scam in 2017 and passed bills to protect the Pacific, Atlantic, and Florida Gulf Coasts from these plans to do more offshore drilling. These are important steps in the fight to confront the climate crisis.

And, of course, there was H.R. 9, the Climate Action Now Act, which would block President Trump’s attempt to take us out of the Paris climate agreement.

Let’s keep working together in the people’s House to keep working with this energized, motivated, incredibly passionate new generation of leaders that we are seeing all over the country and all over the world.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman Levin for his leadership.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman Huffman for his friendship, for his mentorship, and for all the work that he does. He is a true environmental champion. I am really, really grateful to call him a friend. We have got a lot of work to do.

I think it is really important that, as we think about this issue, we begin to address some of the myths and the misconceptions that are out there. One of the biggest that I hear from my friends across the aisle is that we cannot combat climate change without destroying our economy, when exactly the opposite is true.

If we invest in the clean energy jobs of the future, we will see incredible economic growth and we will protect the environment at the same time. Now where has that been more true in the United States than in our State of California, where I am proud to tell you that we have the most clean-energy jobs in the United States?

If you look at this chart, there are over 500,000 jobs in the clean tech sector. I am proud to come from the clean tech sector. I am proud to have started a trade association in Orange County, California, which historically has been seen as one of the most conservative places in the United States. We created a clean tech industry that is growing stronger than ever before. The same is true in San Diego County, where we have some of the leading clean energy companies in the United States. We can protect the environment and we can grow the clean tech economy at the same time.

In California, it has never been a partisan issue. When we passed AB 32 in 2006, Arnold Schwarzenegger was the Governor, Republican Governor. Then when we passed SB 350, we had 12 Senate and eight House Republicans, nine Senate Republicans, and, of course, the majority leader at the time.

Governor Schwarzenegger and those Republican legislators at the time understood that if we made climate change a primary focus, if we reduced greenhouse gas emissions, that not only was it the right thing to do for our State and for the planet, but it was the right thing for our economy. That is exactly what has happened.

My friend, Marshall Burke, is a researcher at Stanford University, my alma mater. He has studied the costs of action on a climate change, but, more importantly, the costs of inaction.

There is an inherent cost to doing nothing. My friends across the aisle always like to tell you about the cost of doing something. They will say bold and aggressive measures will cost too much. Well, Mr. Speaker, the costs of inaction are even greater.

My friend, Marshall Burke, has said that if we don’t take substantial action to mitigate the climate crisis, it will cost the United States $5 trillion over the coming decades. That is with a T: $25 trillion to $35 trillion.

The good news is that we can take the steps we need to in order to act. We can combat the climate crisis, and we can create those clean energy jobs.

I have introduced bipartisan legislation to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels by promoting development of renewable energy.

We can expand those technologies that grow our economy and protect the environment by extending important tax credits like the solar investment tax credit, which drives job creation, reduces pollution, and promotes renewable energy development. It helps level the playing field for clean energy. And we need it for things like battery storage, as well.

I have introduced legislation that provides a plan for transitioning the United States to 100 percent zero-emission vehicles, which will also have an enormous health benefit for the United States of America.

According to a 2016 report issued by the American Lung Association, transitioning to zero-emission vehicles would deliver $33 billion in total health and climate savings by 2050. The 90 percent reduction in the pollution that causes smog and soot would translate to seven fewer premature deaths, 36,000 fewer asthma attacks, and 2,200 fewer premature deaths.

And I have introduced legislation, as well, to expand electric vehicle charging on public lands across the United States, from National Park Service and United States Forest Service fleets to zero-emission vehicles.

This commitment will also help the United States lead the world in developing and manufacturing innovative zero-emission vehicle technology.

Since California first instituted a zero-emission vehicle requirement in 1990, the overall economy has flourished, cutting-edge companies like Tesla have generated billions of dollars in economic activity for our State, and leading automotive companies across the country and the world have done everything they can to invest in the cleaner technology of the future zero-emission vehicles.

Preventatively, if we fail to act, if American car companies don’t lead, and if we don’t have a supportive Federal Government helping them to lead the way in these zero-emission vehicles of the future, we will allow other countries to take the lead, and America and nations in Europe will reap the economic rewards that should be staying right here in the United States of America.

We will find ourselves purchasing foreign vehicles that should have been made right here in the USA.

Many of my colleagues are doing great work. They have introduced or passed legislation that addresses the climate crisis in many different ways and promotes the clean energy jobs of the future. You just heard from a few of them.

Mr. Speaker, I want to wrap up here by pointing out one more key fact. The American people overwhelmingly support aggressive action to combat climate change.

Public opinion polling shows that the majority of Americans say that it must be addressed, and it has got to be addressed now. The majority of Americans overwhelmingly believe this is a crisis, and they are right to believe that.

Unfortunately, our President right now calls climate change a hoax. He says that it was brought on by China to undermine American economic competitiveness. He is not willing to listen to the science. He should listen to the scientists from his own agencies. He should just take the half hour necessary to even read the executive summary from his own scientists’ report. That is what I would ask him to do.

He should think about climate change when he makes appointments. Unfortunately, he has been appointing climate science deniers like William H. Bush.
Happer, a gentleman who once said that if the plants could vote, they would vote for coal. He said that more CO₂ in the atmosphere is a good thing. This is a person advising the President of the United States on climate science.

And it is not that the administration is too close to the oil and coal industry, it is that they are the oil and coal industry. It is literally a revolving door between 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, the largest coal companies, and those oil companies. The American people demand better than that.

This complete rejection of established science is dangerous, and it is irresponsible.

It is dangerous and it is irresponsible for the White House to pressure the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, into supporting the President’s false claims about Hurricane Dorian. You don’t see any Sharpies on this chart.

It is dangerous and it is irresponsible that the White House refuses to accept climate science and act on it. It is dangerous. It is irresponsible. We must embrace science. We must embrace facts.

As I said in the beginning of this, this is about our children and our grandchildren. I am thinking today about my own two children: my daughter, Elizabeth, who is 5, and my son, Jonathan, who is 7. Maybe my wonderful son, Jonathan, will cue up C-SPAN and play this for them.

My son, who is 7, just started second grade. We have 12 years. By the time my son is ready to graduate high school, according to the best science, we better have gotten this crisis figured out or we are going to have irreparable damage as a result. It is on us.

When I am done with my service in the House of Representatives, which I hope comes many years from now, I want to look back and say, as we know so many of my colleagues do, and know that we gave it everything we had to try to address what we believe is the most pressing issue facing the United States of America and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL PREADMORE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the city of Melvindale and the city of Dearborn Fire Department Captain Michael Preadmore, who, today marks 22 years of service. He knows safety doesn’t take a day off, so he maintained a perfect attendance record since becoming a firefighter in 1996. He has also received such awards as the Fire Chief Life Saving Award and the Department Medal of Valor Award for his bravery in the line of duty.

Please join me in saluting Captain Preadmore in wishing him a happy retirement.

RESPECTING GENERAL MOTORS WORKERS

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand with the United Automobile Workers by honoring General Motors workers on day 4 of their strike.

This is Grayson Riley Poland, a child of a General Motors worker. She is only 5 years old. She periodically gets treatment for her cerebral palsy that keeps her legs from scissoring due to her muscles tightening up. Her next treatment, Mr. Speaker, is October 16.

Her father, who is across the country right now and worried about whether or not he has healthcare coverage anymore.

Mr. Speaker, the General Motors CEO makes $22 million, 281 times the median income of their workers. Yet, workers are being asked to pay more for healthcare.

General Motors workers gave up so much to keep the company afloat. They didn’t abandon GM during their toughest time, but now they are asking for fair wages and coverage for their healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging my colleagues and the country to join me in solidarity with them today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), my friend.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman is missing the point of this discussion about climate. What I really love about so many of our freshman Members, like Congressman Levin, is that they say how urgent the need is right now to act, a sense of urgency.

Mr. Speaker, I am on the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, and we had a hearing yesterday. We had nice people testifying, but we still heard, particularly from our Republican colleagues, that it is a decision between jobs and a clean environment. Are you kidding me?

We have known about this crisis, which it is, for decades. We knew about it even in the Johnson administration, which it is, for decades. We knew about it, and we are asking for nothing but for them to act.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging my colleagues and the country to join me in solidarity with them today.

We have had this debate about jobs and environment as if you have to pick one or the other. As Representative Levin went over and over, about how good for the economy, how good for workers, how good the jobs are, we are now wasting time in addressing this problem. It was really frustrating to me that we continue to go over this.

In the meantime, the forests are burning in California. The fields are flooding in Illinois, where I am from. The hurricanes are destroying islands, Florida, and all up and down the coast—except for Alabama, not really.

It is really so important that we are listening to the children. Yesterday, we had this amazing young woman, Greta Thunberg, who is from Sweden. She is 16 years old, but she received also a veteran fighting worldwide, an international figure calling for us to act.

This is one of the things that she said yesterday when she was here in Washington. This is Greta, now 16 years old, who said: “Please, save your praise. We don’t want it. Do come up here to just tell us how inspiring we are without actually doing anything about it, because it doesn’t lead to anything.”

This is Grayson Riley Poland, a child of a General Motors worker. She is only 5 years old. She periodically gets treatment for her cerebral palsy that keeps her legs from scissoring due to her muscles tightening up. Her next treatment, Mr. Speaker, is October 16.

Her father, who is across the country right now and worried about whether or not he has healthcare coverage anymore.

Mr. Speaker, the General Motors CEO makes $22 million, 281 times the median income of their workers. Yet, workers are being asked to pay more for healthcare.

General Motors workers gave up so much to keep the company afloat. They didn’t abandon GM during their toughest time, but now they are asking for fair wages and coverage for their healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging my colleagues and the country to join me in solidarity with them today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), my friend.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman is missing the point of this discussion about climate. What I really love about so many of our freshman Members, like Congressman Levin, is that they say how urgent the need is right now to act, a sense of urgency.

Mr. Speaker, I am on the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, and we had a hearing yesterday. We had nice people testifying, but we still heard, particularly from our Republican colleagues, that it is a decision between jobs and a clean environment. Are you kidding me?

We have known about this crisis, which it is, for decades. We knew about it even in the Johnson administration, which it is, for decades. We knew about it, and we are asking for nothing but for them to act.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging my colleagues and the country to join me in solidarity with them today.

We have had this debate about jobs and environment as if you have to pick one or the other. As Representative Levin went over and over, about how good for the economy, how good for workers, how good the jobs are, we are now wasting time in addressing this problem. It was really frustrating to me that we continue to go over this.

In the meantime, the forests are burning in California. The fields are flooding in Illinois, where I am from. The hurricanes are destroying islands, Florida, and all up and down the coast—except for Alabama, not really.

It is really so important that we are listening to the children. Yesterday, we had this amazing young woman, Greta Thunberg, who is from Sweden. She is 16 years old, but she received also a veteran fighting worldwide, an international figure calling for us to act.

This is one of the things that she said yesterday when she was here in Washington. This is Greta, now 16 years old, who said: “Please, save your praise. We don’t want it. Do come up here to just tell us how inspiring we are without actually doing anything about it, because it doesn’t lead to anything.”

Greta is fierce, but she is not the only one. I am hoping that I am going to be able to get home in time to my district to join my grandson outside of his school tomorrow afternoon at one of the demonstrations, the many demonstrations that are taking place across the country on climate where young people are telling us: We can’t wait. This is our century. This is our time. We are going to take the lead.

I think it is our job now to follow them. There is a court suit right now where 21 young people have sued the Government of the United States of America for violating their constitutional rights by ignoring this issue of climate change and the crisis that we are creating.

Our species is in danger. Every species living on Earth today is in danger. This is truly a matter of life and death. We must listen to the children. They are begging us. They are acting, and they are speaking out. All we really need to do is follow.

Again, I thank Representative LEVIN and so many of the freshmen who have come here to the Congress and said: This is urgent. We can’t wait anymore. We can’t dawdle anymore. We must act.

I really appreciate the opportunity to come down here today.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative SCHA-KOWSKY for coming.

It is a great honor to sit on the new Select Committee on the Climate Crisis under the chair, Karry Cove, from Florida. I serve with many other great Members, and we have an honest dialogue about the action that we are going to need to take to combat this crisis.

Of course, I thank our great Speaker NANCY PELOSI for creating that select committee as part of the 116th Congress.

Governor Jay Inslee said: “We’re the first generation to feel the sting of climate change, and we’re the last who can do something about it.”

I couldn’t agree more with Representative SCHA-KOWSKY. We have to
listen to the children, our own children and the children we see here in Washington. When we go back home to our districts, we have to listen to those voices. We have to make those changes. They are counting on us.

In these days, right here, they are counting on the people who are so honored to serve as United States Representatives to get this right for future generations.

I am honored to be one of those Members trying to fight the good fight. We have a lot to talk about. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ACT NOW ON IMMIGRATION CRISIS

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

HONORING WINTON W. CARTER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. Yoho. Madam Speaker, on September 30, 2019, northeast Florida will help Winton Carter celebrate his 100th birthday.

The year Mr. Carter was born, World War I formally ended with the Treaty of Versailles, alcohol was officially illegal with the formal start of Prohibition, and Boston’s Babe Ruth was traded to the New York Yankees at the end of the season.

Even more amazing is the life Mr. Carter has led serving our country.

Mr. Carter received a Purple Heart after being wounded by shrapnel in his thigh while under continuous fire, fighting the Japanese on the island of Saipan in World War II. He was there for the famous raising of the American flag on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. Mr. Carter also later fought in the Korean war.

After 22 years in the military, he retired as a Marine master sergeant and served a total of 40 years in government service, which included recruiting future Marine heroes.

Mr. Carter is a widower, having celebrated 60 years of marriage to his wife, Norma Jean. He is the father of two, and he loves to talk about the Lord.

Therefore, it is on this day, September 19, that I proudly acknowledge Mr. Winton W. Carter on the House floor, and I ask you to join me in wishing him an early happy birthday.

OBSERVING NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. Yoho. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor those who were prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action, as well as their families, in observance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

We are forever indebted to those who sacrificed everything so that we may enjoy the freedoms granted to us by the Constitution. "You are not forgotten." This is a central phrase of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. It is our job as a nation to stand behind those who are currently serving, those who have served, and those who have never returned from service who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Through international relationships, many of the fallen have been returned back to our country and to their families, and we will continue to do the search and return our MIA soldiers. It is our responsibility as a nation to never forget or quit searching for the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and to continue to honor them in the years to come.

HONORING FIRST RESPONDER JOHN LANKENAU

Mr. Yoho. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor one of my constituents, John Lankenau.

As the anniversary of 9/11 just passed, we must always remember those who we have lost and honor the heroes who sacrificed their lives for others.

On September 11, 2001, Mr. Lankenau was assigned as a hazardous material specialist in New York. On that tragic day, as the second plane flew into the towers, Mr. Lankenau was requested to respond to New York City to assist first responders at Ground Zero.

Upon arrival, Mr. Lankenau was requested by name to conduct the first hazard surveys of Ground Zero. He worked until early morning, taking air and soil samples on the wreckage site.

Mr. Lankenau remembered how dangerous it was, maneuvering through the wreckage and fearing that there was a possibility that one of the adjacent buildings could collapse, causing more fatalities.

He spent the next couple of weeks going back and forth from home, continuing to assess the hazards and the conditions at Ground Zero.

It is my greatest pleasure to represent men like Mr. John Lankenau in the United States Congress. I commend him and the rest of the first responders on 9/11 for their character, their courage, and their commitment to serving others. I thank them, these true heroes, for their service.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ON ITS RANKING

Mr. Yoho. Madam Speaker, I would like to highlight my alma mater, the University of Florida, which I represent in Florida’s District Three.

The University of Florida, under the guidance of its president, Dr. Kent Fuchs, has again earned the U.S. News and World Report rankings to number seven among all public universities in the United States. This is the third year in the row the University of Florida has advanced in that ranking.

The University of Florida incorporates all health disciplines, is one of the largest engineering schools in the country, and has a top-rated veterinary school, which I graduated from in 1983.

It is just one of the few schools in the Nation to have won major sports team national championships and titles in football, basketball, and baseball.

I guess that is why it is great to be a Florida Gator.

Madam Speaker, I would like to talk about another crisis that has not been dealt with on this House floor, and that crisis is the immigration crisis we have.

We hear a lot about the climate crisis. Crises are the things that are happening right now that we must respond to. But so many of the things that we face in Congress are issues that may be a crisis for some along the border, or some who are being advanced by people coming into the country illegally, but if Congress were to act, these crises would go away.

There is time to deal with climate change, and there is time to deal with the crisis on the border, but we must act.

I have a photo here from June 2014, when my colleagues on the other side said there was a crisis, and it was under President Barack Obama. This is what was going on at the border, I look at these people, and they look like people who want opportunity. They are coming to this country.

I have this other photo, and there are families, women, children, husbands. They look like people who are wanting to come into this country for opportunity.

Congress has failed, and it has not just failed this Nation, but it failed these people in the policies that we don’t have because of political divide.

We talk about how we want to fix the crisis on climate change, but we don’t come together on that. We want to talk about the immigration crisis, but we don’t come together on it because it becomes a wedge and a tool that people use in politics for the next election.

They say, well, they are against that, and that is why you have to vote me back in.

That happens on immigration. That is why immigration doesn’t get fixed. I am convinced of that.

So we have proposed a guest worker program that will solve probably about 90 percent, what our estimates are, of the people who are coming across our southwest border.

I think we are all in agreement that the people coming across our southwest border are not the rocket scientists; they are not the engineers; they are not the health professionals. They are the people who are working in the lower skills—agriculture, hospitality, and construction—but yet they are so needed in this country because, without them, this country won’t work. We can’t grow the fruits and vegetables, and we can’t build the buildings.

So what we have proposed is a guest worker program. If you would picture a banner, Madam Speaker, “Guest Worker Program.”

And understand, it is not immigration reform, because “immigration,” if we use that word up here, they part.
This side blames the Republicans of wanting to deport everybody. On my side, we will say this side wants to give everybody amnesty. Neither is true. So they walk away and nothing gets done. We have seen this year after year for 36 years.

So the banner bill will say, “Guest Worker Program.” It will have three silos: One will be agriculture, which is the one I am heading; one will have hospitality; and one will have construction. I will talk about the agriculture program.

The way this works is it does three things: It creates a prescreened pool before people come into the country, which is number one. Number two is it addresses the people who are already here illegally. Number three, it reforms the H-2A program, which is a temporary seasonal program of 10 months, and it makes it stronger so it serves our producers better, but it also protects workers.

This is something that should not be a partisan issue. This is something that I have shared personally in this Chamber with over 50 Members of the House of Representatives in a bipartisan way; I have shared it on the Senate side in a bipartisan way; and we have shared it with outside industries around the country. In fact, I am getting calls from people from Wisconsin, from Indiana, from Pennsylvania, and from California who want this bill passed.

Basically, what this does, briefly, is, on the H-2A program, which is a temporary worker visa program—for 10 months, it is supposed to be. The way the program works now is somebody will come in on an H-2A program for temporary work. They will get a waiver, and that waiver will be for 1 year. Then they can get another waiver up to 3 years.

What we have seen is people just kind of fade off the grid, and they wind up being in America illegally. They may have come in legally, but then they transfer and become a person here illegally. Then they live in the shadows, and they are afraid to come out for fear of deportation.

The other thing is they come in on an H-2A visa currently, and they may leave the agriculture permit that they came in on and work construction and get busted. Or they may go into another field, and so the permit that allowed them to come in, they don’t honor.

So with our program, we tighten up the restrictions on H-2A. People come in on a guest worker H-2A visa that dedicates them to the sector of agriculture, and they are dedicated to be in that sector because that is what they have agreed to come in on. They can stay up to 11 months is what we are proposing, then they go back home, and then they can come back.

The other thing we do is the prescreening portion of this bill works this way:

We will have a country-to-country agreement between, say, the country of Honduras and the United States. It is a state-to-State Department agreement. So, if a person from Honduras or anywhere in Central America wants to come to the United States, they apply. They have to be at least 18 years of age. They have to apply individually. If they are married and the spouse wants to come in, that spouse applies, but they have to be a minimum of 18, no children.

They apply. That information from the country they come from goes to our State Department, and it would be basically passport information: their name, their address, age, and things like that. Our DHS will take that information. They will do a background check. Once they clear the background check, that person who applied as an applicant, they are permitted to come into the country, but only after a job is available.

When a person applies, they can apply to a sector. Maybe it is dairy; maybe it is fruits and vegetables; or maybe it is a citrus program. Once they get accepted into the country and a job is available, they get issued what we call an H-2A card, which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.

They can get a driver’s license number. It will be a guest worker driver’s license number that has to be renewed every 5 years. It will start off in the initials “AG,” which is short for “guest worker identification card,” and it will look like any other kind of identification. It will have smart card or smart chip technology. It will have the individual’s picture on it.

Once a person gets this card, they are permitted to be in the country for a 5-year period of time. For 5 years they can stay in this country, and they can renew 41⁄2 years into the program. After that, they can continuously do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the country.
is cleared up, that family is protected for up to 5 years at a time. Again, when they renew, that family is protected.

It is not a pathway to citizenship. If somebody wants to become a citizen, then they apply for citizenship just like anybody else who wants to become a citizen of our great Nation.

In this program, again, what we are looking for is to create a reliable and predictable workforce for our agriculture. It gives the flexibility of the individual to move around the country to fulfill the needs that migrant worker has.

We did a roundtable throughout the State of Florida over the August recess. We stopped at 10 different areas in my State. Florida is a large agriculture State. People think of it as beaches and palm trees, but we are also the number one producer of sweet corn in the country, number one in watermelons, number one in citrus in the Nation, and we have over 300 specialty crops. So we are very heavily dependent on migrant labor.

As we traveled around our State, we got a lot of feedback from all the different sectors. We sat down with the migrant help workforce.

I am a veterinarian by trade, and I worked with horses and cattle. I have been around agriculture since I was 15. I have talked to the migrant workers, I have talked to the people. I found out by asking them: Did you come here legally or illegally?

They would tell you because we had a great relationship. They would say: I came here illegally.

You can ask them: Do you want to become a citizen?

Some do, some don’t. Most of them just want the opportunity to come here and work.

When we were in south Florida going through talking to some of the producers, they were saying people from Honduras can come here and work a season, maybe 5 months. The amount of money they make in 5 months is equivalent to 5 years in that nation.

I saw this as a way that we can fulfill the needs of our producers and fulfill the needs of food security for this Nation but also fulfill the needs of that migrant labor.

The other thing this does, and I didn’t mention this, is there is a $2,500 fee to create a 5-year permit, which breaks down to $500 a year.

For the person who came in illegally, the first time they apply and get accepted into this program and become a participant, there will be the $2,500 fee for the 5-year; but there will also be a $2,500 fine because they have agreed that they have broken the law coming in. That puts that argument to rest of, well, they broke our law. These people realize that. They acknowledge it. They paid the fine, and we can move forward.

I thought it was interesting, when we went down and did our tour around the State, that the producers said: You know, it comes down to this. This Nation will either import their food, or they are going to import their labor.

This is a national security issue. I look at these workers—I have worked with so many of these people over the course of the last 30 years, and they are great people. My heart goes out to them because I know they want a better future. I know they want to live an American Dream—maybe not in this country, but maybe the Honduran government. If a person can work 5 months here and have the equivalent of 5 years’ pay in their home country, it can change lives, and it will develop an economy down there.

So what I ask our Members of Congress to do is get this information. They can go to our website, yoho.house.gov. They can go to the legislation tab and click on that. That will have a drop-down screen, and there will be the ag guest worker program. We have two short videos on that that explain this. We have a 10-page white paper that explains this program. We have a bill that is already written—it is right at 110 pages—that we look to introduce.

This is not a solution to immigration. It is a solution to the workforce challenges we have in this Nation in agriculture, hospitality, and construction.

By doing this and coming to agreement on border security and enforcing the laws already on the books and by giving people a legal portal to come into this country legally—they are prescreened before they come in—and by allowing people who are in this country illegally to become legal, we have solved a big crisis that this body has been unable to fulfill, and we honor the American people. It causes more division in this Nation, more division in this House, and it just grinds the wheels of progress for this Nation to an end.

Madam Speaker. I yield back the balance of my time.
The blue, 15 percent of our spending, that is defense. The green here, 15 percent is what we call the other part of discretionary. And that is what we sit here and debate. And that number is going to continue to shrink because we have 74 million of our brothers and sisters who were stunning—now we have broken over—what is it?—63.2 percent labor force participation. I know that is geeks, but when tax reform was done, the modelers all said, Well, we are fearful that capital stock and labor will be the headwinds that keep us from being able to grow. Well, it turns out, that thing they call capital stock has worked in our favor. It is working great. The amount of resources coming back in—we call repatriation, that was part of the Tax Code—they are the modelers. Americans saving have exceeded the models, and now that we are, in many ways, still the wealthiest economy in the world, the amount of resources that are flowing into our economy from around the world have exceeded what any one modeled. Capital stock is in great shape. Look at our interest rates.

It turns out labor is our fragility. But think about this: If I had come to people in Republicans, Democrats, and said, Hey, 3 years ago—we are having this conversation 3 years ago—you are going to live in a country in 2019 with substantially more jobs than available workers, that in the last—let’s see in the August data, in the last 3 months for—we will call it our brothers and sisters—and I hate this term, but there is not a better way to talk about it—who are in some of the lower income quartiles, they will be hard-pressed to only find, perhaps less than 4 percent. You would have thought I was out of my mind. Yet, it is happening. You would think there would be just joy from our friends on the left and a little more talking about how wonderful that economic growth being moral, because it helps so many of our brothers and sisters who have had some real rough decades.

The math is still early, and it is going to be hard to do, but there are a couple modelers out there that I had discussed. I remember saying this may be the year, that because of income growth in those—our brothers and sisters who didn’t finish high school, who had those types of equivalent of moderate-to-lower-skilled jobs, but their wages are growing so fast, this may be the first year where income inequality actually shrinks a bit.

And our friends on the left say that is one of the biggest moral imperatives in their vision. Guess what? Something we are doing is working in the economy.

Look at our brothers and sisters, the Hispanic population, African American population, handicap population—all these different subcategories we do to our U6 math—either at or bypassing some of the best employment numbers in modern history.

You would think there would almost be joy. And you would think actually the debates around here would be, how do we lose growth? Instead of who we intend to punish next.

And so part of the amusement I have had so far this year, particularly—and it is sometimes hard, but never do it, come up here behind the microphone, and we have this whole binder of some of the crazy things that were said a couple years ago when we were doing tax reform: Revenues are going to collapse. The economy is going to be thrown into this sort of darkness. And it was wrong.

So think about this: The chart behind me is the yellow—I think that is yellow—is the, what we call receipts for the first 11 months of this fiscal year.

Remember, your Federal Government’s fiscal year begins October 1. The blue is 18; the green is 17. Receipts for the first 11 months of 2019 in hard dollars, in inflation-adjusted dollars, are the largest revenue receipts in U.S. history. And I was doing the math off the top of my head. I need to grab it and sit in front of a calculator, but off the top of my head, I believe that is a 4 percent growth rate in revenues. Yet, the argument around here is the tax cuts are these horrible—and they are going to crack—they are wrong. And the math is here.

Do you think we are going to get an apology? That number is also—if I inflation-adjust it so do constant dollars over the last few decades, it is the second-highest revenue in U.S. history. So think about what is happening in our economy. How many of our brothers and sisters are working? How many of our brothers and sisters are seeing the value of their homes, the value of their paychecks—the best they have been in decades.

I don’t know how we come here to the floor, we claim we care about working men and women in the country, and then don’t take joy in the fact that the math is actually stunningly positive, and how we don’t engage in a debate and discussion on how we keep it going.

But politics, as you know, in D.C., have become absolutely perverse, where the weaponization of everything—the rage is now a business plan of certain media outlets to God forbid, you say something positive about the economy, because you will lose viewership. But the math is the math. So let’s even take it a bit farther. Because we live in a society that is so honest about what is actually happening in the economy, you all saw industrial production numbers a couple days ago. I know I am geeking out a bit here, remember this very floor just a couple months ago we were all talking—well, one side was talking about we are going into recession, things are crashing, you know, the sugar high is over. Except for the fact, the industrial recession: all of production last month had a .6, which is a nice, big spike and revision of previous months. It is working. The United States is working. Our economy is working, and compare it to the rest of the world.

Where is the joy? Where is the excitement?

If you say you care about people, these are people not only working, but
and particularly in our earlier slides it helps and solves so many problems, part of our lexicon. It is part of the joy busy working that he hasn't had the is now up to $22 an hour, and he is so he had not touched drugs or alcohol for a year. He gets to see his family again. and everyone in the room, as well as the staff, crying because he told the story: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict. But because of a private group that was so desperate for workers, they took a chance. They were doing training—in his case, electrical training—in the prison before he got probation, and they guaranteed him a job when he got out. It didn’t mean they were going to keep him.

He had Republicans and Democrats and everyone in the room, as well as the staff, crying because he told the story: I am a three-time convicted felon. He was an addict, and he was saying he had not touched drugs or alcohol for a year. He gets to see his family again. He gets to see his child again. And he is now up to $22 an hour, and he is so busy working that he hasn’t had the chance to relapse.

It is stories like that that need to be part of our lexicon. It is part of the joy that economic growth is moral because it helps and solves so many problems, and particularly in our earlier slides where I had this absolute fixation on retirement security and our discussion of growing the economy and labor force participation and technology and incentives, bringing that package all together so we keep our promises around Social Security and Medicare. But we are living in right now. And that is a proof that policy—policy—can work, whether it be the tax policy we did a couple of years ago or whether it be some of the regulatory changes we have embraced.

Madam Speaker, could you imagine if we could actually get that extra half a point of GDP growth by finishing the NAFTA replacement, the USMCA? How many of our brothers and sisters in this place will drop their politics or their terror of giving this White House a victory and actually do what is good for the workers in this country—actually, the workers for all of North America, because, as supply chains are moving away from China, wouldn’t we like to be in a position as a hemisphere? Or do politics blind people to the point that basic economics in math and opportunity don’t count?

So, back to one of the other things, and I put up this slide. Partially, it is our typical witness. He wasn’t wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

He opened up his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee saying: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict.

And we actually brought someone last year to testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee. We are so desperate for carpenters and plumbers and electricians, they brought a young man to come testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee who wasn’t like our typical witness. He wasn’t wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

And where I want to take that is my experience in Phoenix of visiting the homeless campus, and St. Joseph the Worker there having jobs because we are trying to recruit workers in our market that employers are trying to recruit workers from the homeless campus.

And we actually brought someone last year to testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee. We are so desperate for carpenters and plumbers and electricians, they brought a young man to come testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee who wasn’t like our typical witness. He wasn’t wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

He opened up his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee saying: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict.

But because of a private group that was so desperate for workers, they took a chance. They were doing training—in his case, electrical training—in the prison before he got probation, and they guaranteed him a job when he got out. It didn’t mean they were going to keep him.

He had Republicans and Democrats and everyone in the room, as well as the staff, crying because he told the story: I am a three-time convicted felon. He was an addict, and he was saying he had not touched drugs or alcohol for a year. He gets to see his family again. He gets to see his child again. And he is now up to $22 an hour, and he is so busy working that he hasn’t had the chance to relapse.

It is stories like that that need to be part of our lexicon. It is part of the joy that economic growth is moral because it helps and solves so many problems, and particularly in our earlier slides where I had this absolute fixation on retirement security and our discussion of growing the economy and labor force participation and technology and incentives, bringing that package all together so we keep our promises around Social Security and Medicare. But we are living in right now. And that is a proof that policy—policy—can work, whether it be the tax policy we did a couple of years ago or whether it be some of the regulatory changes we have embraced.

Madam Speaker, could you imagine if we could actually get that extra half a point of GDP growth by finishing the NAFTA replacement, the USMCA? How many of our brothers and sisters in this place will drop their politics or their terror of giving this White House a victory and actually do what is good for the workers in this country—actually, the workers for all of North America, because, as supply chains are moving away from China, wouldn’t we like to be in a position as a hemisphere? Or do politics blind people to the point that basic economics in math and opportunity don’t count?

So, back to one of the other things, and I put up this slide. Partially, it is our typical witness. He wasn’t wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

He opened up his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee saying: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict.

And we actually brought someone last year to testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee. We are so desperate for carpenters and plumbers and electricians, they brought a young man to come testify in front of the Ways and Means Committee who wasn’t like our typical witness. He wasn’t wearing a suit. He had a number of facial tattoos. As a matter of fact, he had a number of facial piercings.

He opened up his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee saying: I am a three-time convicted felon. I am an addict.

But because of a private group that was so desperate for workers, they took a chance. They were doing training—in his case, electrical training—in the prison before he got probation, and they guaranteed him a job when he got out. It didn’t mean they were going to keep him.

He had Republicans and Democrats and everyone in the room, as well as the staff, crying because he told the story: I am a three-time convicted felon. He was an addict, and he was saying he had not touched drugs or alcohol for a year. He gets to see his family again. He gets to see his child again. And he is now up to $22 an hour, and he is so busy working that he hasn’t had the chance to relapse.

It is stories like that that need to be part of our lexicon. It is part of the joy that economic growth is moral because it helps and solves so many problems, and particularly in our earlier slides where I had this absolute fixation on
gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, prior to discussing the current state of immigration law, I would like to yield some time to my good friend and colleague Mr. Duffy, who, I think, is going to address some important issues of Congress tonight.

I hope everybody pays attention because I think, other than perhaps lecturing, there has been little fishing and hunting, this will be his last official speech as a Congressman for a few years.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY), my colleague.

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Wisconsin for yielding tonight.

Madam Speaker, I have got to tell you, this is such a unique and cool feeling to stand in this well and hold onto this podium for the last time. What an honor it is to serve in this House and stand in this Chamber.

I would just note that they have been so kind to me, whether they agreed or not. Whether I was at a townhall or a Lincoln Day dinner or a dairy breakfast or a parade or affair, the kindness that has come from my constituents as I have done my best to serve their interests could not fill my heart with greater pride and joy to represent the good people of Wisconsin’s Seventh Congressional District, which is the central, northern, and western part of our great State.

But as we talk about maybe equality today, we will tell you, I don’t think our Founders ever envisioned that to come to this Chamber should be a lifetime sentence. We are supposed to come, be citizen legislators, serve our time, and then step aside and let someone else step forward and do the good work.

And, in news reports, as I have announced that I was going to step aside, people will say, “Sean Duffy’s seat.” Well, I believe we should correct that. It is not my seat. It was not my predecessor’s seat. It is the people’s seat, and they get to choose every 2 years—and that is not our next generation.

But in this Chamber, where people will tell us: You guys are so dysfunctional. You guys can’t get along. You guys can’t get anything done.

There is some truth to that. There is a lot of bickering; there is a lot of fighting; and, yes, sometimes we don’t get a lot done. But I will just tell you this, that people get along a lot better across the aisle than might meet the eye on some of the major news networks.

Though it might not be on tax reform or immigration reform, there is a lot of legislation that we work on together, on which we try to find bipartisan compromise that can not just pass our committee, but can pass the House and can get our dysfunctional friends in the Senate to actually pick up and pass so we can get it to the President’s desk. It happens a lot.

The Chamber, I think, though it is going through some difficult times, we are actually working, and I am proud of that.

I am proud to serve with my ranking member, PATRICK MCMHERY, who has been so kind and generous to me. I have actually enjoyed serving with MAXINE WATERS.

Some of the subcommittee chairs and ranking members like AL GREEN and LACY CLAY and EMANUEL CLEAVER have become good friends of mine, and I honor their friendship and am grateful for it. But sometimes, oftentimes, we work better than we are given credit for.

I want to take a second, because I think this is such an important part of the debate that we are having today, and talk about American capitalism. I mean, American capitalism is the American model. It has been our American way that has brought us more opportunity, more prosperity, more upward mobility, more innovation, more creativity, more generosity than any other country that has existed on the face of the Earth.

Part of that American capitalist system is an idea not that we have no government, but that we have limited government. We have no taxes, but we have limited taxes. What you saw over 2 years of a Republican-led majority in the House and the Senate with a Republican President is we did those things. And the net end result was what we thought it would be: We put people back to work.

When I ran the first time 9 years ago, we had people who couldn’t find jobs, families who were suffering. I heard, all the time, families say: I wish we had a better economy, because I want my kids to be able to stay in our hometown and get a job in our hometown and raise their family in our hometown so we can have an extended family, but they have to leave. They have to go to Milwaukee or Minneapolis or Chicago or Wausau or somewhere else to get a job, but they can’t stay here.

But today, after we have implemented these reforms, it is profound what is happening. People are going back to work. In Wisconsin, our wages are up, and unemployment is down. We have more jobs in Wisconsin than we have people to fill those jobs. That is a success story of American capitalism. I am proud of that.

Though everybody may not agree that it has been those policies that have created it—some of those are on the left—when they dig deep in their heart, they can’t deny that what we have done has made their lives better.

And so often we have, in my district, it has been the forgotten men and women, men and women who feel like people come to this Chamber, to this town, and they engage in debates that are irrelevant; debates that don’t make their lives better; debates that don’t improve their economy. Maybe it is a debate that might improve the coasts or global corporations, but it is a debate that doesn’t help their rural, small-town community.

They have seen, over the last few years, that their voices have been heard; their pain has been heard, and it has been addressed. And for that, they are incredibly grateful.

When you shop at Walmart and you have a hard time figuring out where you are going to get the dollars to pay your mortgage, or how you are going to send your kids to school, and if you lose your job, then it all collapses; and in today’s market, they look and go. This is really great. This has improved so much. We couldn’t be more grateful for the economy and the system that has offered this prosperity that we now feel.

I am troubled that, even though we have had the success of a free enterprise system, an American capitalist system, we now have a debate in this Chamber where people want to go to a different model, right?

We have a debate saying we want to go to socialism. Socialism should be the model of America’s future; and that the promise of socialism, where we all will be equal, and we can all get free stuff, if we can just tax the rich a little bit more and give a little bit more to you, it is going to be a beautiful economy.

Those promises have been made throughout human history, and those promises always fail. Whether you want to go to the old Soviet Union, whether you want to go to Venezuela, or Cuba, it never works.

This country actually fought socialism in Europe. We fought socialism in our universities. Now we are fighting socialism in the halls of Congress?

We can’t lose this fight, because if we lose this fight, we lose our future. And if you lose the future, you don’t leave enough to your kids.

So I hope that this Chamber will recalibrate and think through what the best economic model is to continue with that prosperity, continue with that opportunity for our kids and for our next generation.

But as we talk about maybe equality and opportunity, I do think there is a really important point: As the socialist talks about the equality of the outcome, I think our model has been the equality of opportunity.
When I look at communities in America, and communities in Wisconsin, and you can look at a zip code of that community, and you will be able to recognize the opportunity and the poverty of the kids that are being raised in those communities, by their zip code and school system, they have in place in those communities in those zip codes.

That is a travesty. That is not equal opportunity. That has given a group of kids the short end of the stick.

So, in this time period in American history, I have fought for school choice. Because if you are a parent and you have a child and you have a failing school, you should have the opportunity to get out of your failing school and go to a school that is going to give you the skill sets and the tools to take advantage of the American economy. You should have that right. You should have that option. And that is school choice.

I would love it if we could make the schools better in these communities, and we should fight to do that. But these kids can’t wait. So I hope the fight for school choice continues.

I have fought in this Chamber for free trade. I have also fought with our President for fair trade. And when we have people who take advantage of this economy, of my constituents, and say it is free trade, well, free trade isn’t free trade if it is not fair trade. And I couldn’t support the President more in his fight against China to make sure that we have a fair system with their growing economy. And it is not easy.

I look in this Chamber. Oftentimes there is not a lot of political courage, but you have a President who, one of the greatest things he has going for him is the great economy; and he is willing to jeopardize this great economy, to risk the great economy and engage the President with China, not just to help him in the next election, but to help American kids in the next 10, 15, 20 years.

That is what real leaders do. That is what courage is in a leader, and that is what our President has done on this trade fight; risking the economy for the kids and our future, to make sure we are still the number one economy and the number one military.

One of the great issues I am proud to have dealt with is the issue of life. I don’t think that there is anyone who is more vulnerable, more voiceless than the unborn; and to have been in this Chamber, and to have been able to lend my voice to those who don’t have one has been an amazing honor.

I think that this will be a scourge at this time period in American history, and we have had these time periods in our past, that we haven’t stood up and fought what science tells us, as you look at a 4D ultrasound, what that baby is in the womb.

I am on the right side of history to have fought for the millions of little babies who have lost their lives over the course of the last 40-plus years. And I hope this Chamber one day can see that life does begin at conception; that we shouldn’t be having a debate about late-term, partial-birth abortion. We shouldn’t be having a debate about how we allowed children to die more when they are born; that that is outrageous. It is, frankly disgusting. We should get that right.

As I close my final remarks from this well, I want to thank my team. Any Member of Congress who serves in this institution can’t do it without great people with them, great people surrounding them, fighting—not with them personally, but fighting on the issues with them. It doesn’t work without them.

Over the course of the last 8½ years, I have had the most remarkable team to serve with me and work with me. And though they have worked for me, they are some of my best friends who have stood with me, and I couldn’t be more grateful. I have come into my life and come into my district and our community; and not just fought so hard with me, but fought so hard for the people that I represent to make sure their issues are covered, to make sure their final voice is heard.

They helped me amplify my constituents’ voices, and I want to thank Pete and the D.C. team, specifically, and Jesse and the district team for their endless efforts. My constituents were well served by them, so thank you.

Finally, I want to thank my family. When I started, I didn’t have as many kids. Actually, I had Patrick and Margarita and Mike V and Paloma, who didn’t know their father at any point other than as a Congressman. But some of my older kids were well aware of what we did before.

My oldest daughter, Evita, we did our first parade together, and I was terrified. I was terrified to do a parade, and that is what we did before. And they have supported me through fasts. And they have been there supporting me, going to dairy breakfasts—going to dairy breakfasts in Wisconsin we do every Thursday. My family has been great, going to parades together. And they have supported me through parades, and going—in Wisconsin we do more than 700 miles along the 2,000-mile border. When that is done, we will have built another 390 miles by the end of 2020. We have rehabbed 66 miles of the wall on the southern border, and we are on track to do another 390 miles by the end of 2020.

Over the course of the last 40-plus years, I hope this Chamber one day can see that life does begin at conception; and we shouldn’t be having a debate about late-term, partial-birth abortion. We shouldn’t be having a debate about how we allowed children to die more when they are born; that that is outrageous. It is, frankly disgusting. We should get that right.

As I close my final remarks from this well, I want to thank my team. Any Member of Congress who serves in this institution can’t do it without great people with them, great people surrounding them, fighting—not with them personally, but fighting on the issues with them. It doesn’t work without them.

Over the course of the last 8½ years, I have had the most remarkable team to serve with me and work with me. And though they have worked for me, they are some of my best friends who have stood with me, and I couldn’t be more grateful. I have come into my life and come into my district and our community; and not just fought so hard with me, but fought so hard for the people that I represent to make sure their issues are covered, to make sure their final voice is heard.

They helped me amplify my constituents’ voices, and I want to thank Pete and the D.C. team, specifically, and Jesse and the district team for their endless efforts. My constituents were well served by them, so thank you.

Finally, I want to thank my family. When I started, I didn’t have as many kids. Actually, I had Patrick and Margarita and Mike V and Paloma, who didn’t know their father at any point other than as a Congressman. But some of my older kids were well aware of what we did before.

My oldest daughter, Evita, we did our first parade together, and I was terrified. I was terrified to do a parade, and that is what we did before. And they have supported me through fasts. And they have been there supporting me, going to dairy breakfasts—going to dairy breakfasts in Wisconsin we do every Thursday. My family has been great, going to parades together. And they have supported me through parades, and going—in Wisconsin we do more than 700 miles along the 2,000-mile border. When that is done, we will have built another 390 miles by the end of 2020. We have rehabbed 66 miles of the wall on the southern border, and we are on track to do another 390 miles by the end of 2020.
has a wall. India along the Bangladesh border has a wall; a wall, quite frankly, a lot—a border a lot longer than the America/Mexican border; and Hungary has a considerable border wall with Serbia.

All those other walls are effective. I am glad the United States is finally getting going on the wall.

The first thing that will count as good news on the immigration front is that I was able to attend a ceremony in which legal immigrants were being sworn in, in Milwaukee. Every month in a city as small as Milwaukee, about 400 new citizens are being sworn in. Neither Donald Trump nor virtually any Republican who I am aware of wants to stop those 400 new citizens coming here each month.

It is very exhilarating to talk to them. So many of them have already founded their own businesses. Obviously, the rest already have jobs and have spent a considerable amount of time working in this country and are very proud to renounce the citizenship of their native land and become American citizens.

Overall, we swear in 700,000 new citizens a year and have 4 million people on work visas. But there is other news that probably can be considered not quite as good. We had 64,000 people crossing the border in August. That is down from 144,000 in May, but it is still 20,000 more than it was last year.

When we talk about 64,000 people being processed into this country or processed at the border, we don't include other people who haven't even been caught, and those are the most dangerous people of all.

Many of the people being processed on the border feel that they will be able to come to this country through an asylum process legally. When people are not checking themselves in at the border, it means they feel they have to sneak through the border and probably have something to hide.

While the Border Patrol doesn't know exactly how many people they are not processing, they are guessing it is over 10,000 people a month. That is certainly something that has to be addressed.

The next thing to talk about, as far as people coming across the border, is why is it that 20 or 30 years ago it was a year ago and why is that still higher than it was 20 or 30 years ago?

Some people think the reason some people try to come across our border is that things are worse in other countries. That is not so. There were times in the relatively recent past in which we had outright civil wars in Central America. People did not come to the United States even though there were civil wars in their home country because they felt they couldn't. They felt the United States would enforce its current immigration laws.

The reason we had so many more people try to get in here in the past year is because the word was out in other countries. The word was out among the cartels that escort so many people to this country that the United States was not enforcing its immigration laws.

I was at the border again at the end of July, and it was interesting to hear from the Border Patrol that at the time Donald Trump was first elected, they were almost bored at the border. There was nobody trying to come in here. Why was that? Because Donald Trump was going to reform and stabilize immigration, and they felt they wouldn't have a chance to come to the United States.

The reason we had 64,000 people checked in at the border, plus who knows how many sneaking across, in August is the word is still out in other countries that the United States is not enforcing its laws.

The question is, what can we do to stop the floodgates of 60,000 people still coming here?

First of all, we need more personnel. As we have had a flood of more people coming on the border, the Border Patrol has to spend their time on paperwork, and the Border Patrol has to spend 9 months babysitting children, not guarding the border. These new employees are less costly than the Border Patrol.

I respect the Border Patrol so much more after being down there three times. Can you imagine, in the middle of the night, maybe finding 50 people and having to, in essence, arrest them yourself and escort them back to the border?

We could use some personnel to do—don't know what I can refer to it as—babysitting part of the job, the paperwork part of the job, to free up the Border Patrol so they can enforce the border.

Secondly, this Congress that is so quick to spend money on anything can give the technology at the border points of entry, and I would also add more dogs at the point of entry, which do a great job of identifying people trying to sneak across.

Another thing that Congress should do is get rid of birthright citizenship. When I was at the El Paso sector and saw people waiting to come in, it was obvious there were a disproportionate number of pregnant women coming into this country, which is what we have now—7 months pregnant, whether they fly in from Asia or cross the southern border, they come here because the United States is one of only two of the, I believe, 40th wealthiest countries in the world to have birthright citizenship.

Donald Trump has promised to get rid of that when he first ran for election, and I hope that is something he follows up on.

Another problem we have is that, right now, few people are allowed in the United States under the Flores settlement after they are here for maybe 20 days. If they were here for 60 days, they wouldn't be able to sneak in this country and disappear into kind of the ether, but they would be able to stay here until they have their court hearing. It is so important for this Congress to pass a law saying that you can keep these families at the border or not let them in the United States for at least 60 days pending their hearing.

While I talk about families at the border, I want to make some other observations that the Border Patrol gave me. First of all, it frustrates them that people coming here get such better health care than people who are already here in America. The vast majority of us have some sort of large deductible. They have copays. People coming from other countries when they come to the border are given whatever they want for anything wrong. I can understand that we don't want anything bad to happen to people, but it is an inducement for more people to sneak in here as long as we give away free medical care.

The next thing that we need is the ability to return children to their parents. Under current law, we can return unaccompanied children to their parents in Canada and Mexico. We cannot do that to Central American countries. I am so frustrated that we are taking their youth and bringing them to the United States.

These bills are available to be brought to the floor. It is time that this Congress act and say we are not going to tear apart families. If we catch a 15-year-old coming into this country from Honduras, we should be able to return them to their parents in Honduras. We shouldn't, as under current law, be required to keep them in this country. It is kind of the ugly America at its worst that we tear apart families and take young children who have fled their parents.

The next thing that we have to do is work to raise the standard of credible fear. We cannot continue to have people come into this country sometimes without the strongest evidence that they are genuinely in fear of what is going on in their country, particularly because, right now, immigration attorneys assist people in allowing them to come into our country.

We need more money for ICE to remove illegal immigrants, particularly illegal immigrants who are criminals. Donald Trump made a promise to Congress to change his plan of not letting people in this country if they are probably going to wind up on public assistance or welfare. That would be a disaster for their country.

I hope we use these things, I think we can finally secure our border.

Again, Donald Trump has done a lot on his own. He has reassigned money that was originally going to the Department of Defense. He has tried to change the way we deal with asylum. Congress has to step up with President Trump and do something: hire more personnel at the border; get more technology at the border; get rid of the
birthright citizenship; change the law so we can keep people at the border for 60 days; return children, particularly unaccompanied children, to their parents when they try to sneak in here; change the standard of credible fear. Then we will go the rest of the way toward having a good immigration system.

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

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on September 18, 2019, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

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, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o’clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 20, 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 passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1830, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1830

<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2290, the Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2290

<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, that H.R. 3589, the Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, that H.R. 3619, the Appraisal Reform Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 3625, the PCAOB Whistleblower Protection Act of 2019, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 3625

<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.
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. MCOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 564. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-212). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. A bill to establish out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare Part D enrollees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OLSON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WILLIAMSON, Mr. SHWARTZ of New Jersey, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BARR, Mr. RATTRAPPE, Mr. LOUDENBERG, Mr. RECERTIFIED, Mr. MALAMFA, Mr. FLORES, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. HIGGINS of Arkansas): H.R. 4399. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit anti-competitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCHSON (for himself and Mr. ENGEL): H.R. 4400. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for an internet website to provide educational materials for health care providers, patients, and caregivers, regarding the terms and standards for review and licensing of, biological products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GABBARD: H.R. 4401. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reinstate the obligation of broadcast licensees to afford reasonable opportunity for the discussion of conflicting views and viewpoints (commonly known as the "Fairness Doctrine"); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. YESKO (for herself, Ms. SCHUMER, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. CRESWORTH): H.R. 4402. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an inland waterway threat analysis and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. BILL of Arkansas): H.R. 4403. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RUSH: H.R. 4404. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require that the label of drugs with an increased risk of suicide or depression present such information in a clear and conspicuous manner, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. NEVADA): H.R. 4405. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women’s business center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GOLDEN (for himself and Mrs. RADEFAYEN): H.R. 4406. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma (for himself and Ms. CRAIG): H.R. 4407. A bill to authorize the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Ms. CLARK of New York, Ms. BASS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEeks, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. VELASQUEZ, Ms. MOORE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. OAMOR, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, and Ms. PRESSLEY): H.R. 4408. A bill to amend section 242 of title 18, United States Code, to forbid the use of the mails by persons who have been convicted of offenses involving drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS: H.R. 4409. A bill to require approval through referendum for any increases to any locally enacted and administered taxes or issuances of any municipal bond in an amount greater than $25,000,000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. YOHAY): H.R. 4410. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Thorium-Bearing Rare Earth Refinery Cooperative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUDD: H.R. 4411. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize additional assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BUCKNER: H.R. 4412. A bill to prohibit the Bureau of the Census from including citizenship data in the Weinstein's legislative redistricting data prepared by the Bureau, to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CRIST: H.R. 4413. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to establish a Coast Guard Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in cooperation with Pinellas Park High School, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana): H.R. 4414. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to lower the cost of college education by establishing pilot programs to expand student access to digital course materials; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Ms. SHALALA, and Mr. SPANO):
H. R. 4415. A bill to provide a temporary increase in the limitation on deductible contributions made for relief efforts related to Hurricane Dorian; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOLDEN (for himself, Mr. QUIKLEY, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. PINHEDER):

H. R. 4416. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to award grants to eligible entities to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards, lead in drinking water hazards, and lead in soil hazards in pre-1978 residential real properties; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Veterans’ Affairs, 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. HORSFORD (for himself, Ms. SIRVILL of Alabama, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. EVANS):

H. R. 4417. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain dependent individuals whose modified adjusted gross income for the purposes of eligibility for premium tax credits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois):

H. R. 4418. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

H. R. 4419. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that workers and communities that are responsible for record corporate profits benefit from the wealth that they create, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Ms. BASS, Mr. LANGVIN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COTTO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. FLAIR, Mr. MITCHELL, and Ms. MENG):

H. R. 4420. A bill to amend subpart 1 of part E of title IV of the National Security Act to ensure that mental health screenings and assessments are provided to children and youth upon entry into foster care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself, Mr. SENSIBRNER, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. STEFFEN):

H. R. 4421. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify venue requirements relating to bankruptcy proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NORCROSS (for himself, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Mr. STANTON):

H. R. 4422. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to award grants for graduate fellowships to candidates for the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ROUDA (for himself, Ms. DAVIS of California, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. SCHORES):

H. R. 4423. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance teacher and school leadership programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H. R. 4424. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 that every student has a path to a quality, debt-free degree or credential that leads to a rewarding career, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself, Mr. King of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PA-

NETTA, Mr. KRISHNAAMOORTHI, and Mr. CULICHIA):

H. R. 4425. A bill to increase the taxes on certain tobacco products, to prohibit the fla-

tion of certain tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself and Mr. FOSTER):

H. R. 4426. A bill to rename the Office of Technology, to revise the functions and duties of the Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself and Ms. DIGGETT):

H. R. 4427. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to identify and convey to the State of Colorado land for use as a storage site for residual radioactive material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WILD (for herself, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. MOUTON):

H. R. 4428. A bill to establish a special enrollment period for family members of an individual who has died by suicide, to establish a competitive grant program to provide services and support to family members impacted by an individual’s suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Oversight and Reform, 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. CASTRO of Texas:

H. Res. 75. A concurrent resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DEBALSINER (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CARAMENDI, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. RUSH, Ms. GABBEARD, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. QUIKLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MENG, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. RYAN, Ms. PENGREK, Mr. SHIRE, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. HILL of California, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MEUKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PERL-MUTTER, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. MATHUI, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CASE, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SAÉZ, Ms. ESQUIB, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CINCHEROS, Mr. LIPIŃSKI, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. BASS, Mr. PORTER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. MCNENY, Mr. BERA, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PORTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. COX of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. HIME, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUPPERSHILLER, Mr. DANNY K DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. COBET, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: 

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ROUDA:
H.R. 4425.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SABLAN:
H.R. 4424.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SUOZZI:
H.R. 4423.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. CRICILLINE:
H.R. 4413.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:
H.R. 4412.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution.

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 4411.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 4414.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 4415.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOLDEN:
H.R. 4416.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HORSPORD:
H.R. 4417.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 4418.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. LAWRENCE:
H.R. 4419.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8.

By Mrs. AXNE:
H.R. 855.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 132: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 141: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 307: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 431: Mr. PASCARELL.
H.R. 510: Mr. ROUDA and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 550: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 553: Mr. MEEK.
H.R. 576: Mr. DORFERT.
H.R. 587: Mr. CALVETT.
H.R. 649: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. Yoho, and Ms. DeGETTE.
H.R. 722: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 737: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. FONG, and Mrs. LUCIA.
H.R. 791: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 855: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 906: Mrs. ROGERS of Washington, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 912: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 929: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

By Mr. NORCROSS:
H.R. 4422.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. CRICILLINE:
H.R. 4413.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:
H.R. 4412.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 4411.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 4414.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 4415.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOLDEN:
H.R. 4416.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 4418.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. LAWRENCE:
H.R. 4419.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article I, Section 8.

By Mrs. AXNE:
H.R. 855.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 132: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 141: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 307: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 431: Mr. PASCARELL.
H.R. 510: Mr. ROUDA and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 550: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 553: Mr. MEEK.
H.R. 576: Mr. DORFERT.
H.R. 587: Mr. CALVETT.
H.R. 649: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. Yoho, and Ms. DeGETTE.
H.R. 722: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 737: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. FONG, and Mrs. LUCIA.
H.R. 791: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 855: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 906: Mrs. ROGERS of Washington, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 912: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 929: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H.R. 934: Mr. O’HALLERAN, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 935: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. O’HALLERAN, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 946: Mr. GORRED, Mr. MILES, and Mr. STEUER.
H.R. 1034: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1043: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 1049: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1107: Mr. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KILDEE, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 1154: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 1265: Mrs. TESSIE SMALL of New Mexico, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1717: Mr. ZELDIN.
H.R. 1175: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. PETTIT, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. Brown of Maryland.
H.R. 1179: Ms. SA´ NCHEZ.
H.R. 2895: Mr. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 2435: Mr. TIPTON, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 2441: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 2446: Mr. NEKUSE.
H.R. 2474: Ms. LOPFORD, Mr. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. Himes.
H.R. 2496: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 2526: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2562: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 2571: Mr. CRUNCH.
H.R. 2579: Ms. VELAZQUEZ.
H.R. 2592: Ms. SPANBRENNER and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 2598: Mr. SCHRADER and Ms. LOFOMIN.
H.R. 2662: Mr. USHER.
H.R. 2674: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 2681: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 2730: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2775: Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 2796: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 2808: Ms. DELEBENE.
H.R. 2818: Mr. COX of California, Mr. SMITH of North Carolina, Mr. COCHRAN, and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 2829: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 2846: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 2847: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 2848: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 2896: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 2929: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 2930: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2965: Mr. LAHood and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 2995: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3063: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 3077: Mr. KATKO, Mrs. ROGERS of Washington, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. AMODEO, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3103: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3106: Mr. LAMBD.
H.R. 3107: Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3138: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3162: Mr. TRONK and Ms. RISCHENBAHLER.
H.R. 3165: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 3192: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Ms. MENQ.
H.R. 3199: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3208: Mrs. LUCION.
H.R. 3215: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3219: Mr. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 3220: Mr. KIM.
H.R. 3222: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3229: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 3337: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3337: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 3373: Mr. MOORE.
H.R. 3446: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. ROUDA, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 3541: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 3546: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 3561: Mr. Katko.
H.R. 3663: Ms. MUCHERSALL-Powell.
H.R. 3845: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 3945: Mr. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. KATING, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ROZIER, Mr. WENSTROUP, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. SENSBRENNER, Mr. MCDERMIT, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. RUDD, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 3951: Ms. NORTON and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3971: Mr. MEEK.
H.R. 3984: Mr. LONG, Mr. ROZIER, Mr. WALKER, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 3988: Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. FINKENAUER, and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 3995: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 3998: Mr. BALDERSON and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3999: Mr. McADAMS.
H.R. 3966: Ms. HAYES.
H.R. 3742: Mr. O’HALLERAN.
H.R. 3757: Mr. GLENN of Missouri, Mr. LONG, Mr. WITTEN, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 3775: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3796: Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3799: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3808: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3919: Mr. HARRISON of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. PRESSLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FUDGIE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BRATTTY, Ms. LAWRENCE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 3939: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3931: Mr. HARRISON of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. PRESSLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. FUDGIE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BRATTTY, Ms. LAWRENCE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 3939: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3851: Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. TIPTON, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 3870: Mr. TONKO and Mr. ZELDIN.
H.R. 3884: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 3924: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3974: Mr. GORRED, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. PETTIT, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. Brown of Maryland.
H.R. 3979: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3988: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3986: Ms. TESSIE SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. BLUNT ROCHSTER.
H.R. 4022: Mr. EVANS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 4029: Mr. SCHUMAN.
H.R. 4031: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4044: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4078: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 4096: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 4107: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4149: Mr. KIND, Mr. STANTON, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 4213: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 4219: Mr. STIEB, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 4220: Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 4249: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4269: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4272: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4296: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 4301: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. ESHOO, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 4308: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. DESAUMLIERS.
H.R. 4319: Miss RICE of New York and Mr. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 4327: Mrs. ROGERS of Washington, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4355: Ms. SHERILL.
H.R. 4363: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 4391: Mr. McGovern and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.J. Res. 38: Mr. BERIA.
H. Res. 48: Mr. HERTER.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. SPAPO and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.
CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

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

The amendment to be offered by Representative Jordan, or a designee, to H.R. 1423, the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,
43. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to urging Congress to enact legislation which would automatically suspend disbursement of previously-appropriated Federal funds to States, and to local units of government, that refuse to honor detainer requests of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement division of the United States Department of Homeland Security relative to persons who are in the United States in violation of the laws of the United States; with resumption of disbursements only when such cooperation is established or restored; which was referred jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Oversight and Reform.
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.
Savior of humanity. Your unflagging love sustains us. Stagger freedom’s enemies and bring them to their knees. Use our lawmakers so effectively that our citizens may rejoice because of Your mercy.
Lord, be for our Nation a towering rock of safety, a shelter in the time of storm. We wait quietly before You. So use Your strong arms to bring us Your peace.
We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.
Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for 1 minute.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPROPRIATIONS
Mr. GRASSLEY. The latest political ploy by the Democrats is to paint the Senate majority leader as an obstructionist because he hasn’t moved to consider certain bills passed by the other body.
Well, let’s think about that for just a minute. They can hardly use that talking point anymore.
Yesterday, the Senate majority leader moved to take up the House-passed appropriations package, and the Senate Democrats blocked that motion.

The Senate isn’t obliged to consider every partisan bill from the House, and the House doesn’t have to consider every bill that is passed by the Senate. But if there is any House bill that the Senate has the responsibility to take up, to debate, and to amend, it is the annual spending bills to keep government operating. We have to fund the government, and that is what we are doing.

So I hope we don’t hear any of this bellyaching anymore when we have a House bill that the Senate doesn’t somehow take up.
I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.
Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I want to thank the senior Senator from Iowa for his observations this morning. That is exactly where we find ourselves with what happened on the Senate floor yesterday afternoon.

APPROPRIATIONS
Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, Senate Democrats blocked this year’s funding for our national defense. They voted it down. We can’t move the legislation forward.
Democrats blocked the funding our commanders need to keep pace with Russia and China. Democrats blocked money for the tools and training that our men and women in uniform badly need while our adversaries continually pour money into new weapons and technology. The Democrats even voted against a pay raise—a pay raise—for our servicemembers. All but two Democrats voted to filibuster all of this and kept the Senate from even considering the legislation.

Never mind that before we adjourned in August the Democrats in the House and Senate all agreed to a carefully negotiated framework to keep our appropriations process on track. In fact, the Speaker of the House and the Democratic leader in the Senate publicly agreed to the exact dollar figure for the Defense bill they just voted down yesterday. They publicly agreed to the number in the Defense bill they just voted down yesterday.

We all agreed in the caps agreement that poison pills, new policy riders, or any changes to Presidential transfer authorities were off the table—off the table—unless both sides were on board. So the appropriations process, including at the committee level with Chairman SHELBY and Ranking Member LEAHY, appeared to be going pretty smoothly, but, as we have seen a number of other times in the recent past, the Democratic leadership seemed to have a change of heart.

Perhaps it sunk in that actually meeting President Trump and Republicans halfway, as divided government obviously requires, might have earned some criticism from the far left. But whatever the reason, our Democratic friends turned on a dime, reneged on the bipartisan agreement, and began demanding exactly the kinds of poison pills and partisan policy changes that we all promised not to do.

That is how we get to a spectacle like what happened yesterday. That is how we get to a place where 42 Senate Democrats vote to filibuster defense funding and obstruct a pay raise for our servicemembers, for all the world to see, because Democratic leadership decided they saw more of a political upside in picking new fights with the President than in keeping their word and investing in our men and women in uniform.

In fact, I understand that just yesterday, our Democratic leaders were offered even more money for the Labor-HHS bill, but they declined it. So it is not about the money. It is not about compromising and getting to yes. It is about not wanting to take yes for an answer.
I have great respect for our Democratic friends, but I think this episode has to go down as a new high-water mark for the policy consequences of what some people call ‘‘Trump derangement syndrome.’’

We are at a point where 42 Senate Democrats would decline to fund the U.S. Armed Forces essentially just to spite the occupant of the White House. If you ask me, that is one heck of a price to pay to put on a show for ‘‘the resistance.’’

But yesterday’s vote is now a matter of record. It is in the past. I really am hopeful that we can get back on track with the kind of appropriations process my Democratic colleagues have already pledged they would support. They had already pledged to support it.

When the good work that takes place in committees is allowed to proceed without this top-down partisan maneuvering, it tends to yield pretty good results. I think we were all pleased with the bipartisan funding bill that Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY produced together last year. I understand this morning’s appropriations markup is expected to be bipartisan as well.

For example, I am proud the Financial Services and General Government bill would include a bipartisan amendment providing another $250 million for the administration and security of elections, to help States improve their defenses and shore up their voting systems.

I am proud to have helped develop this amendment and to cosponsor it in committee. That would bring our total allocation for election security to more than $600 million since fiscal 2008.

It is a crucial issue. The Trump administration has made enormous strides to help States secure their elections without giving Washington new power to push the States around. That is how we continue the progress we saw in 2018, and that is exactly what we are doing.

This is exactly the kind of positive outcome that is possible when we stop posturing for the press and let Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY conduct a bipartisan committee process.

As time grows shorter before the end of September, I hope the critical defense funding that Democrats blocked yesterday will soon earn the same kind of productive treatment, because I don’t think the American people will have much patience with the notion that Democrats’ first responsibility is irritating the White House and funding the Department of Defense coming second.

I hope we can reboot this process and move forward for the sake of our Senate process, for the sake of stable funding for our government, and for the sake of our Nation’s security.

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 Brian McQuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JUDICIARY

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, last week, the Senate confirmed President Trump’s 150th judge. That is a significant milestone and one that has been harder to achieve than it normally would be. The Republicans’ determination to delay judicial confirmations. Again and again, the Democrats have used the time-consuming cloture vote process to delay the confirmations of President Trump’s nominees—even of nominees they ultimately chose to vote for.

By this point in President Obama’s first term, the Republicans had required cloture votes on just three of President Obama’s judicial nominees. Compare that to today. As of September 12, the Democrats had required cloture votes on a staggering 71.7 percent of President Trump’s picks for the bench—71 percent. Basically, for more than two out of every three judges, the Democrats have required cloture votes. That simply means they have filibustered that particular nominee. The way you end the filibuster is by invoking cloture.

When the Republicans were in the minority in President Obama was in the White House, at this point in President Obama’s first term, the Democratic majority had invoked cloture just three times for three judges whom the Republicans had tried to block. As said, right now, at the same point in President Trump’s first term, we are talking about almost 72 percent of all the nominations combined having been filibustered. If you think about that and if you add it up totally, cumulatively, it is about 100 now compared to 3 during President Obama’s first term at the same time in office.

As I have said, many of these were nominees the Democrats ultimately went on to vote to confirm. In other words, it was not that President Trump nominated scores of extreme nominees whom the Democrats felt they couldn’t support. Again and again, the Democrats have delayed a nominee, then turned around and voted in favor of him or her.

In one particularly memorable example, in January of 2018, the Democrats forced the Senate to spend more than a week considering four district court nominees through a series of motions to set aside cloture and Democrat voted against their confirmations—not one single Democrat. These judges could have been confirmed in a matter of minutes by voice votes. Instead, the Democrats forced the Senate to spend more than a week on their considerations—time that could have been spent on genuinely controversial nominees or on some of the many important issues that face our country.

So far this September, the Senate has confirmed six district court judges. The Democrats forced cloture votes on four of them despite the fact that all four were eventually confirmed by huge bipartisan margins. In fact, one was confirmed by a unanimous vote of 94 to 0.

If the Democrats had had a serious reason for their obstruction of the President’s judicial nominees, they would not have been repeatedly turning around and voting for them. Their obstruction isn’t based on principle; it is based on partisanship. They don’t like this President, so they are obstructing his nominees even when they agree they are well qualified for their positions. As a result, we are forced to spend hours upon hours of Senate floor time on uncontroversial nominations—time we could be using for other priorities.

Democratic delays are also not helping the judicial vacancy rate, which is still high despite the Republicans’ efforts to get judges confirmed. High numbers of vacancies result in there being long waits to get cases heard, which serves nobody.

While Democratic obstruction is bad enough, unfortunately, we have a lot more to worry about. In recent months, the Democrats have moved beyond obstruction and into directly threatening the independence of the judiciary. Court-packing—an idea that was much on people’s minds when it had been consigned to the dustbin of history almost a century ago—is enjoying a revival among members of the Democratic Party.

For anyone who needs a refresher on this concept, the theory of court-pack- ing is quite simple. If the Supreme Court is not deciding cases to your liking, add more judges to the Court until you start getting the decisions you want. It is not hard to see why this is a terrible idea, but that hasn’t stopped it from gaining ground with the Democratic Party. In fact, five prominent Democrats—including a Democratic Presidential candidate and the second-
raking Democrat in the Senate—recently filed an amicus brief with the Supreme Court that threatened the Court if it failed to rule according to the Democrats’ preference. They wrote:

The Supreme Court is not well, and the people of the United States can heal itself before the public demands it be restructured in order to reduce the influence of politics.

Translation: If you don’t rule the way we want you to, you will not like the consequences.

Threatening members of the judiciary is within the domain of dictators and despots, not Members of the U.S. Congress, and it is deeply disturbing that prominent Democrats apparently now see nothing wrong with trying to intimidate the Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, it is becoming apparent that there are few lengths to which the Democrats will not go in their increase of partisanship. Just this week, we saw the Democrats leap on the opportunity to drag Justice Kavanaugh’s name through the mud again based on yet another vague and unsubstantiated rumor.

More than a Democratic Presidential candidate instantly cried that he should be impeached. What was the basis for such a drastic suggestion? It was a New York Times article that was, as the leader pointed out, so short on reporting that it ran on the opinion page of the New York Times instead of in the news section, not to mention that after running this piece, the Times had to quickly issue a correction that after running this piece, the Times had to quickly issue a correction.

It is not hard to see what is behind the Democrats’ relentless campaign to smear Justice Kavanaugh’s name. They are furious that it was a Republican and not a Democratic President who had the opportunity to choose a Justice to replace a perceived swing vote on the Supreme Court, and they are afraid that Justice Kavanaugh will not issue the rulings they want.

Here we get to the heart of the problem with the Democrats’ increasingly unhinged leftist and attacks on the judiciary. The Democrats aren’t just for judges or a judiciary that will rule according to the law; they are looking for a judiciary that will rule in accordance with the Democrats’ preferred policies whether they have anything to do with the law or not, and that is a very dangerous path.

Sure, it might seem nice when an activist judge who shares your political opinions reaches outside the meaning of the statute and rules for your preferred outcome. Yet, what happens when that activist judge reaches beyond the law to your detriment? What protection do you have if the judge and not the law becomes the highest authority? The only way to ensure the protection of individuals’ rights is to ensure the rule of law, and that means having judges who will make decisions according to the law, not according to their personal preferences or the principles of a political party.

In the wake of the Democrats’ threat to the Supreme Court, all 53 Republican Senators sent a letter to the Justices that underscored our commitment to protecting the independence of the judiciary. We noted in the letter:

There is no greater example of the genius of our Constitution than its creation of an independent judiciary. . . . Time and again, our independent judges have protected the constitutional rights of Americans from government overreach even when that overreach was politically popular.

If we want our courts to continue protecting and strengthening constitutional rights, then we need to ensure they remain independent.

The Democrats’ interest in having judges who will rule according to their preferred outcomes is not new, but in the past, their interest has not led them to attempt to bully judges into voting their way. I hope the Democrats will think better of their repressive tactics before our independent judiciary becomes the victim of their political agenda.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I yield the floor.

I am here to say that we have not authorized him to ensure us in another endless, senseless war.

We haven’t debated and passed a new authorization for the use of military force in more than 15 years, and there is just no way that the AUMF passed to go after the perpetrators of 9/11 can justify military action against Iran nearly two decades later, sending troops overseas who may not have even been alive when that AUMF was voted on.

Listen, it is not just me who believes this. It is not just my fellow Democrats in the Senate either. During the confirmation hearing for now-Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, I asked Trump’s own nominee point-blank whether the existing AUMF gives this administration the right to conduct a war with Iran. His answer? His answer was: No, No, they do not.

Mr. President, in decades past, when prior Presidents have gotten us entangled in bad wars based on bad intelligence, at the very least they made sure to loop in the United Nations, but Trump is acting as if he wouldn’t even do that. He is too busy thumping his chest and acting as if he wouldn’t even do that. How many lives, American lives, have been lost or if your name is plastered in gold on the front of a building on Fifth Avenue, no one can overrule the Constitution. Trump doesn’t get to mire us in yet another Middle East conflict just because he has a bizarre tendency to bow down and kiss up to the world’s cruelest tyrants.

Whether you ask constitutional scholars or high school students taking U.S. history classes, they will tell you the same thing—that on matters of military force, whether they are our allies or our adversaries, American Presidents do not get to choose to order from foreign leaders. They take their lead from foreign leaders. They take their lead from foreign leaders.

It is not just me who believes this. It is not just my fellow Democrats in the Senate either. During the confirmation hearing for now-Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, I asked Trump’s own nominee point-blank whether the existing AUMF gives this administration the right to conduct a war with Iran. His answer? His answer was: No, No, they do not.

I am here to say that we have not authorized him to ensnare us in another endless, senseless war.

While Trump may have never read the Constitution, I have, so let me direct his attention to article I, which makes it clear that the President does not have the authority to declare war. Only Congress has that power. We are the ones tasked with deciding when and how American troops are put into combat. We are the ones charged with that most solemn duty, not Donald Trump and certainly not Muhammad bin Salman. Yet Trump is acting as if article I simply doesn’t exist, as if he could just usurp this power from the legislative branch and trade it to whomever he pleases, as if obeying the Constitution is optional even while he tweets that he is willing to obey a foreign prince.

This should not be a partisan issue. No matter if you are struggling to pay rent or if your name is plastered in gold on the front of a building on Fifth Avenue, no one can overrule the Constitution. Trump doesn’t get to mire us in yet another Middle East conflict just because he has a bizarre tendency to bow down and kiss up to the world’s cruelest tyrants.

Whether you ask constitutional scholars or high school students taking U.S. history classes, they will tell you the same thing—that on matters of military force, whether they are our allies or our adversaries, American Presidents do not get to choose to order from foreign leaders. They take their lead from foreign leaders. They take their lead from foreign leaders.

It is not just me who believes this. It is not just my fellow Democrats in the Senate either. During the confirmation hearing for now-Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, I asked Trump’s own nominee point-blank whether the existing AUMF gives this administration the right to conduct a war with Iran. His answer? His answer was: No, No, they do not.
Once again, the Trump foreign policy doctrine has proven reckless, senseless, and dangerous, full of gaslighting and bluster, a doctrine in which fact and fiction are one in the same.

It is shameful. It is terrifying that we head in Congress to military decisions by virtue of temper tantrum and then announces them via tweet, a President who doesn’t seem to care that if he keeps on the path of fire and fury he has been treading, our own homeland will be in greater danger, more wounded warriors will be sent to Walter Reed, and more fallen heroes will be laid to rest in the hallowed grounds of Arlington.

Donald Trump may never have deligned to put on our Nation’s uniform, so he probably doesn’t know that the commander’s greatest responsibility is to safeguard the troops so they are able to carry out the mission. That means we do not send them into harm’s way recklessly and without full support and legality.

As a former unit commander, I ran for Congress so that when the drums of war sounded, I would be in a position to make sure our elected officials fully consider the true costs of war, not just in dollars but in lives of our troops and their families. That was the vow I made to my buddies that I deployed with and all those who have served since I hung up my uniform.

Now, as the drums of war are pounding once again, I am here today to keep my promise to do our troops justice and to make sure Donald Trump does not outsource overseas yet another American job—Congress’s job to declare war. If the Trump administration wants to go to war, they must bring their case to Congress and give the American people a say through their elected representatives. They must respect our servicemembers enough to prove to the American people that they are worth turning more moms and dads into Gold Star parents. They must testify about what the end state in Iran actually looks like.

Then, when their case has been made, when Congress’s debate is done, we should vote. It is our duty. It is the least we owe to the troops we would be sending into harm’s way. If the vote to authorize military force passes, then I will be the first person to volunteer to deploy. I am ready to pack my rucksack, to dust off my uniform, to fly helicopters, take on the grunt work, do whatever else it takes to uphold that oath that all service members and veterans have sworn: to defend the brave men and women willing to lay down their lives to defend our Nation. Yet, day after day, Donald Trump wraps himself in the flag in the morning and then abandons our servicemembers as they live up to our democratic norms by the afternoon.

While he may have already shirked his duty as an elected official, I refuse to abandon mine. So as many times as is necessary, I am going to keep coming back to this Chamber, keep raising my voice under this great Capitol dome, and keep demanding what is actually in our Nation’s best interest because, you see, I don’t take my orders from war criminals or dictators or presidents who don’t serve foreign regimes. I serve the American people. Trump would do well to try that sometime.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the presence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, yesterday, the Senate failed to advance a motion to proceed to a package of appropriations bills, demonstrating something that Leader MCCONNELL already knew: there aren’t enough votes in the Senate for the President’s wall.

The Senate refuses to fund the border wall that the President promised Mexico would pay for, especially not at the expense of our troops and their families and important public health programs like childcare and Head Start. Just yesterday, the Pentagon warned of dire outcomes if the money to fund the military is not provided.

The pattern repeats itself far too frequently. The same impulse led Republicans to deny for months disaster aid to Puerto Rico. In each case, whether it be taking money out of the expense of our troops and their families and important public health programs like childcare and Head Start, or denying for months disaster aid to Puerto Rico. In each case, whether it be taking money out of the needed places like the military and putting it into the wall or not being fair to Puerto Rico when it came to aid, they had to relent and work with Democrats. I am glad they did for the good of the country.

So enough time has been wasted this work period. Leader MCCONNELL, Chairman SHELBY, let’s sit down. It is time for you to sit down and negotiate with Democrats on the way forward.

(Mr. SCOTT of Florida assumed the chair.)

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. President, let’s talk about the short-term CR, which was released last night. The continuing resolution is an important measure to keep the government open until late November and
allow appropriators to get a bipartisan agreement for fiscal year 2020.

One program that has not received enough attention is the agricultural relief program known commonly as the Commodity Credit Corporation. This is an important program that should help all farmers suffering from certain exigencies of the market, like price declines and natural disasters.

Unfortunately, over the past year, the Republicans continued to squander this important agricultural relief program that we all support into a giant slush fund. The relief payments have gotten political. Crops in red States have received out-sized subsidies, while crops in blue States were shortchanged. Cotton, for example, has gotten a huge subsidy, compared to dairy and specialty crops, fruits and vegetables. The payments were not matched to the damage caused to each crop. Even soybeans, the supposed reason for this at the beginning of the American agricultural program, are receiving funding for cotton, and even now cotton is being treated better.

In addition—and just as bad, if not worse—there have been huge amounts of money going in the wrong places. Large agribusinesses, including some foreign agribusinesses, like a Brazilian beef corporation, are receiving funding through this program while American dairy farmers are passed over.

There is no limit on the CCC program. If you make over $900,000, you shouldn’t get any money. The most any farm can get is $250,000 if there are two farmers in the family, a husband and a wife. Those don’t seem to abate either.

We are very pleased that Republicans acceded to our wish. Democrats were able to inject some transparency into the agricultural relief program.

In this short-term CR, we require reporting on whether the funding is going to foreign sources and justification for why money went where it did. We are going to look at this report before we vote on whether to pay this money in a month or two to make sure the money is going to our American farmers who need it—not foreigners, not wealthy agribusinesses, not all slanted to one product like cotton when there are so many other needs.

This is a good victory for Democrats in a day of some victories for Democrats.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. President, there is another bright spot in election security. This morning, after months and months of Republican resistance and months of consistent Democratic pressure, Senate Republicans have finally agreed to support our Democratic request for additional election security funding in advance of the 2020 elections.

This is similar to an amendment Democrats offered during last year’s appropriations process to help States harden their election infrastructure to protect against Russian or Chinese or Iranian interference.

A year ago, our Republican friends, unfortunately and shortsightedly, rejected this amendment. Maybe, just maybe, Republicans are starting to come around to our view that election security is necessary; that if Americans don’t believe their elections are on the up and up, woe is us as a country and as a democracy.

It is not a happy day we requested and doesn’t include a single solitary reform that virtually everyone knows we need, but it is a start. Leader McCONNELL kept saying that we don’t need the money. I made it clear here, in this chair, and the Republican leader denied the need. But now, thank God, he has seen the light. We need more money for election security; ask election officials, Democrat or Republican, throughout the country. I hope today’s vote means Senate Republicans are beginning to see the light on election security.

While this funding is important, it is not the only thing we need to do to secure our elections from Russian, Chinese, Iranian or any other foreign interference. There are multiple bipartisan pieces of legislation awaiting action on the floor that would counter foreign influence operations against our democracy, safeguard our elections, and deter foreign adversaries from even attempting to interfere.

We have been warned time and again by our national security leaders—nearly all of them Republicans appointed by President Trump—that China and, for example, Russia are potential threats to our country’s interference. There are multiple bipartisan pieces of legislation awaiting action on the floor that would counter foreign influence operations against our democracy, safeguard our elections, and deter foreign adversaries from even attempting to interfere.

We have been warned time and again by our national security leaders—nearly all of them Republicans appointed by President Trump—that China and, for example, Russia are potential threats in 2020. We cannot sit on our hands while our adversaries try to replicate and outdo what Putin accomplished in 2016.

Leader McCONNELL should bring the bipartisan bills. We are getting the money in approps, but we need more legislation to refine where the dollars are.

Leader McCONNELL, now that you have seen the light on the money, go further still with the bipartisan bills—the Defending America Security Act from the Judiciary Committee, the Secure Elections Act, and the DETER Act—to the floor for a debate and a vote. Otherwise, the job will remain incomplete and our democracy vulnerable.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. President, finally on guns, yesterday, according to reports, Attorney General Barr came to Capitol Hill to discuss a one-page proposal on gun legislation that he had put together. It became clear soon after that the White House, seemingly out of fear of reprisal by the NRA, was unwilling to embrace its own Attorney General’s proposal. Once again, the White House refused to take a stand on what they propose to do on the question of gun violence.

President Trump and Senate Republicans are trying to find a way to have their cake and eat it too—searching for a plan that the public will accept and won’t offend the NRA. It is a fool’s errand.

Leader McCONNELL, President Trump, you can’t please the NRA and at the same time do good gun legislation that will save lives. You cannot please the NRA unless you do something that is either repressive or, at the very least, toothless. Get it through your heads. That is how it is.

If you want to do anything real on gun legislation and save lives, you have to reject the NRA’s ministrations. The NRA is wildly out of step with the views of the American public. Its policies are reactionary; its leadership, reactionary.

Look no further than the universal background check bill. Ninety-three percent of Americans, the great majority of gun owners, and 80 percent of Republicans support the idea. But not the NRA. As for yesterday’s plan floated by the Republican Attorney General, a plan that would only modestly expand background checks, representatives of the NRA called it a nonstarter.

The views of the NRA and the views of the American public are fundamentally incompatible. President Trump, Leader McCONNELL, Senate Republicans, which side are you on? Are you with the NRA or are you with the American people?

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. CORNYN. Mr. President, today Speaker PELOSI unveiled the House’s plan to try to lower out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs. This, of course, has been a priority for many of us in Washington, including the President.

We have been working on it really hard here in the Senate. Actually, three standing committees of the Senate have now reported out legislation dealing with this issue: the Judiciary Committee, the Finance Committee, and the HELP Committee, or the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. All are working together to try to come with up bipartisan packages to lower prescription drug costs.

These bills, of course, include ideas from Republicans and Democrats.

Mr. President, apparently, we have some technical difficulties here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I can hear you better now.

Mr. CORNYN. It sounds like we have fixed that. Thank you.

I am saying, while these bills include ideas from both Republicans and Democrats, it shouldn’t surprise people that in an area as complex as this, there are going to be some disagreements along the way. But what is important here: We work through those disagreements and try to build consensus.

While I know that it is only a bipartisan bill that has any chance at all to
make its way to the President's desk for his signature. Speaker Pelosi appears to have a different approach. House Democrats want to replace our free-market healthcare system with the heavy-handed government approach that puts politics and a path to single-payer medicine. They want to allow the government to set prices and put bureaucrats at the center of our healthcare system, instead of patients.

The Speaker's plan is just the latest example of partisan tracing document masquerading as legislation, and it has absolutely no chance—zero, zip, nada—of passing the Senate or becoming law.

In contrast, the ideas we have been working on would lower out-of-pocket costs by increasing competition and transparency, while stopping the bad actors who try to game the system. Unlike the House, we have been considering bills that have broad bipartisan support, as I said, which means they have the potential to actually become law, to get something done.

Speaker Pelosi should take note that we in the Senate have done the hard work of finding consensus with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Unlike the House of Representatives to stop wasting time and, instead, start working in a bipartisan fashion and work on legislation that can actually become law. Only then will the American people see the benefit of the hard work of finding consensus with answers and we can take these assailants, which, characteristically, don't just do it one time—they do it multiple times until they are ultimately caught—off the street.

As I said, while the primary goal of the legislation was to reduce the rape kit backlog, under the Debbie Smith Act, this has provided an abundance of DNA evidence that has been used to solve other numerous crimes. That is their mission. If it stopped, it is uploaded in the FBI's DNA database, called CODIS. Similar to the fingerprint databases, this DNA database can help to identify and convict people who commit any type of crime that is under investigation.

For example, if a criminal commits a burglary in one State, DNA from that burglary case can later be used to connect this criminal to an unsolved rape case in other States. It is that powerful.

According to the National Institute of Justice, 42 percent of the hits in the FBI's DNA database system are the direct result of Debbie Smith Act funding—42 percent.

Last month, I visited a living community in Grapevine, TX, called The Gatehouse. This is a place where women and children who have been victimized by domestic violence find the care and resources they need to restart their lives. I spoke with survivors of sexual assault, advocates, and law enforcement about the impact of the Debbie Smith Act and the need to reauthorize this critical program before it expires at the end of the month.

Here is the thing that completely confounds me. The Debbie Smith Act is not partisan. It is not even controversial. It is not divisive. The last time we voted on it, not a single Senator voted no. So there is no reason for the House to stall on this critical legislation. If the House does not act by the end of the month, it will expire.

Once again, I urge Speaker Pelosi to allow this bill to go to the floor of the House without further delay. It would be simply shameful to allow this program to expire, especially when she has a bipartisan bill in her hand and all she has to do is allow it to go to the floor of the House for a vote.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.
Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, in February of this year, the House of Representatives passed what is known as the universal background check in regard to gun sales. Since that time, the Senate has had no action whatsoever on this very important issue. Senator McConnell could bring this bill to the floor, and I am confident we have the support to pass it.

I do hear from many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that we are waiting for the President, and unless the President signs off on a bill, they are not interested in bringing it up. The last time I checked the Constitution of the United States, the first 10 amendments, it is the President of the United States. It is up to us to deliver and consider legislation that restricts the private ownership of assault-style weapons. The Brady presale check determines whether you fall into those categories, and they will deny you the right to buy a handgun if you do.

Since the original 1993 law, 3 million sales have been stopped. It works. It is compliant with the Supreme Court, and it does not interfere with the right of the people to keep and bear arms. The Second Amendment rights. It was passed in 1993. It is now 2019. Sellers of handguns have figured out a way to get around the 1993 law with private sales, gun shows, and internet sales. We didn’t have internet gun sales in 1993. We need to close those loopholes.

Here is the situation. Some States have developed legislative strategies that have done it, we see that the results are favorable. There is less gun violence in those States that have passed universal background checks. However, let me just tell you about the State of Maryland. The SB282 bill that I referenced, recovered from crime scenes in Maryland, 53 percent are guns that were acquired in a State outside of Maryland. We need universal background checks in order to provide the types of results that can keep our communities safe.

We have bipartisan legislation that passed the House of Representatives passed in 1993. It is now 2019. It is the duty of the Senate to act. It is a long waiting period for the American people. Let us not wait for the President, and let us not wait for the Republican leader to bring this issue to the floor today before another 100 people die. Let us pass this legislative—legislation that restricts the private ownership of assault-style weapons. There has been no action, though, on the floor of the Senate. The Republican leader will not bring up any issues on gun safety.

I could add legislation with regard to the large-capacity magazines. We see in the American people, they are used to this because you can shoot off multiple rounds without reloading. Again, as we have seen in mass shooting circumstances, it has added to the number of deaths. It is not inconveniencing the public to restrict that capacity from being out there, which is known to cause harm by those who want to create a situation of mass casualties. Again, there has been no action on the floor of the Senate by the Republican leader, but there has been no action here on the floor of the Senate.

I urge all of my colleagues to impress upon the Republican leader that it is well past time for us to consider gun safety legislation. Let us bring these bills to the floor. Let us not wait for the President of the United States. We are the legislative branch of government. Let us act and do the right thing to keep our communities and our homes safer.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, let me join the Senator from Maryland in expressing my frustration. Many of us worked long and hard to be elected to the U.S. Senate, not just to represent our States but to respond to the challenges that face the United States. The challenge of gun safety faces everyone. Thank you to the Senator from Maryland for making that point on the floor of the Senate.

Many people come to the Senate Galleries, sit in the chairs, and wait for the Senate to act. It is a long waiting game because, unfortunately, the Senate does little or nothing under the
leadership of Senator McConnell. I don’t know why this Senator has not accepted the fact that the U.S. Senate has an important role to play. We speak for people not only in Illinois and in Maryland but for those across the United States, and they are very concerned.

In the recent trip home over the recess, I visited some of the areas around Chicago and in the city, and there were many conversations about the gun violence that has been punctuated by the horrible events in El Paso and Odessa, TX, and in other communities that have been affected by these mass killings. We have become numb. I am afraid, to the reality of gun violence in America. We have decided, I am afraid, that the Second Amendment to the Constitution is somehow holding us back—binding us and restraining us—from doing the most basic things. Over 20,000 people in the city of Chicago, by a factor of over 90 percent—Democrats and Republicans—believe that we should have background checks. We believe that the people who have been convicted of violent felonies shouldn’t own guns—period. We believe, as well, that when it comes to those who have serious mental instability, they should also be precluded from gun ownership. The laws do not allow us to adequately ask the question or to test whether the buyer has been convicted of a felony or has such a background.

In the city of Chicago, hardly a weekend goes by without there being dozens shot and killed or more losing their lives. Most of them are young people, but not exclusively. Older people, as well, are caught in the crossfire.

People say: Well, I thought Chicago had these tough gun laws. What is going on there? Why do you have so many gun deaths?

The answer is obvious for those of us who spend time in that great city. We are about 20 minutes away from northwestern Indiana, where from those gun shows that are held there, where people don’t ask questions when they sell firearms. All you need to do is to have the license to do it and have the firearms. We removed 2,880 children from homes that are about 20 minutes away from northwestern Indiana and from the gun shows—going on there? Why do you have so many young people being affected by these mass killings? The President said to me in a conversation several weeks ago that we are going to have a background check bill and that it will be the best in the history of the world. Well, I was skeptical when he said it. I am even more skeptical today. I knew what would happen. When the President had a choice between the public interest of gun safety and the special interest of the National Rifle Association, the National Rifle Association prevailed.

This President refuses to come forward with any proposal, and Senator McConnell leaves his hands tied and cannot bring this issue to the floor of the Senate. He cannot run the risk that his Members would have to be on the record as having taken a vote, as they were elected to do, on an issue of this importance.

Madam President, this is not the only issue that we are ignoring—the only issue that is, frankly, not even being considered on the floor of the Senate. There is another one that is equally important to most people across this country, and that is dealing with the challenge of immigration.

A few years ago, a bipartisan group of Senators—eight of us—I, Senator McCain, Senator Schumer, and others—sat down and wrote a comprehensive immigration reform bill. It was months of Republicans and Democrats sitting down, face-to-face, night after night, going through every section of our immigration code to come up with a comprehensive bill to deal with the obvious shortcomings, but we did it. We brought it to the floor of the Senate and it received 68 votes. There were 14 Republicans who joined the Democrats to pass this comprehensive immigration reform. We sent it to the White House, the Republican House of Representatives, and Speaker Boehner refused to even consider it. So all of our effort and all of our work was really for nothing.

We continue to face the challenges of immigration. We know what it is like at the border. Under this President, we have seen the worst border situation in modern times. His refusal to acknowledge the three Central American countries that are sending all of these immigrants to the United States has led to some horrible circumstances.

Recently, the Inspector general of Health and Human Services came forward with a report on the Trump administration’s failure to address the border crisis. It was a report on the policy of zero tolerance. I am sure you will remember it. It was under Attorney General Sessions, and he somehow found a quotation in the Bible to justify forcibly removing children from their parents. We removed 2,880 children from their parents at the border under this zero tolerance policy before there was an uprising in the United States against it and before the President backed off of it.

I can say that the Inspector general’s report on what happened to those children—to every American. I saw it firsthand. I witnessed these children as they were being removed from the parents and the trauma they went through as a result.

So why aren’t we debating the immigration policy on the floor of the U.S. Senate? I am told that perhaps, later today, the junior Senator from Utah—Senator from Utah—will come forward with a unanimous consent request to consider fixing one part of the immigration problem. I want to fix that problem and many more.

THE DREAM ACT

Madam President, I want to make sure that when we are on the floor to discuss immigration, as we should, that we take up the issue of the DREAM Act.

The DREAM Act was a bill that I introduced in the Senate 18 years ago. It states, if you were brought to the United States as a child and are undocumented in this country but you have gone through school and have had no criminal record of any serious consequence, you deserve a chance to be able to earn your way to legal status and citizenship. I introduced this bill 18 years ago. It passed in the Senate in 1 year and passed in the House in another, but it has never come up with the 60 votes—the supermajority requirement—in the Senate.

President Obama was a cosponsor when he was in the Senate, and when he had the White House under his control, I asked him to consider an Executive order to achieve the same goal, and he did. He created a program called DACA. There were 789,000 young people across America who paid the filing fee, who went through the criminal background checks, and who then received the protection to stay in this country and work legally.

Of course, in September of 2017, President Trump abolished this program. It took away the protection these young people had. He was challenged in court, and the court said we are going to continue this program until it is resolved at the highest levels of Federal judiciary. I wonder whether President Trump has this authority.

On November 12, across the street, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider that case—790,000 lives and more, for that matter, hang in the balance of how the Justices will make this decision on their future.

This should be debated on the floor of the Senate. It is why we are here. It is why we were elected. I think we can find bipartisan answers to many of these questions, but we need the Senate majority leader, the Senior Republican leader, to really accept the reality of the Senate actually going to work. Instead of speeches by individual Senators on the floor, as impressive as they may be, we might actually pass a law to fix this bill coming to the floor, to subject to amendments and actual debate in the Senate Chamber. We would fill the Galleries. It is such a novelty. It doesn’t happen anymore.
Unfortunately for America, many issues, whether it is gun safety or sensible immigration policy, are the victims of our inaction in the U.S. Senate. We can do better, and we should. Ultimately, the American people have the last word on whether this Senate will act on issues like gun safety and immigration. The last word is your vote. In the next election, I hope more and more Americans will vote for a Senate that responds to the challenges of our day and doesn’t avoid our responsibility under the Constitution.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, for the information of all of our colleagues, the next vote will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, cloture on the McGuire nomination.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 176.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 367.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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 SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu.


LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 292.

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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

The motion was agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.


Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I send unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls be waived.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1044

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1044 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

I ask unanimous consent that the Lee amendment, No. 939, be agreed to, that the bill as amended be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motions to reconsider be considered laid and upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PERDUE. Madam President, I want to commend my good friend from the great State of Utah, Senator Mike Lee, for his work on putting this bill together and pulling the people together to support this bill. We have some language that needs to be clarified, and I still have some concerns about the impact this legislation would have on
some specific industries in not only my State but in the country. I want to work with Senator LEE in addressing these concerns and come to a resolution on this very quickly. I commit to working with him and his team to make sure we get to a resolution because we want the exact same thing, and this is totally consistent with what President Trump is trying to do in his long-term work to fix our broken immigration system.

With that, I object. Mr. PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Secretary from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I want to recognize my appreciation for the Senator from Georgia, who has expressed a good-faith, earnest desire to work with me on this legislation. I want very badly to get this passed. It needs to pass. I want to talk for a few minutes about the reasons this legislation needs to pass.

I believe this legislation, as amended, as I proposed to be enacted today with Lee amendment No. 939, is itself ready to be passed into law. In my opinion, there is no justifiable cause for delay. We will continue to work on it. I wish we could pass it today. It should be passed today because it is ready.

The bill we are talking about, of course, is the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act. This is an important, bipartisan piece of legislation, one that I have been proud to support along with Senator HARRIS, who has been my Democratic partner on this issue.

The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been a priority of mine for many years, nearly the entire time I have been in the Senate. During that time, it has been the subject of strong debate and a lot of scrutiny on the Hill. Like most bills, its path to becoming law has not always been straight or clear and certainly not clear of obstacles. But with the passage of the companion bill in the House of Representatives by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 365 to 65, I believe that now is the moment we can finally move forward with this small but critically important fix to our immigration system. We could do that. We would be in a position to do that today had an objection not been raised.

Notwithstanding that objection, I am going to continue to work in the coming days, both proudly because this is a reform whose time has come, and I would like to take a moment to explain why it deserves support from my colleagues.

Again, we have to take into account that this passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 365 to 65. It is not easy to find something that can garner that much bipartisan support.

Wrangling over the nuts and bolts and fine-print details of the policy, as extremely as important as that is, can at times seem to lose sight of the basic foundational principles that should shape any law or any set of laws we put on the books.

Among other things, our laws should be consistent with our Nation’s deeply held beliefs and values. A system of laws should also be clear and coherent, meaning that it should not only give adequate notice of what is required in order for a person to comply with the law, but also something that is capable of being complied with. Finally, the means employed by any law should be consistent with the objectives that law seeks to accomplish. These are not partisan principles. They are basic and non-negotiable guideposts that should direct the actions of anyone entrusted with crafting a legal system, as we certainly are in this Chamber.

Unfortunately, the laws we pass don’t always live up to the standards of fair and effective and consistent law-making. One of the starkest examples of our failure to abide by these same principles involves the way we allocate employment-based green cards. Under the ideal, to whom we are as Americans than the notion that people should be judged and treated by their government based on their own merits as individuals—as individuals with inherent God-given rights—and not by skin of their flesh of or the country in which they were born.

Our Founders wrote: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.” Those words are as true today as they were when they were written some 243 years ago. Our laws should reflect this. They should reflect the enduring truth found in those words, which I believe were inspired at the time they were written at the time they were written at the time they were written at the time they were written.

The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been a priority of mine for many years, nearly the entire time I have been in the Senate. During that time, it has been the subject of strong debate and a lot of scrutiny on the Hill. Like most bills, its path to becoming law has not always been straight or clear and certainly not clear of obstacles. But with the passage of the companion bill in the House of Representatives by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 365 to 65, I believe that now is the moment we can finally move forward with this small but critically important fix to our immigration system. We could do that. We would be in a position to do that today had an objection not been raised.

Notwithstanding that objection, I am going to continue to work in the coming days, both proudly because this is a reform whose time has come, and I would like to take a moment to explain why it deserves support from my colleagues.

Again, we have to take into account that this passed the House of Representatives with a vote of 365 to 65. It is not easy to find something that can garner that much bipartisan support.

Wrangling over the nuts and bolts and fine-print details of the policy, as extremely as important as that is, can at times seem to lose sight of the basic foundational principles that should shape any law or any set of laws we put on the books.
which there are sadly far too many—the child was brought here at a very young age and may have no memory of the country to which they would be forced to return. It bears repeating. This is happening not because those individuals broke the law—they haven’t done anything wrong—and it is not because they don’t satisfy the merit-based eligibility criteria needed to receive an employment-based green card. I understand that immigration laws have consequences, and we have to follow the law, but it doesn’t stem from any violation of the law or any lack of eligibility stemming from any factor other than country of origin. It happens for no reason other than the country in which they happen to have been born.

If that made sense, if there were some sound principle and public policy that anyone could point to, then perhaps we wouldn’t have occasion to be talking about changing this law. Perhaps we have gotten some Democrats and Republicans joining together in the House of Representatives voting to pass this. The fact is, I have yet to meet anyone in this body or in the House of Representatives who can defend this flawed policy on its merits. I have yet to meet anyone in this body or in the House of Representatives who can defend this flawed policy on its merits because it makes no sense.

Finally, the per-country cap system is irredeemably flawed because, among its other problems, it is also incompat-ible with the goals that our employment-based visa system is meant to advance in the first place. The employment-based visa system is supposed to enable American businesses to bring the best and the brightest to this country. Yet, under the per-country caps, a factor that has nothing to do with a person’s skills or merit distorts and in many cases ultimately determines the recruitment process. This weakens the merit-based portion of our immigration system. Indeed, it is directly at war with the supposed purpose of our employment-based green card system.

Despite its obvious deficiencies, the per-country caps have been part of our immigration laws since the 1950s. This is something that came into our law during the Elvis Presley era, during the Buddy Holly era—not exactly something that was intended to remain on the books very long. Regardless of what they intended at the time as far as how long it should last, I don’t believe they intended for us to legiti-mately mean to put it into law then. Whatever rea-sons they had then certainly don’t apply now. They are not even discern-ible to anyone I know today.

It is long past time that we replace that flawed policy with a more rational and equitable approach. Fortunately, the solution to these problems is not only straightforward, but it is agreed upon by a broad bipartisan coalition of Senators and Representatives. We must simply eliminate the per-country caps in order to make a fair and reasonable allocation of employment-based green cards. That is exactly what the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act would accomplish. Without the per-country caps, our skills-based green card system would operate on a first come, first served basis, ensuring that immigrants would be admitted into the United States based purely on their merit rather than their country of origin.

This reform would also ensure that the hardships caused by decades-long wait times are eliminated. As I have said in the past, there is no question that immigration is one of not the most politically fraught issues in Congress right now. It makes it all the more important for us, at least, to come together to get something done in the areas where we can find common ground. The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act is an important point of common ground.

Any immigration bill that has 35 Senate cosponsors—20 Republicans and 15 Democrats, as this bill does—presents a unique opportunity to secure a cohesive legislative package. The reason this bill commands such widespread support from all points along the political spectrum is because, as I have explained, the arguments in its favor are not your typical partisan or ideological arguments. They are commonsense arguments about the way any rational legal system should work in that it makes clear that the per-country caps system must go.

That is what is needed to make our immigration system consistent with our principles, consistent with other laws on the books, and consistent with the merits-based objectives this component of our immigration system is meant to promote.

The other reason the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been so successful in attracting support from both sides of the aisle is because we have scrupulously avoided the typic-al poison pills that so often doom immigration reform. This bill is not comprehensive in its approach. It is not a comprehensive immigration reform package. It is not even close to that. That is, in fact, why this bill is something we can actually get done now. That is why this bill is so close to being passed. It is why this bill really should pass into law today.

While it does not fix many of the other flaws that plague our broken im-migration system, and a vitally important start to reform. If we are ever to have a chance at modernizing and repairing our immigration laws, we need to recognize that we cannot necessarily solve all of our problems at once. The fact that this is the case shouldn’t stand in the way of us starting to work on the issues the American people sent us here to solve. We cannot allow the perfect to be the enemy of the excellent. That is why I have come to seek unanimous consent to pass this legislation today.

Look, I understand it has drawn an objection, but it has drawn an objection in a way that drew an objection a few weeks ago from another Member. We have been able to work through that Member’s concerns. I am hopeful, I am optimistic that my colleague who raised an objection today can be persuaded that this bill needs to be passed, we can address his concerns, and that we can resolve them.

I will be working with my distinguished friend and colleague from Georgia throughout this weekend to try to find a solution, some explana-tion, or, if necessary, language that might support. We are very close on what we believe is appropriate and acceptable.

I remain steadfastly convinced that this law, as written, as amended, as of-fered up by unanimous consent today could and should be the law of the land. I believe it is ready for prime time. It is ready to become law, but when seek-ing unanimity on a measure in order to pass it, one must do everything one can do in order to seek actual unanimity. Mr. President, perhaps we wouldn’t have gotten 365 votes, perhaps we wouldn’t have occasion to be talking about this in the coming days. I intend to be back next week, making yet another attempt to pass this bill into law, and I hope and expect we will be able to do so.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, thank you. I appreciate your comment, “The Senator for Alabama.” That is exactly how I like to be recognized, so thank you very much.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 2486

Mr. President, I rise today to appeal to my colleagues to support the re-newal of vital funding for historically Black colleges and universities and all minority-serving institutions.

I have risen in this body on more than one occasion to talk about the importance of HBCUs and minority-serving institutions. Alabama is home to 14 HBCUs—more than any other State in the country. They are an integral part of the fabric of our society. They are the pride of their communities. They are the pride of those folks who went there and had relatives who went there and even those individuals who are not alumni or relatives of alums.

Our HBCUs are a source of enduring pride in our State and across this country. They serve an incredibly import-ant function. They educate those from underserved communities more than any other college or university. It is important that we continue funding them because their challenges with funding are great. They do not have the endowments that other colleges and universities have. They don’t have the source of funding. It is only through our efforts in Congress and across the country that we can continue the great work of these HBCUs.

Recently, the House passed what is known as the FUTURE Act, which is H.R. 2486. My colleague Senator SCOTT and I have a similar bill that has been introduced in the Senate because, at
As a legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2486, which is at the desk; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator for Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am reserving the right to object.

The Senator from Alabama is a valued member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. Ensuring that historically Black colleges and universities have continued funding is something we all want to do. However, instead of the short-term patch, I favor a long-term solution. I remain ready to do this, along with a few other bipartisan higher education proposals that also have bipartisan support. Such a package could include permanent mandatory funding of $255 million for historically Black colleges and universities, while we continue to focus on our efforts to pass the bipartisan FUTURE Act, which will give them time to work out a permanent fix for funding HBCUs, Tribal colleges, and minority-serving institutions through a comprehensive HEA reauthorization, which is what I have made clear is necessary.

I appreciate what the Senator from Tennessee said about moving forward with higher education reauthorization. I am hopeful we can continue to work on reaching a compromise, as we have done on other legislative issues. As I have said before, I believe any reauthorization of the Higher Education Act needs to have real answers to the challenges students are facing today on affordability and access and accountability and campus safety. I truly believe we have an opportunity to get a comprehensive bill that helps solve these challenges for our students.

I hope the Senator from Tennessee and our colleagues on the HELP Committee continue to focus on our efforts there. Meanwhile, I believe we should listen to the Senator from Alabama. We should pass the bipartisan FUTURE Act instead of playing politics with valuable and underresourced institutions.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, right now at this moment, thousands of UAW workers in Ohio—in places like the Chevrolet plant in Parma-Cleveland area, the transmission plant in Toledo, the plant in Defiance, OH, and all over the country—are going without their paychecks and without their health insurance to demand that General Motors respect the work they do to make their companies successful.

In a nutshell, workers are fed up. More and more of them are beginning to see that unions are the best way to make their voices heard. For too long, General Motors hasn’t listened. Autoworkers are the engine behind GM’s success. GM wouldn’t be making a dime in profit without the workers who actually make their cars and trucks.

Back up for a moment. Think about what’s happened to GM. The Presiding Officer has autoworkers in the State of Indiana, as I do in Ohio. Back up 10 years, when General Motors and Chrysler went into bankruptcy. The taxpayers and workers—through bipartisan legislation—rescued both companies. For 10 years, GM has gotten more and more profitable. Workers were working hard, but workers were making significantly less money during those 10 years. Then you saw these companies’ profits increase. GM started sending more jobs to Mexico to build the Chevy Blazer, for instance. The same day, they announced the layoff of one shift in Lordstown. Then there were the stock buybacks from the Trump tax cuts, where 80 percent of the tax benefits went to the richest 3 percent of people in this country. The stock buybacks with the GM executives meant tens of millions of dollars more in their pocket. Yet they continue to squeeze workers. Now workers are simply working the richest 3 percent, paid back for the givebacks we did when we, as taxpayers and workers, rescued that company.

Rather than invest in American workers, the company shut down its most productive plants in North America and laid off hundreds of workers—4,500 workers, actually—in Lordstown, OH, while announcing they are going to build a place in Mexico. They could retool the Lordstown plant. They could build the Blazer in Ohio, but instead they throw workers out of a job, and they pay workers way less to make cars in Mexico.

Now GM workers are saying: Enough. I stand with them. They are standing up fighting for investments in their local communities. We know that Lordstown plant would re-open with the Blazer or with an electric vehicle—a couple of electric vehicles or whatever they put there—we know what that would mean for those Lordstown families, those GM families. We know what it would mean to that community.

I spoke yesterday with Dave Green, the former President of GM Local 1112. He is now working in another GM plant in the Presiding Officer’s home State. He is away from his family. He is away from home. He didn’t choose that. Dozens of workers are in that situation all because GM wanted to move its production offshore. Those workers are saying: Enough.

In Lordstown, the workers whose jobs GM took are picketing in solidarity with other UAW workers at the empty plant. Reporters asked them why, and they answered: Brotherhood—father and sister support. We want to transfer to other plants in Michigan, Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana are coming back to join them. That is what
September 19, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S5595

labor movement is all about: brotherhood, sisterhood, solidarity. It is about the recognition that workers should have a voice and should have a share in the profits they create for their companies. GM made more than $10 billion in North America in 2018. That is $10,000 million. It is the UAW workers who made that money for the company. What did GM do? They shut down plants.

Now they have thrown striking workers off their health insurance. We heard from one worker in Local 14 in Toledo who said his 4-year-old daughter, Chesney, had a doctor's appointment scheduled next week to check on the tubes in her ears that help her hear. But GM canceled that family's insurance so they had to cancel the appointment. That is what has happened. It is despicable.

GM needs to agree to a contract that honors the dignity of work—a contract that recognizes autoworkers, communities, and families who help drive the success of the auto industry in Ohio and across the country.

Again, 10 years ago, taxpayers rescued GM from bankruptcy. Workers agreed to major givebacks to that company, taking much less money in order to save the company. GM profits have soared. GM executive compensations have exploded upward. GM owes that to our communities, and GM owes that to its workers.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BRAUN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO ALAINA VIK

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is that time of the week—the end of the week in the Senate—when I come to the floor and recognize someone special in the great State of Alaska, someone who is doing something important for their community, for the State, for the country. It is the highlight of my week, and I know it is for our pages.

We have some new pages here. It is commonly recognized as the favorite speech of the week for the pages because they get to hear stories about real people, particularly people in Alaska.

You will hear a lot of these speeches as you are here working hard in the Senate.

We are glad the new pages are here. As you know, my State is certainly one of the most interesting, imagined States in the whole country. By the way, people watching in the Gallery—my friend Scott Lee is up there—watching on TV, come up to Alaska. You will love it. I guarantee you, it will be the trip of a lifetime. No one comes to Alaska and is disappointed.

I like to talk about Alaska on the Senate floor. People see a lot of what is going on in the State on the nature channels and the adventure channels. There is a story about Alaska on cable TV, it seems like, daily, almost hourly. Not nearly enough of these stories focus on the people who live there—independent, patriotic, generous men, women, and children, who call Alaska home.

Today, I want to recognize 13-year-old Alaina Vik, who lives in Eagle River, AK. That is a beautiful community, about 15 miles north of Anchorage.

Alaina is a young woman with a big heart. She lives with her mother, Amy, who owns her own real estate company, and her father, Curtis, who is an Alaska State trooper. He is someone I know well because he and I served together with the very outstanding Marine Corps Reserve unit based in Alaska, Echo Company, 4th Recon Battalion.

Trooper Vik, semper fi.

To you and Amy, great job on raising such an excellent daughter.

Why is she so exceptional? Let’s get into what Alaina has done for us. But, first, let me talk a little bit about what is going on in Alaska because I always like to update what is happening in the Senate.

I was home for the whole month of August—actually, almost 5 weeks. I did a week of my own on Marine Corps Reserve duty. It was great to be home. I got to travel all over the State. When I say “travel,” we’re talking hundreds, if not thousands, of miles, literally, between communities. There was a lot going on.

Unfortunately, as it happens, so many summers in Alaska, fires were taking their toll, but the weather was amazing, with beautiful blue skies. For the most part, the sun was out. It was perfect for fishing, hiking, and camping—all things that so many people in Alaska come to visit and live here do in the summer.

Now we are heading into the fall. Leaves are starting to turn. It is moose hunting season. The snow isn’t far away for most of the State. In some parts of the State, it is actually already on the ground.

Some might say that winter is coming, but I think it is too soon. I will let you know when that happens.

School has started, and Alaina Vik has entered all her grades. Her favorite subject is art. Like so many Alaskans, she has been busy. What has she been busy doing? Why are we honoring this young Alaskan who is doing a lot for our State?

First, as a Girl Scout in Troop 690, under the amazing leadership of the troop leader, Mrs. Melissa Jones, Alaina sold more cookies than any other Girl Scout in the entire State of Alaska—more than 5,000 boxes. That is amazing; that is just one more bit of proof of that.

To you and Amy, great job on raising such a high-achieving family this is—5,000 boxes.

She wanted to make sure he felt remembered and honored. They’re fighting for us. They’re protecting us. They deserve to be appreciated and remembered and honored.

This is a 13-year-old girl. Remember, she is also the daughter of a recon marine.

With the help of her mother, Amy, and her father, Curtis, and her two younger brothers, she expanded her effort into what is now called Operation Sweet Support. You could find that on Facebook. In addition to just cookies, she is also sending snacks, pencils, duct tape, and toys. Who doesn’t need a toy or duct tape when they are deployed? You can use it for everything.

When the news got out about this project, she started to receive donations from all over the community in Eagle River and all over Alaska. So far this year, through this project, she has sent out over 98 care packages to Alaskan troops who are deployed overseas, particularly in Kosovo and Kuwait. She is aiming to send out 75 more by the end of the year—one 13-year-old girl in the great State of Alaska.

She puts a personalized handwritten note into each of the boxes thanking them. "This is my way of saying thank you," one of her notes reads.

Here is another one:

You are amazing and appreciated and loved. Thank you for your service.
That is another note from Alaina to our service men and women deployed overseas.

She gets notes back, of course. One wrote:

Thank you for everything you’ve done for us. Please keep supporting the troops [and sending cookies].

Our military members love cookies. They say it makes a big difference.

Someone also sent her an American flag that was flown overseas in appreciation of the cookies, as well as a unit coin, a military coin, sent to Alaina by our appreciative troops. “It was amazing,” she said, when she got this.

As someone who has been deployed myself, away from family and friends, I know what it means to get such care packages. It means the world. It means that people back home are remembering what you are doing.

Alaina, thank you for your great work supporting our troops, for the example you are setting for all the young men and women, not just in Alaska but America.

Amy and Curtis, thanks for raising such a wonderful daughter.

Ali, keep up the great work. Congratulations, once again, on being our Alaskan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

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

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

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution that would recognize September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In the United States, more than 15,000 kids are diagnosed with cancer every single year, and more than 300,000 children are diagnosed globally.

On average, more than 75 children in West Virginia alone are diagnosed with cancer every year, which has been a steady increase over the last 10 years. We have made a lot of progress over the last few decades in research for prevention and care, but there is more we can do.

I am proud to say that this is a bipartisan resolution, and I have teamed up with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD INGOLD

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, I rise to recognize the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, as our honor to pay tribute to a great leader, an exceptional officer, and a senior executive of the U.S. Army, Mr. Bernard P. Ingold. Mr. Ingold is the principle deputy chief of legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and as he prepares to leave this position for a well-deserved retirement, we commend him for his outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

Bernie Ingold has served our Army and our Nation for more than 40 years as an Army officer and a Department of the Army civilian. A native of Michigan, Mr. Ingold was commissioned in 1979 as a judge advocate general officer upon earning a degree in law from the University of Arkansas. His service to the Nation included roles as a deputy staff judge advocate for U.S. Army Berlin, as a legislative counsel for the office of the chief of Federal, State, and local governments, along with nonprofit organizations, to create and host programs and activities that focus on increasing public knowledge on the risks of cancer.

Finally, this resolution recognizes the human toll of cancer and makes a pledge that the United States of America will make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

I am proud to introduce this resolution.

And, Nick, thank you again. Ali, thank you, and thanks to all of those who are so brave and the families who support them and help raise awareness for childhood cancer.

I urge all of my colleagues—all of my colleagues—to join me in supporting this resolution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be 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.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be 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.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, I rise to recognize the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, as our honor to pay tribute to a great leader, an exceptional officer, and a senior executive of the U.S. Army, Mr. Bernard P. Ingold. Mr. Ingold is the principle deputy chief of legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and as he prepares to leave this position for a well-deserved retirement, we commend him for his outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

Bernie Ingold has served our Army and our Nation for more than 40 years as an Army officer and a Department of the Army civilian. A native of Michigan, Mr. Ingold was commissioned in 1979 as a judge advocate general officer upon earning a degree in law from the University of Arkansas. His service to the Nation included roles as a deputy staff judge advocate for U.S. Army Berlin, as a legislative counsel for the office of the chief of Federal, State, and local governments, along with nonprofit organizations, to create and host programs and activities that focus on increasing public knowledge on the risks of cancer.

Finally, this resolution recognizes the human toll of cancer and makes a pledge that the United States of America will make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

I am proud to introduce this resolution.

And, Nick, thank you again. Ali, thank you, and thanks to all of those who are so brave and the families who support them and help raise awareness for childhood cancer.

I urge all of my colleagues—all of my colleagues—to join me in supporting this resolution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, I rise to recognize the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, as our honor to pay tribute to a great leader, an exceptional officer, and a senior executive of the U.S. Army, Mr. Bernard P. Ingold. Mr. Ingold is the principle deputy chief of legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and as he prepares to leave this position for a well-deserved retirement, we commend him for his outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

Bernie Ingold has served our Army and our Nation for more than 40 years as an Army officer and a Department of the Army civilian. A native of Michigan, Mr. Ingold was commissioned in 1979 as a judge advocate general officer upon earning a degree in law from the University of Arkansas. His service to the Nation included roles as a deputy staff judge advocate for U.S. Army Berlin, as a legislative counsel for the office of the chief of Federal, State, and local governments, along with nonprofit organizations, to create and host programs and activities that focus on increasing public knowledge on the risks of cancer.

Finally, this resolution recognizes the human toll of cancer and makes a pledge that the United States of America will make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

I am proud to introduce this resolution.

And, Nick, thank you again. Ali, thank you, and thanks to all of those who are so brave and the families who support them and help raise awareness for childhood cancer.

I urge all of my colleagues—all of my colleagues—to join me in supporting this resolution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, I rise to recognize the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, as our honor to pay tribute to a great leader, an exceptional officer, and a senior executive of the U.S. Army, Mr. Bernard P. Ingold. Mr. Ingold is the principle deputy chief of legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army, and as he prepares to leave this position for a well-deserved retirement, we commend him for his outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army, Congress, and this Nation.

Bernie Ingold has served our Army and our Nation for more than 40 years as an Army officer and a Department of the Army civilian. A native of Michigan, Mr. Ingold was commissioned in 1979 as a judge advocate general officer upon earning a degree in law from the University of Arkansas. His service to the Nation included roles as a deputy staff judge advocate for U.S. Army Berlin, as a legislative counsel for the office of the chief of
legislative liaison, and as the deputy director for legal policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

After serving 20 years on Active Duty, Mr. Ingold retired and continued his service as a civilian in the Department of the Army. From 1996 to 2010, he served as the deputy chief legislative counsel for the Army’s office of the chief of legislative liaison. In 2010, he entered into the senior executive service and began his role as the principal deputy for the office of the chief of legislation until 2016. Mr. Ingold has helped the Army significantly advance its relationships with both legislative chambers in Congress and improved and broadened congressional support for Army priorities.

Mr. Ingold managed complex issues through multiple legislative cycles, enabling the Army to receive the necessary resources to improve readiness, and improve the quality of life for soldiers, Army civilians, and their families. Throughout his career, he has been a true professional, dedicated soldier, leader, officer, and senior executive.

On behalf of the Senate, we thank Bernard P. Ingold, his wife Lolita, and their entire family for their continued commitment to public service, and contributions to this great Nation. We join our colleagues in wishing him future success as he transitions into retirement.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE’S “PRIDE OF THE SOUTHLAND” MARCHING BAND

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of the University of Tennessee’s “Pride of the Southland” marching band and congratulate this esteemed band on 150 years of success.

The “Pride of the Southland” marching band was founded in 1869 by Gustavus Robert Knabe, from Germany. During the 150 years of the marching band, there have been 10 directors, including the current director, Dr. Donald Ryder, who was proceeded by both Dr. Gary Sousa and Dr. W.J. Julian. It was Dr. Julian who created the now famous “Circle Drill.”

Since the band was formed after the close of the Civil War, it had a military style with both uniforms and music. The marching band maintained a military look until 1951, when the then-band director, Walter M. Ryba, changed the look of the uniforms and created a new look on the field. When Dr. W.J. Julian became the director in 1961, the marching band was moved from the military department and placed in the music education curriculum. With this change, they received new uniforms consisting of navy blue trousers and jackets with an orange and white military-style vest overlay with braided shoulder straps and a white plume with an orange and white shako. This is the uniform currently still in use today.

Over the last 150 years, the marching band has grown dramatically from 13 members to over 450 members. With such a deep history, it is no surprise that several families have had multiple generations who have participated in the “Pride.” The “Pride of the Southland” marching band has been recognized internationally for their unique marching style and music, including the innovative “Circle Drill,” which has become a strong tradition each fall, and “Rocky Top,” which started as the band’s halftime show in October 1912, during the Vol annual football game versus Alabama.

In 1982, the marching band opened the World’s Fair in Knoxville and has performed in 15 Presidential inaugurations—a record by any civilian organization—with the first being President Dwight Eisenhower in 1953 and, most recently, President Donald Trump. The band has appeared in over 50 bowl games, including the Rose Bowl, Cotton Bowl, Orange Bowl, Citrus Bowl, Peach Bowl, Sun Bowl, Hall of Fame Bowl and the 1998 National Championship Fiesta Bowl. They have also performed on the field with stars such as Charlie Daniels Band, Kenny Rogers, Kenny Chesney, Lee Greenwood, Roy Acuff, the Osborne Brothers, and many others.

At home in Neyland Stadium, the “Pride of the Southland” band has impressed Vol fans with its pre-game show, which is considered one of the finest ever performed. The band created the “V-O-L-S” chant, the opening of the “Power T,” “USA,” and more.

I would like to recognize the “Pride of the Southland” marching band for its 150 years of rich history and commend the University of Tennessee and all band members, past and present, for the part they have played to make the program such a storied success. When I was 14, I sold programs at Neyland Stadium. There is nothing more exciting than watching a football game in Neyland Stadium, and if your seats are by the band, that is even better.

There are no other traditions in the University of Tennessee’s history that can surpass the astounding accomplishments and success that the “Pride of the Southland” marching band has in its 150 years of service to a great university.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKE MILLS

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Fire Marshal Rick Later of Beaverhead County for his 40 years of service protecting the folks of Dillon and Beaverhead County.

Later’s experience with firefighting began in 1974, when he joined the Dillon Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer. After decades of volunteer service, Later became fire marshal in 2003. In his new role, he was given the responsibility of not only managing the fire department in Dillon, but overseeing the safety of Montanans across Fire District No. 2.

The district stretches from Glen, to the south end of the reservoir, to Horse Prairie to Bannack. Spanning over 5,500 square miles, the county is roughly the size of the State of Connecticut.

As fire marshal, Later ran the fire hall diligently every day. He oversaw equipment maintenance and managed fire investigations and building inspections. He also worked closely with the Dillon City Council and developed a relationship with the Beaverhead County Planning Board and Zoning Commission.

Later’s service to his community and commitment to volunteering is exemplary of the Montana spirit. I commend him for 40 years of service, and I join the folks in Dillon and Beaverhead County in gratitude for his insight and leadership over the years.

TRIBUTE TO RICK LATER

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Brooke Mills of Concord as September’s Granite Stater of the Month for her work advocating for concussion awareness and prevention in New Hampshire and across the country.

In March of 2014, Brooke, then a freshman, suffered a severe concussion during a mandatory handball game in gym class. The ramifications of this concussion went beyond the physical bruising in her brain and affected everything from her social life to her academics.

Brooke suffered from memory loss and had to wear sunglasses indoors because the lighting in her school was too harsh, which led to teasing and bullying from her classmates. She also had to strictly limit the time she spent on her phone, which affected her ability to hang out with friends and use social media, a difficult situation for someone who just started high school.

However, instead of letting her concussion get the best of her, Brooke turned her injury into a platform for her to use her experiences and the lessons she learned from them to educate people about the dangers of concussions, while also providing reassurance for others who were going through similar trauma that they too could overcome the lasting impacts of a concussion.

Brooke started a blog called Finding My Way, where she writes about her concussion and how it impacts her day-to-day life in the hopes of helping others suffering from concussions feel less alone. She also launched an organization called Lessen the Impact, an organization dedicated to sharing her story and providing resources to help identify and prevent a concussion.
Additionally, Brooke is a peer-to-peer speaker for the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire, where she gives presentations at high schools and middle schools about how to identify a concussion and stresses the importance of being kind and understanding to those who suffer from this invisible injury.

As a result of Brooke’s advocacy, as Governor of New Hampshire, I declared the third Friday in September as Concussion Awareness Day in New Hampshire. This week, with a bipartisan group of my colleagues, I introduced a resolution in the U.S. Senate to recognize this day nationally.

Concussion Awareness Day is also recognized by other States, as well as by the National Brain Injury Association. There is also a companion resolution recognizing this day that has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I want to thank Brooke for all that she has done and continues to do to turn a challenging experience into an opportunity to educate and bring awareness to Granite Staters and Americans about the dangers of concussions. She has truly demonstrated the grit, resiliency, and empathy that reflects the best of our State.

TRIBUTE TO DAN OHNESORGE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize Mr. Dan “Ohno” Ohnesorge on the occasion of his retirement. In his 11 years as the Enid Woodring airport director, Dan has been a fixture in the Oklahoma aviation community, having served as president of the Oklahoma Airport Operators Association for the 2012-13 term. In recognition of his passionate service to the Woodring Airport, Dan was awarded the Oklahoma Airport Manager of the Year in 2016, the same year that the Enid Woodring Regional Airport was recognized as the Oklahoma Airport of the Year by the Oklahoma Airport Operators Association.

Dan has been a passionate advocate for aviation since 1975. After graduating from Florida State University with a BS in meteorology, he earned a masters of aeronautics science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In his time in the U.S. Air Force, he flew F-16s with the 367th Fighter Squadron, and his dedication to serving the country has continued to the present.

In his time as president of the Oklahoma Air Force Association, Dan has worked tirelessly to ensure the men and women training to become pilots at Vance Air Force Base are able to augment their training by using the runway at Woodring Airport. He is a testament to his vision for this memorial that Oklahomans from across the State regularly visit this memorial.

Under his leadership, Enid Woodring Regional Airport expanded the main runway which enhanced the safety and capability of Vance Air Force Base’s pilot training program and built a new terminal building which will more efficiently serve the general aviation and military pilots and other users of the growing airport.

I am thankful that I have gotten to know Dan through his passion for aviation and his commitment to the men and women who serve in our Nation’s Armed Forces. I know that I join his family, the Enid Woodring Regional Airport, Vance Air Force Base, and the city of Enid in thanking Dan for his years of service and contributions to the aviation community.

Congratulations on your retirement.

REMEMBERING JOYCE ADAMS

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I would like to remember in the record a longtime member of the U.S. Military Academy West Point’s admissions team, Ms. Joyce Adams.

For the last 39 years, Joyce Adams has served with distinction as valued member of the West Point admissions family. From 1980 until 2002, Joyce Adams served as a candidate technician first in the mid-Atlantic region and later in the Northeast. In this capacity, she assisted more than 60,000 candidates navigate the West Point application process.

In 2002, Joyce was promoted to be an admissions specialist and then to the position of congressional nominations specialist. In this position, she assisted all 541 congressional offices in navigating the nomination process. During her more than 17 years as the U.S. Military Academy admissions specialist, Joyce directly impacted more than 100,000 candidate nominations and earned the respect and admiration of candidates, parents, admissions officers, and Members of Congress.

In addition to this work, Joyce also volunteered to serve as the candidate technician for all recruited athlete files. Thanks to her hard work and attention to detail, all of West Point’s varsity athletic teams were positioned to compete at the highest level.

I have it on the highest authority from West Point that Joyce’s impact on the directorate of admissions, on the U.S. Military Academy West Point, and on the Nation will be felt for years to come. The candidates she assisted have risen to the highest levels of military and civilian leadership, and she will be missed.

REMEMBERING DR. RAVINDRA LAL

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I rise today with deep sadness, but also with reverence to remember Dr. Ravindra Behari “Ravi” Lal, who died on July 23, 2019. Dr. Lal was an esteemed educator and innovator in the field of physics. His impact on Alabama A&M University and the Huntsville area is incalculable.

Dr. Lal was born on October 5, 1935, in Agra, India. He was one of three children born to Avadh Behari and Radhayapari Lal Mathur. Dr. Lal earned his Ph.D. in solid state physics from Agra University in 1962 and married his wife Usha in the same year. Dr. Lal and Usha moved to Huntsville, where they raised their son Amit. That same year, Dr. Lal began his teaching and research career for the National Academy of Sciences as a resident research associate for the Marshall Space Flight Center. It was there that Dr. Lal conducted groundbreaking work on the effects of radiation on thermal control coatings for Apollo and other spacecrafts. Through a special recommendation from famed aerospace engineer, Dr. Wernher von Braun, Dr. Lal earned a rare extension of his postdoctoral associate position with NASA.

And having his time at Marshall Space Flight Center, Dr. Lal worked for 2 years as a senior scientist and assistant professor at the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi, India. He returned to the University as a senior research associate for the University of Alabama in Huntsville, leaving in 1973 to become an associate professor of physics at Paine College in Augusta, GA.

Dr. Lal made his return to Huntsville in 1975 to begin his long and impressive career at Alabama A&M University—AAMU—rising from associate professor of physics to department chair to university eminent scholar. In 1978, during his tenure at AAMU, he was chosen by NASA as a principal investigator for a space shuttle experiment on the maiden flight of the Spacelab-3 Mission in 1985, making Dr. Lal one of the first university professors to be selected for an experiment on space shuttle and the first from AAMU. During this project, he worked as one of the pioneers in crystal growth experiments in microgravity. Dr. Lal later served for 7 years as the principal investigator for a project from NASA’s Commercialization of Space program.

Dr. Lal was deeply committed to bettering the AAMU and Huntsville communities during his tenure as an educator and beyond. In 1997, Dr. Lal launched the popular Annual Nobel Laureate Lecture Series, which has since brought 20 Nobel Prize winners to Huntsville. He was instrumental in establishing AAMU’s masters and doctoral program. AAMU celebrated his commitment to his field and students in 2005, naming Dr. Lal an AAMU eminent scholar. Recognized as one of the first Indian couples in Huntsville, Dr. Lal and his wife Usha raised and advised Indian families new to their city and were actively involved in helping to build a temple, the Hindu Cultural Center of North Alabama, for the local Indian community. Dr. Lal also served on the board for Vishakiran, an organization that provides assistance to individuals from multicultural backgrounds that are experiencing crises.
Dr. Lal was highly respected and celebrated in his field, earning recognition from the Alabama House of Representatives in 1985 for his achievements on NASA’s Spacelab-3 experiment. He was also awarded NASA’s Public Service Achievement award for those same achievements by NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher. Dr. Lal was selected for the Professional of the Year award by the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies, the Noble prize by the National Association for Equal opportunity in Higher Education, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from AAMU Research Institute.

Dr. Lal will be dearly missed by all whose lives he touched, both through his work as a brilliant educator and scientist and as a pillar in the Huntsville community. Both Alabama and the United States have benefited immeasurably from his contributions to the field of physics and space research.

**REMEMBERING DEB BOWMAN**

- Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Deb Bowman.

There is a difference between public servants and bureaucrats, and we have known or dealt with both. Our office spends an incredible amount of time and energy helping constituents bust through the Federal bureaucracy, and unfortunately, we often bump heads with federal bureaucrats. It is time-consuming and aggravating for constituents. After experiences like these, we unfortunately have a tendency to stereotype all government employees in that manner.

Thankfully, that is not always the case. There are examples of legitimate public servants, often behind the scenes, who truly seek to make the lives of our citizens better. One of those special individuals is Deb Bowman.

Deb Bowman was the truest, most sincere—and brutally honest—public servant I have had the honor of knowing.

For those of us who knew Deb, especially her family—her husband Randy, her children Brookie and Jessamine, and her grandkids—our hearts ache. At just 65 years old, Deb passed away on September 17, 2019, after a fairly recent lung cancer diagnosis. Years earlier, Deb became a kidney transplant recipient, and I believe that experience and the other hardships in her life shaped her view of public service.

Deb was a loyal friend who worked with me while I served as Governor. She was a tremendous asset on my 2002 transition team, as a senior adviser and cabinet secretary. Prior to that, Deb was an adviser to Governors Mickelson and Janklow and she went on to serve Governor Daugaard before her retirement in 2014.

It is not hard to understand how four Governors saw the same value and passion in Deb. It is a testament to the legacy she has left.

Deb was a fierce conversationalist. Her ability to identify with those less fortunate was her signature quality. She was able to put a “face” on the policy decisions that were made and reminded Governors, legislators, and State employees that the monetary and policy decisions we make impact real people and families. She was a tough and relentless advocate for those less fortunate. And she inspired understanding about the role society and State government played when it came to children, the poor, and the elderly.

Oftentimes, Deb would be outright arguing a position with me, and she would say, “Oh now come on Governor, that’s ‘bullcrap’, have you considered . . . .” Needless to say, Deb won those debates multiple times, and our State is better off for it.

She understood that her value was not mimicking the opinions being expressed around the table. She brought compassion to her advocacy, and I believe it made me a better Governor. Her service was not without sacrifice. On top of time away from her family and the strain upon her health, her empathy was so deep and pure that she carried the weight of the vulnerable through long hours and personal anguish. Yet despite many times being dismissed as the lone, unpopular voice, she would take a drive around the capitol, think over her argument, and show up with a new line of reasoning. She was persistent.

When I think of the rare public servant like Deb, I am reminded of Matthew 23:11: “The greatest among you must be a servant.” Deb was a phenomenal public servant, for all the right reasons.

Deb could have been the CEO of any organization and made a bunch more money. She was intelligent, a hard worker, a professional, a leader. She chose public service, and in doing so, she was a friend, to me and to many.

Thank you, Deb, for showing all of us what a true public servant looks like.

**MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

**EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED**

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)
MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2466. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

H.R. 4578. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–2621. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jerry D. Harris, Jr., United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2622. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Industrial Security Program (NISP)” (RIN0709-A171) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2623. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Office of Inspector General (OIG) Privacy Program” (RIN0709-AK38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2624. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Transitional Compensation (TC) Program” (RIN0709-A99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2625. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Technical Amendment to Cross-References to the Commission’s FOIA Regulations” (17 CFR Parts 200, 201, 229, 230, and 240) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2626. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Trade Authorities Extension: Economic Impact of Trade Agreements Implemented under the Bipartisan Trade Act of 2015”; to the Committee on Finance.


EC–2628. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled “section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including defense services, to Taiwan to support the 30/40mm MK44 Bushmaster Automatic Cannon System and associated Ammunition Handling System for the Clouded Leopard Vehicle Program in the amount of $50,000,000 or more” (Transmittal No. DDTC 19-010); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2629. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled “Transitional Compensation Program (NISP)” (RIN0790–AI71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2630. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation’s Office of Inspector General’s Semiannual Report on Pension Plans in Default (RIN3510–A298) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2631. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2632. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for 2018; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2633. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 1st Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–2634. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wiliere Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled “Promoting Telehealth in Rural America” ((RIN3060–AF85) (FCC 19–78)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2635. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled “Safety Standard for Infant Bouncer Seats” (16 CFR Part 1229) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 17, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM–137. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, Two Federal Social Security Administration laws, the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, paid by Congress 20 years ago without statistical analysis, diminish or eliminate the fully earned Social Security benefits or large numbers of public service employees in California.

Whereas, These provisions affect workers who have been employed in a government position since 1983 in accordance with the Social Security program, such as California public school teachers who have not been able to receive Social Security credits since 1983; and

Whereas, Most peace officers, including the California Highway Patrol, firefighters, and many other public servants working for cities and special districts are not covered by Social Security, making them subject to these provisions; and

Whereas, In California, more than 300,000 retired public employees have had their Social Security benefits diminished or completely eliminated by these laws; and

Whereas, Effective government requires highly qualified and motivated personnel, and California government agencies need to compete to recruit and retain outstanding employees, including hiring 15,000 new public safety officers each year; and

Whereas, The recruitment and retention of qualified individuals reentering the workforce is impeded by these two provisions, which reduce or eliminate the Social Security retirement benefits either earned by workers, themselves, or received through dependent status; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset severely cuts, and usually eliminates, all spousal and survivor benefits that were earned from what is deemed by the State of California to be community property income; and

Whereas, The Government Pension Offset requires that a recipient of benefits report any yearly cost-of-living increase in the recipient’s public pension, so that the recipient’s Social Security benefits may be reduced by two-thirds of that amount; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision cuts earned Social Security benefits from couples that is a policy for which the individual earned a pension from a governmental entity; and

Whereas, The Windfall Elimination Provision subverts the purpose of Social Security retirement benefits by eliminating the formula that reimburses low-income workers at a higher rate than high-income workers, causing severe hardship for those who have not had high-paying public service; and

Whereas, Until 2005, there were no requirements that a public employer advise new workers that they are subject to these penalties; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, that the Legislature requests that the Congress of the United States enact legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision from the Social Security Act, and further requests that President Donald Trump sign that legislation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary or the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
Resolved, That the Senate of the Ninety-second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas and by the House of Representatives, a majority of all Members elected to each House agreeing thereto: That the General Assembly hereby applies to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Clerk of the United States House of Representa- tives, the members of the Arkansas congress- sional delegation, and the presiding officers of each house of the legislatures in the sev- eral states, requesting their cooperation; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly adopts this application expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) An application to the United States Congress to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to the United States Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(2) The General Assembly may provide fur- ther instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of a convention. The states have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(4) By definition, an amendment conven- tion of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one (1) state, one (1) vote; and

(5) A convention for proposing amendments convened pursuant to this application shall be limited to consideration of the topics specified herein and no other. This applica- tion is made with the understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution shall not be considered until it has been adopted by the states. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitu- tion;

(6) Pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, the United States Congress may provide that other proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legisla- tures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The General As- sembly recommends that the United States Congress select ratification by the legisla- tures of the several states;

(7) The General Assembly may provide fur- ther instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(8) Delegates are bound to the instructions provided by the General Assembly and a failure to follow the instructions provided con- stitutes a breach of the delegate’s duty and subjects them to recall and replacement.

POM–139. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas applying to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate of the Ninety-second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas and by the House of Representatives, a majority of all Members elected to each House agreeing thereto: That the General Assembly hereby applies to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitu- tion that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and juris- diction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of the United States Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly adopts this application expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) An application to the United States Congress to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to the United States Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(2) The General Assembly may provide fur- ther instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of a convention. The states have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(4) By definition, an amendment conven- tion of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one (1) state, one (1) vote; and

(5) A convention for proposing amendments convened pursuant to this application shall
be limited to consideration of the topics specified herein and no other. This application is made with the express understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution shall not be authorized for consideration at any stage. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution.

(6) Pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, the United States Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The General Assembly recommends that the United States Congress select ratification by the legislatures of the several states.

(7) The General Assembly may provide further instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and

(8) Delegates are bound to the instructions provided by the General Assembly and failure to follow the instructions provided constitutes a breach of the delegate’s duty and subjects them to recall and replacement.

POM-40. A resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, urging the United States Congress to pass the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MUKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendment:
S. 253. A bill to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools (Rept. No. J16-107).

By Ms. MUKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:
H.R. 55, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency for schools, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-108).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:
S. 254. A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. J16-109).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:
S. 255. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-110).

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:
S. 252. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-111).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM (for the Committee on the Judiciary).
S. 2509. A bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Ms. SULLIVAN):
S. 2512. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. SHERMAN):
S. 2514. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect the public health by prohibiting non-tobacco e-cigarette flavors and ensuring electronic nicotine delivery systems are tamper-proof; to the Committee on Finance.

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

By Mr. MURKOSKI (for himself and Mrs. HIRONO):
S. 2509. A bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BOOKER:
S. 2510. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable tax credit for certain teachers as a supplement to State efforts to provide teachers with a livable wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Ms. SINEIM):
S. 2511. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. SULLIVAN):
S. 2512. A bill to prohibit a court from awarding damages based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or actual or perceived sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. SULLIVAN):
S. 2513. A bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN for the Committee on Finance.
S. 2526. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to restrict the debt collection practices of certain debt collectors; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MERKLEY):
S. 2517. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):
S. 2518. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish an Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment and an Office of Rural Economic Investment, to ensure that rural communities are adequately represented in Federal decision-making for transportation policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):
S. 2519. A bill to protect the public health by prohibiting non-tobacco e-cigarette flavors and ensuring electronic nicotine delivery systems are tamper-proof; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS:
S. 2520. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban 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. KAIN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):
S. 2521. A bill to award grants for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of direct care workers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HOEVEN:
S. 2522. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, 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. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HIRONO):
S. 2523. A bill to amend section 456(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to allow adjunct faculty members to qualify for public service loan forgiveness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
S. 2524. An original bill making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. GARDNER):
S. 2525. A bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to conduct a study of personal protective equipment worn by firefighters to determine the prevalence and concentration of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. Gardner):
S. 2526. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to identify and convey to the State of Colorado land for use as a storage site for radioactive and radioactive waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERRILLY and Mr. WYDEN):
S. 2527. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and
Conservation Act to reestablish the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas pro-
duced in the United States, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Banking,
Housing, and Urban Affairs.
By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. MERRILLY):
S. 2528. A bill to require the Director of Na-
tional Intelligence to submit to Congress a
report on the purpose, scope, and means of
expanded Chinese influence in international
organizations, and for other purposes; to the
Select Committee on Intelligence.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS
The following concurrent resolutions and
Senate resolutions were read, and
referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORKIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COTZER, MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBuchar, Ms. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. GARD-NER, and Mr. MURPHY):
S. Res. 319. A resolution designating the week beginning Wednesday, September 18, 2019, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. Risch, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):
S. Res. 321. A resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. HARRIS):
S. Res. 322. A resolution designating Sept
 ember 2019 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 500
At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to provide the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 596
At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for direct payment to physician assistants under the Medicare program for certain services furnished by such physician assistants.

S. 638
At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 638, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as haz-
ardous substances under the Com-
prehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability Act of 1980, and for other purposes.

S. 680
At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 680, a bill to amend the Intern-

nal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat cer-tain amounts paid for physical activity,
fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 803
At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 803, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the sold-
diers of the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as “Merrill’s Marauders”, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II.

S. 804
At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 804, a bill to amend the Inter-
nal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore in-
centives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 813
At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 813, a bill to exempt cer-
tain 16- and 17-year-old individuals em-
ployed in logging operations from child labor laws.

S. 875
At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from West Vir-
ginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 875, a bill to provide for the reporting to State and local law enforcement authorities of cases in which the national instant criminal background check system indi-
cates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue crimi
nal charges under State law, and to en-
sure that the Department of Justice re-
ports to Congress on prosecutions se-
cured against prohibited persons who attempt to acquire a firearm.

S. 926
At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that kombucha is exempt from any excise taxes and regulations imposed on alco-
holic beverages.

S. 1032
At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors 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-ex-
empt status of certain corporations.

S. 1148
At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Ad-
ministrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic control training and veterans when hiring air traffic control specialists.

S. 1395
At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1395, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an ex-
clusion from gross income for AmeriCorps educational awards.

S. 1376
At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to eliminate barriers to providing child welfare services for children and youth in need, to provide additional resources to implement programmatic changes necessary to meet the requirements of the Family First Prevention Services Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1391
At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1391, a bill to require reporting regarding certain drug price increases, and for other purposes.

S. 1455
At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1455, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to provide in-
creased protection for horses particip-
inating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions, and for other purposes.

S. 1628
At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1628, a bill to amend the Internal Rev-
ue Code of 1986 to extend the em-
ployer credit for paid family and med-
ical leave, and for other purposes.

S. 1700
At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Illi-
osis (Mr. DURBIN) were added as co-
sponsors of S. 1700, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively nego-
tiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.
At the request of Mr. Bennet, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. Shaheen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1723, a bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account.

At the request of Ms. Collins, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Portman) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Peters) were added as cosponsors of S. 1766, a bill to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

At the request of Mrs. Fischer, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Peters) 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.

At the request of Mr. Coons, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. Jones) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1841, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the publicly traded partnership ownership structure to energy power generation projects and transportation fuels, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Wyden) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1862, a bill to limit the fees charged and collected from applicants for naturalization and related benefits based on poverty, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. Hassan, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. McSally) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to improve certain programs of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to heritable disorders.

At the request of Mr. Cardin, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies 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 Alabama (Mr. Jones), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. Warren) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Wyden) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees 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. Brown, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2254, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish Pension Rehabilitation Administration within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multiemployer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Cramer, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth) were added as cosponsors of S. 2293, a bill to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank of the United States and to modify the quorum requirement of the Bank, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Murphy, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) were added as cosponsors of S. 2317, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to credit individuals serving as caregivers of dependent relatives with deemed wages for up to five years of such service, and to support State medical training programs for caregivers.

At the request of Mr. Blunt, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Isakson) were added as cosponsors of S. 2321, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Negro Leagues baseball.

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2414, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the Health Coverage Tax Credit.

At the request of Mr. Peters, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

At the request of Mr. Booker, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2452, a bill to provide incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices, to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, to establish the Coastal and Estuary Resilience Grant Program, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Booker, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Roberts) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2453, a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Markey, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Casey), the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. Shaheen), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy), the Senator from Vermont (Ms. Sanders), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Merkley) were added as cosponsors of S. 2461, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

At the request of Mr. Wyden, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2493, a bill to establish the Malign Foreign Influence Response Center in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Casey, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the Medicare and disability insurance credits waiting periods for disabled individuals.

At the request of Ms. Stabenow, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

At the request of Mr. Murphy, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Wicker) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 205, a resolution expressing the gratitude 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. Hyde-Smith, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 313, a resolution designating
the week of September 22 through September 28, 2019, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRANO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MERKLEY).

S. 2517. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee of Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2517

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Tobacco Tax Equity Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. INCREASING EXCISE TAXES ON CIGARETTES AND ESTABLISHING EXCISE TAX AMONG ALL TOBACCO PRODUCT TAX RATES.

(a) Tax Parity for Roll-your-Own Tobacco.—Section 5701(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “57.78 percent” and inserting “58.10 percent”.

(b) Tax Parity for Pipe Tobacco.—Section 5701(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “$2.8311 cents” and inserting “$2.9166 cents”.

(c) Tax Parity for Smokeless Tobacco.—(1) Section 5701(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “$1.51” and inserting “$1.54”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “50.33 cents” and inserting “50.67 cents”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) SMOKELESS TOBACCO SOLD IN DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNITS.—On discrete single-use units, $100.66 per thousand.”;

(2) Section 5702(m) of such Code is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or chewing tobacco” and inserting “; chewing tobacco, or discrete single-use unit;”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and (3), and by inserting “that is not a discrete single-use unit” before the period in each such paragraph; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(14) DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNIT.—The term ‘discrete single-use unit’ means any product containing tobacco that—

(A) is not intended to be smoked; and

(B) is in the form of a lozenge, tablet, pill, pouch, dissolvable strip, or other discrete single-use or single-dose unit.”;

(d) Tax Parity for Cigars.—(1) Paragraph (1) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “56.33 percent” and inserting “$60.66”.

(e) Tax Parity for Tobacco Cigars.—(1) In general.—(2) Paragraph (2) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “57.78 percent” and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: “$49.56 per pound and a proportionate tax at the like rate on all fractional parts thereof but not less than 10,066 cents per cigar.”.

(2) Guidance.—The Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary’s delegate, may issue guidance regarding a methodology for determining the weight of large cigars for purposes of calculating the applicable tax under section 5701(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(f) Tax Parity for Roll-your-Own Tobacco and Certain Processed Tobacco.—(1) Subsection (o) of section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, and includes processed tobacco that is not a discrete single-use unit” before the semicolon at the end of such subsection.

(2) Clarifying Tax Rate for Other Tobacco Products.—(1) In General.—Section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—Any product described under this subsection that has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration through its authorities under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act shall be taxed at a level of tax equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis as determined by the Secretary.

(2) Establishing Per Use Basis.—For purposes of section 5701(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act or the date that a product has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration, the Secretary of the Treasury (or a person appointed under section 5713, but does not include removals of processed tobacco for exportation) after “wrapper thereof”.

(g) Clarifying Definition of Tobacco Products.—(1) In General.—Section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(o) TAX PARITY FOR ROLL-YOUR-OWN TOBACCO AND CERTAIN PROCESSED TOBACCO.—

(A) In paragraph (1), by striking “cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco, and

(B) any other product subject to tax pursuant to section 5701(i).”;

(2) Conforming Amendments.—Subsection (d) of section 5702 of such Code is amended by striking “cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco” each place it appears and inserting “tobacco products”.

(i) Increment on Cigarettes.—(1) SMALL CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(1) of such Code is amended by striking “$5.33” and inserting “$5.66”.

(2) LARGE CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “$10.65” and inserting “$10.98”.

(j) Tax Rates Adjusted for Inflation.—Section 5701 of such Code, as amended by subsection (g), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2019, the dollar amounts provided under this paragraph shall each be increased by an amount determined to be—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the calendar year prior to the calendar year for which the credit or refund is allowed, rounded to the nearest multiple of $0.01.”.

(k) Floor Stocks Tax.—(1) Imposition of Tax.—On tobacco products manufactured in or imported into the United States which are removed before any tax increase date for sale by any person, there is hereby imposed a tax in an amount equal to the excess of—

(A) the tax which would be imposed under section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on the article if the article had been removed on such date, over

(B) the prior tax (if any) imposed under section 5701 of such Code.

(2) Credit Against Tax.—Each person shall be allowed as a credit against the taxes imposed by paragraph (1) an amount equal to $500. Such credit shall not exceed the amount of taxes imposed by paragraph (1) on such date for which such person is liable.

(l) Liability for Tax and Method of Payment.—(A) Liability for Tax.—A person holding tobacco products on any tax increase date to which any tax imposed by paragraph (1) applies shall be liable for such tax.

(B) Method of Payment.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulation.

(m) Time for Payment.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid on or before the date that is 120 days after the effective date of the tax rate increase.

(4) Articles in Foreign Trade Zones.—Notwithstanding the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the Foreign Trade Zone Act, 48 Stat. 998, 19 U.S.C. 81a et seq.), or any other provision of law, any article which is located in a foreign trade zone on any tax increase date shall be subject to the tax imposed by paragraph (1).

(A) Internal revenue taxes have been determined, or customs duties liquidated, with respect to such article before such date pursuant to a request made under the 1st proviso of section 3(a) of such Act, or

(B) such article is held on such date under the supervision of an officer of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to the 2d proviso of such section 3(a).

(5) Definitions.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) In General.—Any term used in this subsection which is also used in section 5702 of such Code shall have the same meaning as such term has in such section.

(B) Tax Increase Date.—The term ‘tax increase date’ means the effective date of any increase in any tobacco product excise tax rate pursuant to the amendments made by this section (other than subsection (j) thereof.

(C) Secretary.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate.

(6) Controlled Groups.—Rules similar to the rules of section 5611(e)(3) of such Code shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

(7) Other Laws Applicable.—All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by section 5701 of such Code shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection, apply to the floor stocks taxes imposed by paragraph (1), to the same extent as if such taxes were imposed by such section 5701. The Secretary may treat any person who bore the ultimate burden of the tax imposed by paragraph (1) as the person to whom a credit or refund under such provisions may be allowed or made.

(l) Effective Dates.—
SEC. 2. RURAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘‘Department’’ means the Department of Transportation.

(2) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘‘relevant congressional committees’’ means—

(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(G) the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(3) By appropriate term ‘‘Secretary’’ means the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) Establishment.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 102 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by inserting ‘‘(referred to in this section as the ‘Department’’)’’ after ‘‘Department of Transportation’’; and

(B) in subsection (e)(1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ‘‘(A)’’ and (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E) and

(iv) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

‘‘(D) an Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment shall be appointed by the Secretary; and’’;

(C) in subsection (f)(1), by striking ‘‘Department of Transportation’’ each place it appears and inserting ‘‘the Secretary’’;

(D) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(E) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

‘‘(b) Office of Rural Economic Investment.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Department an Office of Rural Economic Investment (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Office’).

‘‘(2) LEADERSHIP.—The head of the Office shall be the Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Assistant Secretary’), who shall report directly to the Secretary.

‘‘(3) Mission and Goals.—The mission and goals of the Office shall be to coordinate with other offices and agencies within the Department and with other Federal agencies—

(A) to ensure that the unique needs and attributes of rural transportation, involving all modes, are fully addressed and prioritized during the development and implementation of transportation policies, programs, and activities within the Department;

(B) to improve coordination of Federal transportation policies, programs, and activities within the Department in a manner that expands economic development in rural communities and regions, and to provide recommendations for improvement, including additional reorganization and realignments;

(C) to expand Federal transportation infrastructure investment in rural communities and regions and to provide recommendations for changes in formula funds or other existing funding distribution patterns;

(D) to use innovation to resolve local and regional transportation challenges faced by rural communities;

(E) to promote and improve planning and coordination among rural areas to maximize the unique competitive advantage in those areas while avoiding duplicative Federal, State, and local investments; and

(F) to ensure that all rural communities lacking resources require at least in outreach, education, and technical assistance to improve access to Federal transportation programs.

‘‘(4) DUTIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—

The Assistant Secretary shall—

(A) provide information and outreach to rural communities concerning the availability and eligibility requirements of participation in programs of the Department;

(B) help rural communities identify competitive economic advantages and avoid duplicative and costly investment in order to ensure continued economic growth;

(C) serve as a resource for assisting rural communities with respect to Federal transportation programs;

(D) ensure and coordinate a routine rural consultation on the development of policies, programs, and activities of the Department;

(E) to promote and encourage an advocate within the Department on behalf of rural communities; and

(F) work in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, in carrying out the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary.

‘‘(5) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—For the purpose of carrying out the mission and goals of the Office under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary may enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other agreements as necessary, including with research centers, institutions of higher education, States, units of local government, nonprofit organizations, or a combination of any of those entities.

‘‘(6) TO PROMOTE RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT.—

(A) to conduct research on transportation investments that promote rural economic development;

(B) to solicit information in the development of policy, programs, and activities of the Department that can improve infrastructure investment and economic development in rural areas;

(C) to develop educational and outreach materials, including the conduct of workshops, courses, and certified training for rural communities and regions that can further the mission and goals of the Office and the Department; and

(D) to carry out any other activities, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

‘‘(7) EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall ensure that not more than 4 full-time equivalent employees are assigned to the Office.

‘‘(8) APPLICABILITY.—In carrying out the mission and goals of the Office under paragraph (3) and the duties of the Assistant Secretary under paragraph (4), the Assistant Secretary shall consider as rural any area considered to be a rural area under a Federal transportation program of the Department.’’.

(2) COUNCIL ON CREDIT AND FINANCE.—Section 117(b)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(1) The Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Investment.’’.

(c) Reorganization Proposal.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the relevant congressional committees, shall develop a proposed reorganization of the functions of the Department to improve coordination and prioritization of programs and services that promote rural infrastructure investment, expansion, equity, and economic development.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant congressional committees reports that describes the proposed reorganization plan under paragraph (1).

(d) Rural Consultation.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, each office and agency within the Department shall develop and implement a process to ensure meaningful and timely input from rural stakeholders during the development of any regulation, guidance, or policy that would have substantial direct effects on 1 or more rural areas.

(B) Consultation.—To the maximum extent practicable and in accordance with applicable Federal law, the Secretary of the Department shall not promulgate a regulation, issue guidance, or implement a policy...
lion. Approximately 61 million Ameri-
older adults and people with disabil-
Nation ages, we face a growing need for
Direct care workers, such as home
health aides and nursing assistants, are
the backbone of the long-term care
workforce, providing daily assistance
to millions of older Americans, people
with disabilities, and others with
chronic care needs. Direct care workers
help ensure that older Americans and
people with disabilities receive the
critical care they need while remaining
active members of their communities.
However, direct care workers are often
paid low wages and may face poor
working conditions and economic inse-
curity. The majority of direct care
workers are women and people of color.
Some direct care workers do not have
education beyond high school and lack
access to a career pathway or advanced
training.
 Twenty-four percent of home
care workers live below the Federal
government poverty level and 52 percent of direct
care workers rely on some form of pub-
lic assistance to support themselves
and their families.

Today, I am pleased to introduce the
Direct Creation, Advancement, and Re-
tention of Employment Opportunity Act,
or Direct CARE Opportunity Act,
with Senator HASSAN. I am proud
to have partnered with my friend and
colleague in the Virginia delegation
Chairman Bobby Scott on this bill, who
has also introduced the bill today in
the House of Representatives. The Di-
rect CARE Opportunity Act provides
support for strategies to recruit, re-
tain, and advance the direct care work-
force pipeline. Our legislation would
support the implementation of models
and strategies to train more people in
the direct care field, while allowing for
local and regional innovation to ad-
dress workforce shortages. We encour-
gage retention and career advancement
in a high-demand field where workers
carry a significant burden and face
barriers to economic mobility. Our
legislation responds to the needs of our
growing aging population, allowing
older Americans, people with disabili-
ties, and those with chronic illnesses
remain in their communities while
receiving critical care and support,
helping prevent costly institutional
care.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of
the aisle to see the Direct CARE Op-
portunity Act as a chance to invest
in the professionals who care for millions of
vulnerable Americans every day, en-
suring they live with dignity and inde-
pendence.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms.
Duckworth, Mr. Booker, and
Ms. Hirono):
S. 2523. A bill to amend section
455(m) of the Higher Education Act of
1965 in order to allow adjunct faculty
members at emerging Hispanic-serving
institutions to qualify for public service
loan forgiveness; to the Committee on
Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
sions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the text of the
bill be printed in the RECORD.
There being no objection, the text of
the bill was ordered to be printed in
the RECORD, as follows:

SEC. 2. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR ADJUNCT FAC-
ULTY.
Section 455(m)(3)(B)(ii) of the Higher Edu-

S. 2523

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States of America in
Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Adjunct Faculty Loan Forgiveness Act of 2019.’’

SEC. 2. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR ADJUNCT FAC-
ULTY.
Section 455(m)(3)(B)(ii) of the Higher Edu-

(1) by striking ‘‘teaching as’’ and inserting the following: ‘‘teaching—

‘‘(I) as’’;

(2) by striking ‘‘foreign language faculty,” after the date of enactment of this Act, each
office or agency to serve as the official with prin-
cipal responsibility for the implementation of this subsection.

(2) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 180 days

(3) MEMBERS.—The advisory council shall meet not less than twice per year, as deter-
the Secretary.

(4) DUTIES.—The advisory council shall—

(A) advise the Office of Rural Economic In-
vestment on issues related to rural needs re-
ating to Federal transportation programs;

(B) develop recommendations for any
changes to Federal law, regulations, internal
Department guidance, or other measures
that would eliminate barriers for rural ac-
cess or improve rural equity in transpor-
tation investments;

(C) examine methods of maximizing the
number of opportunities for assistance for rural
areas under Federal transportation programs,
including expanded outreach and technical
assistance;

(D) examine methods of encouraging inter-
governmental and local resource cooperation
to mitigate duplicative investments in key
regions and improve the efficiencies in the
delivery of Federal transportation programs;

(E) evaluate other methods of creating new
opportunities for rural regions; and

(F) address any other relevant issues as the
Secretary determines to be appropriate.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and
Ms. HASSAN):
S. 2521. A bill to award grants for the
recruitment, retention, and advance-
ment of direct care workers; to the
Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pension.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, As our
Nation ages, we face a growing need for
direct care professionals to care for
older adults and people with disabili-
ties. The U.S. Census Bureau projects
the number of aged 65 and older to
to more than double between 2015 and
2060, from nearly 48 million to 98 mil-
ion. Approximately 61 million Ameri-
Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are located in 25 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions are located in 35 States; Wherefore Hispanic-Serving Institutions are actively involved in stabilizing and improving the communities in which the institutions are located; Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are leading efforts to increase Hispanic participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); Whereas the vast contributions of Hispanic-Serving Institutions to the United States strengthens the culture of the United States; and Whereas the achievements and goals of Hispanic-Serving Institutions deserve national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the achievements and goals of Hispanic-Serving Institutions across the United States and in Puerto Rico; (2) designates the week beginning September 20, 2019, as “National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week”; and (3) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 320—RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE WEEK

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 320

Whereas the Senate is committed to the use of forensic science in the investigation of crimes, the prosecution and conviction of the correct perpetrators of crimes, and the exonerations of innocent individuals falsely accused in the United States; Whereas forensic science service providers address critical criminal and civil questions in the United States, including by providing scientific conclusions relating to forensic evidence; Whereas forensic science service providers partner with—

(1) Federal agencies to build and maintain criminal databases relating to latent prints, DNA, and other information relevant to criminal cases and communities that those laboratories serve; and

(2) Federal, State, and local agencies to ensure public safety;

Whereas forensic science service providers serve a vital role in the criminal justice system by providing scientific information to investigators and officers of the court; and Whereas the third week in September is recognized as “National Forensic Science Week”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) It is the sense of the Senate that National Forensic Science Week provides a special opportunity for—

(A) forensic service providers to—

(i) recognize the contributions of forensic scientists in the laboratories in which those individuals work; and

(ii) organize community events to encourage a better understanding of forensic science;

(B) local policymakers to—

(i) recognize formal commendation or resolution, the contributions of local forensic science laboratories to the communities of those policymakers;

(ii) promote and plan activities to promote these laboratories through local news stories that focus on the work of local forensic science laboratories in the communities that those laboratories serve; and

(iii) visit local forensic science laboratories;

(C) members of the media to—

(i) attend community events sponsored by local forensic science laboratories; and

(ii) take tours of local forensic science laboratories; and

(D) members of the media to highlight new stories that focus on the work of local forensic science laboratories in the communities that those laboratories serve;

(2) Federal agencies to build and maintain forensic science service providers through Federal, State, and local forensic science laboratories; and

(3) designates the week beginning September 20, 2019, as “National Forensic Science Week”; and

(4) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 321—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITTO, Mr. MARKET, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 321

Whereas more than 2,900,000 men in the United States live with prostate cancer; Whereas 1 in 9 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes and 1 in 41 men in the United States will die from prostate cancer; Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States; Whereas the American Cancer Society estimates that, in 2019, 174,550 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 31,620 men will die of, prostate cancer; Whereas 41.9 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in men under the age of 65; Whereas the odds of developing prostate cancer rise rapidly after age 50; Whereas African-American men suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is significantly higher than that of White men; and have more than double the prostate cancer mortality rate than that of White men; Whereas having a father or brother with prostate cancer doubles the risk of a man developing prostate cancer, with a higher risk for men who have a brother with the disease and the highest risk for men with several affected relatives; Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the earlier, more treatable stages, which could increase the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent; and Whereas only 30 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized; Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer in the early stages, making appropriate screening critical; Whereas, in fiscal year 2019, the Director of the National Institutes of Health supported approximately $271,900,000 in research projects focused specifically on prostate cancer; Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”; (2) declares that steps should be taken—(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer; (B) to encourage research—

(i) to improve screening and treatment for prostate cancer; and

(ii) to discover the causes of prostate cancer; and

(iii) to develop a cure for prostate cancer; and

(C) to continue to consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interest groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer; (B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 3 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations:
Marshall Billingslea of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Mr. Adam Seth Boehler of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, Mr. Michael Pack of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting and hearing on the following nominations: Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, David B. Barlow, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, John Fitzgerald Kesner, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, R. Austin Huffaker, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Lee Philip Rudofsky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Justin Reed Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, Eleni Maria Roumel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Kenneth Charles Canterbury, Jr., of South Carolina, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, W. Stephen Muldrow, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Michael D. Baughman, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Kerry Lee Pettingill, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and Fernando L. G. Sablan, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, all of the Department of Justice.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ariel Hasse, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges through September 27, 2019. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF THE SENATE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO OPERATE OR SUPPORT DIAPER BANKS AND DIAPER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 205 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 205) expressing the gratitude of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL, I further ask 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. 205) was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider was waived.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 14, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTISM COLLABORATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1058, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1058) to amend 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, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read a third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 1058) was passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The motions to reconsider were waived.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2486 AND H.R. 4378

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2486) to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

A bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 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 23; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired. The Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, the morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the McGuire nomination; and that finally, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's and yesterday's sessions of the Senate ripen at 5:30 p.m., Monday, September 23.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 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 4:24 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 23, 2019, at 3 p.m.
NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MITCHELL, A. SILK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE HEATH P. TARBAKE, RETIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ROBERT JOSEPH KREUZEMEYER, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2022, VICE DOLORES H. TISERI, RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROBERT ANTHONY INOX, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, TERM EXPIRING JULY 2, 2024, VICE ROBERT J. BORZOTTI, RETIRING.

WILLIAM JOSEPH NARDINI, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT, VICE CHRISTOPHER D. ONDERO, RETIRING.

DANIEL J. HUNSAKER, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA, VICE DANIEL L. ROWLAND, RETIRING.

SCOTTY J. LAUREL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2028, VICE MARY J. SCHOELEN, RETIRING.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

ANN A. MANNES
STEFANIE C. ANDERSON
EDUARDO A. ARTIGA
REBEKKA H. AUGL
MICHELLER B. NALHRR
MICHELLE A. R. BELL
TRISHA M. BENSON
JAMIE L. BLESSING-CALCARENE
LAUREN B. BROWN
AMESSA B. BROWN
JACQUELINE D. BROWN
JINELLA N. BROWN
BETH A. BRUCIN
ERICA L. BUCKLEY
DANIEL D. BUEHLER
RICHARD P. BUI
JESSICA A. CARPENTER
RYAN B. CARSON
JAMBS W. CAVINESS
WYATT B. CHERRY
KATHERINE A. COFFMAN
JENNIFER A. COLVIN
JOSHDIA Y. COMBS
LAUREN J. COOPER
RYAN M. CROSSMAN
MICHAEL J. D'AMICO
MATTHEW H. DAVIS
ASHLEY M. ESTELL
LISA F. FRENSDALE
ZACCHARY J. FREEMAN
ALEXIS E. FLINTERS
PAULINE M. FLOYD
ELIZABETH H. FOLED
AUBUR J. FREAZER
JASON M. FREEDMAN
SARAH E. FRY
MARTIN G. GABRIEL
SARAH P. GANCE
ALLISON H. GARRICK
KASSIA O. GARFIELD
CASEY R. GLEW
KEVIN B. GRAHAM
MICHAEL A. GREENBERG
BRIDGETT D. GRIFFITHS
JERSEY GROENK
SAMANTHA L. GUY
NATHAN W. HAMILTON
JEFFREY B. HARTSE
MARLA R. HARVEY
LINDSEY J. HATCH
GRiffin M. HOLACROCK
DANIEL J. HUBBARD
BAKERY M. JALLOW
CHARI B. JENSEN
MATT R. JOHNSON
LINDSAY A. JOHNSON
RAHAJ D. JONES
JOSHUA E. JONES
FRANCES M. KATUMBA
DANIELLE KAVAYLADGOLIC ANDERSON
RACHEL R. KENNER
KRISTEN M. KING
LEBON R. KING
ANNE H. LEE
SAMMY J. LEECH
EMILY P. LUCAS
PHILLIP D. MAILLOUX
MICHAEL D. MARX
BENJAMIN A. McCOMB
SARA J. MCGOWAN
BARBARA A. McLEOD
BROOK A. MCRAE
VALENTINA M. MIBOLA
DIVIN L. MERMITT
JACQUELINE MILLS
JENNIFER L. MINARICK
RYAN G. MONTANARI
GABRIELLE B. MOORE
SYBILIA V. MORELIE
BERROCA A. MORRISDAYS
TIMOTHY W. NAILL
DREW R. O'GREN
JAMIE T. ONCKLE II
REGINA M. ORTEGA
JESSICA T. OTIS
ALEXIS M. PACE
LAUREN L. PASS
MARSHIA E. PENINA
CASHAR R. PEREJER
JANICE R. PERIOD
JEFFREY R. R. PERRY
THERESA M. PISKY
JAMBS R. PHILLIPS
MARLA A. FITTS
MATTHEW F. POLSTRAIN
JEREMY T. POWELL
BRYAN L. PRESTON
PAUL J. RICHARDSON
PEDRO D. RIVERA
JESSICA L. ROBBINS
NATHAN R. ROCHA
TIBOROJ D. SCIENZEE
BRETTAN R. SCHOTT
MIHIND C. SEVILLE
TYRON L. SIMON
DIBENI STRONCALICA
TREY J. SLATTER

To be major general

Maj. Gen. Mark C. Schwartz

To be lieutenant general

The following named officers for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general in the regular air force under title 10, U.S.C., sections 61 and 716:

The following named officer for appointment to the grade of colonel in the United States air force under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

The following named officers for appointment to the grade of lieutenant colonel in the regular air force under title 10, U.S.C., sections 61 and 716:

The following named officer for appointment to the grade of major in the regular air force under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

Jeffrey J. Atruy
John D. Cator
Tae J. Choe
Timothy M. G. Haars
Timothy A. Londres
Kendra J. Marnell
Eric J. Phillips
Soo A. Sohn
Jennifer V. Troschone

The following named officers for appointment to the grade of major in the United States air force under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

Travis M. Allen
Jason R. Baker
Karl H. Blanclapour
Robert D. Bohnack
Daniel S. Jr.
Rachel C. David
Chad M. Forgione
Kevin M. Hudson
Kevin L. Humphrey
Jason T. Jodnich
David R. Leonard
David J. M. Shepherd
Jonathan T. Runnels
Dawood A. Sun
Christopher D. Underwood II

The following named officers for appointment to the grade of colonel in the United States air force under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

Anne M. Adkins
Stephanie C. Anderson
Eduardo A. Artiga
Rebekka H. Augl
Michelle B. Nalhhr
Michelle A. R. Bell
Trisha M. Benson
Jamie L. Blessing-Calcarene
Lauren B. Brown
Ameessa B. Brown
Jacqueline D. Brown
Jinella N. Brown
Beth A. Brucon
Erica L. Buckley
Daniel D. Buehler
Richard P. Bu
Jessica A. Carpenter
Ryan B. Carson
Jams W. Caviness
Wyatt B. Cherry
Katherine A. Coffman
Jennifer A. Colvin
Joshdia Y. Combs
Lauren J. Cooper
Ryan M. Crossman
Michael J. D’Amico
Matthew H. Davis
Ashley M. Estell
Lisa F. Frensdale
Zachary J. Freeman
Alexis E. Flitners
Pauline M. Floyd
Elizabeth H. Foley
Aubur J. Frazer
Jason M. Freedman
Sarah E. Fry
Martin G. Gaubria
Sarah P. Gance
Allison H. Garrick
Kassia O. Garfield
Casey R. Glew
Kevin B. Graham
Michelle A. Greengr
Bridgett D. Griffiths
Jersey Groen
Samantha L. Guy
Nathan W. Hamilton
Jeffrey B. Hartst
Marla R. Harvey
Lindsey J. Hatch
Griffin M. Holachrock
Daniel J. Hubbard
Bakery M. Jallow
Chari B. Jensen
Matt R. Johnson
Lindsay A. Johnson
Rahaj D. Jones
Joshua E. Jones
Frances M. Katumba
Danielle Kayvaldlig Anderson
Rachel R. Kenner
Kristen M. King
Lerbon R. King
Anne H. Lee
Samm J. Lecch
Emily P. Lucas
Phillip D. Maillo
Michael D. Marx
Benjamin A. McComb
Sara J. McGowan
Barbara A. McLeod
Brook A. Mcrae
Valentina M. Mibola
Divin L. Meredith
Jaqueline Mills
Jennifer L. Minarick
Ryan G. Montanari
Gabrielle B. Moore
Sybilia V. Morelie
Berroca A. Morrisdays
Timothy W. Naill
Drew R. O’Gren
Jamie T. Onckle II
Regina M. Ortega
Jessica T. Otis
Alexis M. Pace
Lauren L. Pass
Marshia E. Penina
Cashar R. Perej...
...and more
The following Named Officers for Temporary Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 531:

To be lieutenant commander

BRYAN A. HODSON

The following Named Officers for Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 424:

To be lieutenant commander

MICHAEL D. CRIBBS

The following Named Officer for Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the Regular Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 531:

To be lieutenant commander

BRACKERY L. BATTLE

The following Named Individual for Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ANTONIO R. MARTIN

The following Named Officers for Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES R. WILSON

The following Named Officers for Temporary Appointment to the Grade Indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 531:

To be lieutenant commander

BENJAMIN T. ANDERSON
PHILLIP A. CRITTY
ADAM M. DIEMETER
CHRISTINA M. GIBSON
DIRRICK M. INGLE
CHALILA R. IRISI
PATRICIA A. KREUZBERG
MICHAEL L. LABSON
PERRE S. MAGGIO
CLINTON R. RASMIDEN
ROCHELLE R. RASHEIS
CHRISTINA R. SEARS
LAWRENCE M. SPANNA
MATTHEW A. STRoup

To be lieutenant commander

NICK AVILA
MOLY G. BYRERAN
JACOB T. COUBRE
TIMOTHY T. DICKEN
SEAN C. CROGHAN
RAN R. EVANS
LAWRENCE R. FERNANDES
RONALD A. MASTANONG
RAYMOND J. MCGEATHER
MIGUEL A. MONTOVANO
JORDAN T. PENDLAND
IDA T. QUIGLEY
FREDDIE R. RODRIGUEZ
NICHOLAS RESIOVA
JADEN T.-To
ATHANASIO R. VARIOVTS

To be lieutenant commander

MICHAEL ADAMSKI
BRANDON T. ANTHONY
SCOTT C. BRIGHTON
VINCENT D. CHAMBERLAIN
STEFANIE M. DREWELL
TAKE R. ELLIOTT
JERRY B. FABIAN
MATTHEW D. RAKES
JOEL D. C. HARDING
ANN M. HOKO
BRAD D. KRAUSE
MEREDITH A. MCKAIG
KIRKSTON L. FASTPHANE
DAVID M. PHILLIPS
ANDREW R. SWEENEY
BRADFORD B. WELLS
AUSTIN C. WEST

To be lieutenant commander

JASON C. ABELL
BRIAN ASLEY
BRANDON M. BEASCH
HOUSTON E. BESSON
JAMES A. BERG
JOHN R. BURNICHRANDER
TRAVIS L. CARTER
BRASSON W. CHAPMAN
JOSHDUB M. COGRO
DAVID R. CONGRADY
CHRISTOPHER S. CROSBIE
BRIAN P. CRAWFORD
NICHOLAS J. DAVIES
JOHN P. DIES
MARK J. DEVIGUET
BO B. DOHR
DONN N. DURANT
SHAMIRA A. DUNN
PRINSTON L. EDWARDS
JONATHAN P. ERNST
SUZANNE M. GAY
DAVID B. GIBSOMB
CABINSA G. Y. HALL
ANDREW W. KABOSEN
ANDER M. HOLLAND
JR., RICHARD J. JACKSON
MATTHEW J. JACKSON
CHRISTINA D. JESSEY
CHUCKY E. JOHNSON
JACOB D. KASSEL
BRIAN J. KAUFRAM
BREN D. KIMM
KEYSTONIA L. LANDRY
KEITH J. LASSIMB
JASON K. LEO
RICH T. LENSMBR
OLGA Y. LEO
NICHOLAS A. LEBRA
JAMIS W. LEEF
DMALL M. MCCOWN
PAUL M. MELBEN
PATRICK C. MURRAY
JUSTIN NOVAR
GIRISH W. PALESA
ZACHARY D. PARMENTAR
JASON A. PAVLAK
BRIAN A. PICKLER

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on September 19, 2019 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

HEIDI R. KING, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION.

JOHN P. DIEMETER, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

JAMES D. BURGESS, OF ARIZONA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

EMILY J. T. BACCLEY
LAUREN A. BEINIK
NATASJA A. BULLY
DANIEL L. BOBY
JOSUA T. BOROHAN
CASSANDRA L. SCHEEBER
MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ
JOSEPH R. STANLEY
DAVID D. TUMAN
MARCO A. TSOURIN
JOSEPH D. VANBUEREN
ADAM J. WAYMOUTH
STEPHEN J. WRIGHT
JAMES M. ZWIEHEF.


To be lieutenant

GABRIEL L. ADAMS
NATHALIE A. ALBRÝTSON
CHRISTOPHER P. ANDERSON
BRUCE A. ANDREWS
DANIEL M. BÂLLANCE
ADRIÁN N. BABB
JOSEPH A. BEERIÈS
JASON E. BROWN
EVA J. BURKE
JENNIFER B. CHAPMAN
ULRICH C. COGGINGSBURY
DANIEL G. COELCEM
ANN M. DICKSEN
KYLE J. FRANCIS
LINDSEY M. FURHAUSDEN
MÔKÈL W. HUGHES
CHRISTOPHER R. JENNINGS
COLLEEN M. JOHNSON
DIDÉN P. JONES
BRIAN J. KAZUKA
RICHARD P. LÂUFFEMPÓN
MICHAEL J. LAWNS
IAN A. LEATHESSN
ASHLEY T. LEWIS
LOUÍMEI L. LONO
RAYMOND E. MINDZE
JOSEPH R. MILLER
EDWARD B. MONTAGUÍMÉRY
LAWRENCE L. MORGAN
JOSHDUB M. MÜLLA
CHRISTOPHER C. B. RUGILE
FARO B. SCHÜLLKEMP
RYAN L. SEEDHA
COREY J. SIEFES
RAN D. SMITH
STEPHEN SOMAH
JANNA STUCKOVA
SHARÉE B. TALBERT
CHRISTOPHER M. TAYLOR
LUKE O. TINGLER
BRANDON C. TIEKOS
DAVID G. VÁRNAS
MARK W. VÁLÉN
ALAN U. WILSON
JAN H. WILSON
IRIS P. Wood

IN THE MARINE CORPS


To be major

JAMES M. STEPHENSON


To be colonel

CARLOS T. JACKSON
HON. HALEY M. STEVENS
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC) as they celebrate 40 years of service to Southeast Michigan. The ACC began as a one-person office in August 1979 with the vision to help the growing number of Arab immigrants in the Metro Detroit region. In the first year, over 400 clients sought assistance through their organization.

Over the years they have served as a valuable resource for the immigrant community. They provide a variety of services including counseling, health care, language assistance, employment training, and job placement. More than that, they have created a safe place for immigrants to feel welcomed and supported as they acclimate to their new life in America.

The ACC continues to be a beacon in the community, serving nearly 70,000 people and providing over 450,000 services in the last year. There is no doubt that the ACC will continue to make a positive difference in the years to come.

I encourage everyone to visit Michigan and witness the rich cultural diversity, grit, and determination the citizens of our state have to offer. On its 40th anniversary, the Arab American and Chaldean Council has much to be proud of. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this tremendous milestone.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUSAN JENGEN AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Susan Jensen for her more than 20 years of service to the House Judiciary Committee. Susan is one of the preeminent experts on bankruptcy law, administrative law, and the federal court system. Although she will be leaving the Committee, she will continue in public service as she transitions to the Office of Legislative Affairs at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

Susan is highly respected on both sides of the aisle. It is a testament to her knowledge and fairness that she worked as Counsel and later Senior Counsel for Republican and Democratic House Judiciary Committee Chairs, including Chairman Henry Hyde, Chairman Lamar Smith, Chairman and Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr., and myself, as Ranking Member and now Chairman.

Largely as a result of receiving a generous scholarship from the Service Employees International Union Local 32-B in New York City, Susan was able to attend New York University where she received her undergraduate degree. She subsequently obtained her JD and LLM at NYU.

Before entering law school, Susan worked as a press aide for Connecticut Governor Ella Grasso. After graduating law school, she served as a law clerk for two bankruptcy judges, initially for one year in the Eastern District of New York, and then for seven years in the Southern District of New York. Thereafter, she served as Senior Attorney-Advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of the United States Trustee in Newark, New Jersey. She later served as the General Counsel to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission from 1996 to 1997, working under the direction of then-Professor and now-Senator Elizabeth Warren. Susan has authored a treatise on consumer bankruptcy and subsequent editions for the New York State Bar Association and has authored book chapters and numerous articles on bankruptcy and other matters. She was also elected to the American Law Institute in 2010.

In 1998 she was hired by Chairman Hyde to serve as a full committee counsel working on bankruptcy issues. Under Chairman and Ranking Member Conyers, Susan expanded her portfolio, and when I was elected to serve as Chair, I also asked Susan to serve as the Committee Parliamentarian, in addition to her other duties.

Since joining the Judiciary Committee in 1998, she has worked on various matters, including bankruptcy legislation, reauthorization of the Administrative Conference of the United States, federal courts, oversight of the Justice Department, privacy issues, and interstate compacts. She has also assisted in the preparation and review of an array of Committee documents, including Committee reports, hearing memoranda, statements, and related materials.

I can say from firsthand experience that Susan is not only one of the most knowledgeable lawyers on Capitol Hill, but she is also one of the most diligent, thoughtful, and fair-minded individuals I have ever worked with. I am fortunate to have been able to work with her as a staffer and friend. All of those who have worked with Susan have benefited from her intelligence, good humor, and mentoring. I wish Susan well in her new endeavor, and I thank her for her years of superb work.

HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Bednar. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Bednar for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REMEMBERING IRA A. LIPMAN

HON. STEVE COHEN
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in praise of my friend Ira A. Lipman, founder of the international private security firm Guardsmark, who was also a passionate advocate for social justice, a defender of journalistic freedom and a lover of history and the arts. Ira died Monday in New York at the age of 78. A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Ira was a student at Little Rock Central High School and was an important anonymous source for NBC Newsman John Chancellor during the historic but contentious integration of the school in 1957. That led to a lifelong friendship and, in 1995, Ira created the John Chancellor Award of Excellence at Columbia University School of Journalism, honoring the best in the business with a $50,000 annual award. The selection committee for the award is led by the Ira A. Lipman Professor of Journalism, Jelani Cobb at Columbia. This prestigious award is presented at a dinner, a

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a strong supporter of Historically Black Colleges and Universities—operated under the misunderstanding that the program has been eliminated and therefore no services and resources need to be provided for these loans. In fact, VSAC continues to service over $410 million of these FFELP loans for 26,500 borrowers, and the funding that accompanies the servicing of these loans helps VSAC achieve its broader mission on behalf of students.

Mr. Speaker, this work is particularly important for borrowers who needed assistance with their financial aid and repayment questions; and

Trained 355 education professionals to better serve their students.

The funding source in the bill—eliminating Account Maintenance Fees paid to GAS for guaranteeing Federal Family Education Loans—operates under the misunderstanding that the program has been eliminated and therefore no services and resources need to be provided for these loans. In fact, VSAC continues to service over $410 million of these FFELP loans for 26,500 borrowers, and the funding that accompanies the servicing of these loans helps VSAC achieve its broader mission on behalf of students.

This work is particularly important for borrowers who needed assistance with their financial aid and repayment questions; and

Trained 355 education professionals to better serve their students.

The funding source in the bill—eliminating Account Maintenance Fees paid to GAS for guaranteeing Federal Family Education Loans—operates under the misunderstanding that the program has been eliminated and therefore no services and resources need to be provided for these loans. In fact, VSAC continues to service over $410 million of these FFELP loans for 26,500 borrowers, and the funding that accompanies the servicing of these loans helps VSAC achieve its broader mission on behalf of students.

This work is particularly important for borrowers who needed assistance with their financial aid and repayment questions; and

Trained 355 education professionals to better serve their students.
Hon. Sam Graves of Missouri.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly propose to recognize Baxter Brecht. Baxter is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Baxter has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Baxter has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Baxter has served his troop as Assistant Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Baxter has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Baxter built storage shelving to help preserve and inventory all of the historical displays at the Clay County Historical Society Museum in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Baxter Brecht for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

Honoring Baxter Brecht

Hon. Bennie G. Thompson of Mississippi.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight remarkable historical activists, Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray.

Coming on the heels of its historic challenge to the seating of the all-white Mississippi delegation at the 1964 Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) moved to unseat Mississippi’s all-white Congressional delegation. The MFDP revealed how continued illegal discrimination led to the election of five white men to represent a state, where the population was nearly half African American. Through its Freedom Elections, open to anyone regardless of race, the MFDP proved that black voters would exercise their constitutional rights if given the chance and that their votes would undermine Jim Crow politics in America. The MFDP took its challenge all the way to the U.S. House of Representatives.

In December 1964, MFDP attorneys not only rejected the seating of the men who comprised the Mississippi delegation ahead of the 1965 Congressional session but asserted that Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray should be seated in their stead in their own respective districts. These three black women were long-time civil rights activists and MFDP stalwarts and had attempted to run for Congress in the Fall of 1964. After they were denied a place on the official Mississippi ballot, Hamer, Devine, and Gray were elected that year by the MFDP through the MFDP Freedom Vote. Though it had no recognized legal standing, the Freedom Vote was the only true democratic election in Mississippi. Thus, the MFDP argued that these women were entitled to the state’s Congressional seats in their districts as the only democratically elected officials from the state.

On January 3, 1965, Hamer, Devine, Gray, and more than 600 other black Mississippians welcomed members of Congress to the Capitol in support of the MFDP challenge. When Speaker of the House John McCumber began the traditional roll call, Congressman William Fitts Ryan of New York objected to the seating of Mississippi’s Thomas Abernethy. More than sixty U.S. Representatives joined Ryan in that dissent and forced McCormack to adjourn the House as a whole. He did not seat the entire Mississippi delegation until the rest of Congress had been sworn in. Then, House Majority Leader Carl Albert of Oklahoma moved that the MFDP challenge be recognized as legitimate and that Mississippi’s all-white delegation be seated until a full hearing could be held. Mr. Albert’s Resolution passed the House by a vote of 276 to 149. With two-thirds of U.S. Congressmen supporting the right to a challenge, the Committee on House Administration prepared to hear the MFDP’s arguments.

The staff of the black delegation employed an army of white attorneys, recruited at the behest of the Mississippi Bar Association, to mount their defense during the summer of 1965, but the MFDP organized dozens of volunteer lawyers from across the country to prepare its case. They issued subpoenas, conducted depositions, and gathered testimony from black voters about the discrimination they had encountered in the state for decades. Backed by hundreds of pages of documents in support of the challenge, the MFDP was prepared for a hearing to be held in the Fall of 1965.

When the MFDP challenge was finally heard on September 13, 1965, Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine, and Victoria Gray testified in front of the House Subcommittee on Elections that they had been denied access to the ballot because of their race and should be seated to represent the State of Mississippi in Congress. Three days later, their challenge came to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for a vote, and Congressman Ryan of New York, who had objected to the seating of the all-white delegation in January, accompanied the three women to sit on the House floor with Congressional Democrats during the debate. Their presence made them the first black women on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time in the history of the House. Despite the support of three women to sit on the floor with Congressmen, the MFDP was still not recognized as legitimate, and the House of Representatives did not seat any black members from Mississippi.

In the end, Fannie Lou Hamer, Annie Devine and Victoria Gray were denied their seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. However, their contributions to the civil rights movement were recognized by the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, which prohibited discrimination in voting, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which prohibited discrimination in voting. Their struggle for justice and equality continues to inspire generations today.

Honoring the Life of U.S. Marine Corps World War II Veteran Ysabel Cisneros

Hon. J. Luis Correa of California.

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of U.S. Marine Corps World War II Veteran Ysabel Cisneros.

Ysabel Cisneros was a lifelong resident of Orange County. He was born on October 6, 1925 in Anaheim, CA and raised in the segregated La Jolla barrio in the city of Placentia. Mr. Cisneros joined the United States Marine Corps at the age of 18 in 1943 at the height of World War II. When the Army decided the choice of waiting two weeks, or joining immediately, he chose to enlist immediately and served his boot camp at Camp Pendleton. Ysabel Cisneros served in the Guarn and Palau campaigns that freed the South Pacific from Fascist Japanese oppression. Mr. Cisneros and his company were then chosen to be a part of the invasion of Iwo Jima, a decisive battle in World War II.

Ysabel Cisneros was among the many brave Americans to storm Mount Suribachi, in one of the deadliest battles in American History. During this battle, Mr. Cisneros served with and befriended the legendary Ira Hayes, the Native American soldier who helped lift the American flag on Mount Suribachi. Mr. Cisneros was wounded in battle and spent the remainder of the war recuperating from his injuries. Mr. Cisneros was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on June 26, 1946.

Mr. Cisneros settled back in his hometown of Placentia and married his loving wife Amelia in 1947 and lived the remainder of his life. Ysabel Cisneros is survived by four of his children, 17 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren. Let us remember World War II Marine Veteran Ysabel Cisneros, a true American hero.
IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House’s attention to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway in Talladega, Alabama. In the mid-1960s, NASCAR founder Bill France, Sr., envisioned a bigger and faster track on the NASCAR circuit. After meeting with local race car driver and race fan, Bill Ward of Anniston, Alabama, the location was selected for the track and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Alabama International Motor Speedway (today known as Talladega Superspeedway) took place on May 23, 1968. The first race, the Talladega 500 (now the 1000Bulbs.com 500), was held on September 14, 1969, with Richard Brickhouse winning the race. The race played a major role in NASCAR’s history as many of the top stars of the sport walked out the day before the race due to concerns of tire wear on the nearly 200 mph track. Mr. France said the race would go on and recruited drivers from the smaller NASCAR Touring Series, the Bama 400, the day before.

The Talladega Superspeedway is the most competitive race track on the NASCAR schedule (record 88 lead changes in 188 laps), the highest-banked (33 degrees) and the longest (2.66 miles) as well as the most fun and fan-friendly.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway.

HONORING PEYTON COMSTOCK

HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peyton Comstock. Peyton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Peyton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peyton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Peyton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peyton Comstock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of a fellow Texan, former staffer, and my friend, Bernard Williams, Jr.

Mr. Williams was born on January 28, 1928, in Dallas, Texas, as an only child to Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1945, after which he attended West Virginia State College in Institute, West Virginia, where he earned a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics. There, Mr. Williams met the love of his life, Marguerite Reddick. They married in Savannah, Georgia, in 1952 and had two children, Martha Nell and Bernard III.

Mr. Williams answered his country’s call to service, serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Army following his college graduation. At the conclusion of his military service, Mr. Williams was hired as one of the first African American laboratory technicians in the cardiopulmonary lab at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, now known as the UT Southwestern Medical Center. He would later take a position with the IBM Corporation in Dallas as one of the first African American systems engineers. Following a brief retirement, Mr. Williams joined my Dallas district office, where he served the constituents of the 30th district of Texas for seven years.

Mr. Williams generously gave his free time to our community—working with multiple organizations such as the Dallas Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc., Big Brothers Inc., the Moorland Branch YMCA, and the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce. He also served as a board member on the DART Citizens Advisory Committee and Senior Source.

Mr. Williams was a faithful and active member of the New Hope Baptist Church for over half a century. During his time with the church, he served as Chairman of the Deacon Board for 17 years before being named Deacon Emeritus. Mr. Williams was widely regarded as a mentor for the youth in the church and was a strong supporter of religious education programs like vacation bible school.

Mr. Williams was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Williams (née Reddick); daughters, Martha Bedford (Louis III) and Susan Williams McElroy; granddaughters, Erica Chiles and father Don Chiles, Opal McElroy and father Daniel McElroy; sister-in-law, Charlesetta Reddick Lacy; brother-in-law, Thomas Reddick (Margaret); and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Williams’ family, friends, and to those he influenced over the course of his life. The Dallas community will dearly miss him.

HONORING DR. THOMAS K. WEBER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life, accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Thomas K. Weber of Chappaqua, New York. Dr. Weber passed away on September 15, 2019, after a brief, but fierce battle with a rare and very aggressive form of Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. Today would have been his 65th birthday. Dr. Weber was a surgeon, researcher and visionary leader in his relentless pursuit of the goal to save lives from colorectal cancer.

Dr. Weber served as the Director of Surgical Oncology of the Northwest Region, Northwell...
HONORING ALEX GALLAGHER
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Gallagher. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Gallagher for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEARBORN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
HON. DEBBIE DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce was established in 1944 to serve business owners throughout the Dearborn and Southeast Michigan communities. Since its inception 75 years ago, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce has been creating a forum for business members to meet and network with one another, build lasting partnerships, generate exposure, and inspire economic growth. The Chamber provides a strong, unified voice for the entire business community and actively advocates on their behalf at all levels of government, striving to assist members in meeting each of their business objectives. Through its five core strategies of member development, community promotion, travel and tourism, government affairs/advocacy, and education, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to cultivating a strong, local business climate in our community.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce continues to support the expanding business communities in Dearborn and Southeast Michigan. Today, these communities are more vibrant and diverse than ever, but the Chamber works tirelessly to meet the challenges of an increasingly dynamic and ever-changing business world. The Chamber’s dedicated efforts have been paramount in ensuring Dearborn continues to be a welcoming destination for businesses, families, students, young professionals, and the like, and that businesses thrive in this region. Thanks to the hard work of all involved, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is recognized as one of the best Chambers in the State of Michigan.
work with our children. The bill also requires the U.S. Department of Education to make these recommended standards and best practices electronically accessible, so schools, teachers, and policymakers around the country can put them to use improving our schools. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to further improve the quality of American educators by bringing stakeholders together to evaluate what is working, where we are deficient, and to recommend the actions necessary to elevate the education profession in the United States to a standard that serves our children best.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE COORDINATORS

HON. STEVE STIVERS
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio’s 15th Congressional District to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the American Association of Service Coordinators.

Service coordinators work in all U.S. states and territories, but Ohio is where they look to for training, advocacy and support thanks to AASC. In 1999, Janice Monks founded the membership organization out of her home in Central Ohio, which was one of the first regions where service coordinators joined the staff of affordable housing properties with the help of federal grants.

Over the past two decades, AASC has created a documentation system for service coordinators to more easily track and report resident outcomes and has collaborated with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to create a formal guidebook outlining industry standards and practices. This year, the organization hosted its largest annual National Service Coordinator Conference in Denver, Colorado and membership exceeded 3,300.

AASC’s purpose is to serve as a constant support for service coordinators who empower their residents to live well. Service coordinators serve as a lifeline for hundreds of thousands of low-income seniors and families who need connected to vital supports that keep them living independently or help them move up and out of poverty. In the course of that work, service coordinators also play an integral role in realizing nationwide policy goals such as reducing healthcare costs, keeping older adults in their communities and increasing self-sufficiency.

In honor of AASC’s anniversary, service coordinators across the country are celebrating Service Coordinator Day today. My colleagues may be hearing from service coordinators who are recognizing the anniversary by sharing with Congressional offices the profound impact this profession has on our nation’s most vulnerable.

I wish to congratulate President Janice Monks and the American Association of Service Coordinators on this milestone anniversary and convey my most sincere appreciation for their dedication to service.

HONORIZING HARRISON HEUTINCK
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harrison Heutnick. Harrison is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Harrison has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Harrison has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Harrison has served his troop as Senior Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and become an Ordained Member of the Order of the Arrow. Harrison has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Harrison removed and rebuilt a deteriorating staircase in the basement of the Clay County Historical Society Museum in Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Harrison Heutnick for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORIZING DOWNTOWN FLORIST
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS OF BUSINESS IN MASSENA, NY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Downtown Florist on their 15th anniversary serving the Town of Massena.

Downtown Florist was founded in 2005 by Patty and Kenny Wells. With their vision, they transformed a long-vacant gas station into a community staple. Small businesses like Downtown Florist are the backbone of the North Country’s economy. They generate the majority of employment and job creation, while driving investment in our local communities.

However, most small businesses do not make it longer than five years. For that reason, the 15th anniversary of a business is an achievement worth celebrating.

On behalf of New York’s 21st Congressional District, I want to congratulate Patty and Kenny Wells for reaching this impressive milestone. They are a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines New York’s 21st district. I look forward to their continued success.

THE MODERN ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES TAKES SHAPE: AOG HISTORY PART III (1946-1995) SECTION B

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD section B of the third installment of an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates:

WPAF DISSOLVED
AOG celebrated its centennial in 1969, although there is no mention of the Association recognizing its 100th year of existence in any AOG publication that year (it wasn’t even brought up at the annual meeting!). In the first year of the Association’s second century, two events occurred that significantly changed the direction of AOG: First, Paul Thompson ’29 was elected President; second, Major General William Knowlton ’43JAN took over as Superintendent from Major General Samuel Koster ’21. Thompson and Knowlton, as it turned out, were made for each other, as each was interested in reorganizing and reforming the work of AOG. Weeks before his departure, Koster had announced plans to raise $10 million through WPAF in order to endow cadet activities, calling the plan the “$10 Million Cadet Athletic Endowment.” Virtually from its inception in 1961, the West Point Fund (WPAF) had raised just $1.02 million, Koster’s plan reportedly resulted in a 369-percent increase in contributions over FY1969, but Knowlton suspended it in the spring of 1970 fearing “that there may be some duplication of our fund-raising efforts” and announcing that “a study is being made to sort out our alumni-related fund-raising efforts.” A year later, in the 1971 Annual Report of the Superintendent, Knowlton declared, “Pending at present is a reorganization and consolidation of the West Point Alumni Foundation and the Association of Graduates.” To hasten the shakeup, Knowlton had already introduced plans to remove the active duty officer from the Office of Assistant to the Superintendent (Gifts Program) who had been working for AOG, and thus limiting the Association’s ability to solicit funds for USMA, and to establish the Alumni Affairs and Gifts Program Division, a precursor to today’s Office of Advancement.

While Knowlton forced the merger between AOG and WPAF, it was up to Thompson to seal the deal. As noted in Lamb’s report, the leadership at WPAF raised $10 million which would be directed to AOG “and that USMA at most would get crumbs.” At a fall 1970 meeting, Thompson convinced George Olmsted and Cortlandt Schuyler, both Class of 1922 and key WPAF Board members, that this would not be the case. Just a few years earlier, Schuyler had served as AOG President, and his views were influential with key AOG Board members of both organizations. Schuyler agreed to work with Thompson on the details of the reorganization, and the following fall they presented to the WPAF Board of Managers, who ultimately “decided that it would be in USMA’s best interests to transfer its fundraising and publishing responsibilities to AOG.” On February 8, 1972, AOG and WPAF signed two memorandums of agreement (one for fundraising and one for publishing) to accomplish that. To that point in time, WPAF had raised $1.8 million for the Academy. It continued its existence as a backup to AOG from
SEEDS OF "WPAOG" SOWN

Steppling back a mere three years, another truly significant event occurred closely after AOG’s centennial, but it’s unclear whether it had any direct impact on Thompson and Knowlton’s vision to reorganize the Association. In 1972, AOG received a $15,000 bequest gift from the estate of Leah and Clement Trout, Class of 1899. According to Lamb’s report, “The Trout gift gave us the financial flexibility to expand program and activity support of the Academy, as the Cumulus gift had provided graduates’ administrative center and student services at West Point.” Lamb would certainly know: Even though AOG was losing its active duty officer in the Superintendent’s office, who did a tremendous amount of work for the Association, the Trout gift allowed AOG to now hire and pay a full-time Executive Vice President, and the person the Association hired was Robert Lamb. He retired from his position as Alumni Secretary on the Superintendent’s staff on August 31, 1972, and the next day reported to AOG in his new role, which he labels in his report, “as executive director.” Trout gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua ’33 as Director of Development, Michael Krisman ’39 as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff persons for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.

The early 1970s were an exciting time for the Association. Its membership among graduates was hovering around 97 percent. It completed a record annual appeal in 1970 ($61,996), and in 1972 AOG’s Endowment Fund exceeded the $3 million mark. AOG earned more than $100,000 in interest and dividend income to annually fund the Association’s operating expenses (in recognition of its surplus). AOG presented a gift of $25,000 to the Academy, latter known as Class Giving, complete with support from AOG Financial Services, according to Lamb’s report, “The Trott gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua as Director of Development, Michael Krisman as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff persons for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.”

By the end of the 1980s, AOG was taking in more than $5 million annually in donations, establishing a financial position that finally allowed it to realize a decade-long desire to eliminate membership dues, which it did starting with the Class of 1994. What’s more, in 1990, Thomas Russell ’59, a Planned Giving Officer, took a phone call from the son of a graduate who was inquiring about how much money it would take to have a building at West Point named for his father, James K. Herbert, ’30. Russell explained that the names of public buildings at the Academy were made by the Secretary of the Army and not named for donors. AOG would be willing to work with a long-term donor in the hopes that their name would go on a building. In 1990, Herbert bequeathed $3 million to AOG, which became the lead gift in a campaign to build what became known as the Herbert Alumni Center. Ground was broken for AOG’s new home on April 8, 1993, and its cornerstone was dedicated on October 12, 1993 during Homecoming. When the AOG staff moved into Herbert Alumni Center on March 1, 1995, the Association had just completed two banner years: its Development staff raised $11.94 million from 14,454 gifts in 1994, with graduate participation increasing to 24 percent, all-time high; and a year earlier, it stood up its Office of Alumni Support (derived from the West Point Societies Program and complete with Society, Classes, and Communication divisions). But this was just the start of an amazing success for AOG. Now that it was working out of Herbert Alumni Center, it was about to realize a goal it had established for itself at the 1989 Board of Trustees strategic planning conference, a goal to raise $100 million for USMA in 10 years, a goal that became known as the Bicentennial Campaign for West Point.”

Dozens of West Point Societies had been in existence by this time, most assisting the Academy with its Admissions efforts, but they had been relatively autonomous. The new program, which was finally implemented in the fall of 1986 with Morris Herbert ’50 as its first Director (aided by James “Skip” Wenasyl ’52 as Deputy Director of Information), sought to align the 75 or so societies and 153 society representatives present: admissions support, information dissemination, community relations, and strengthening support between AOG and societies. Around this time, AOG also established a new development program to assist West Point classes in their efforts to support the Academy, latter known as Class Giving, complete with support from AOG Financial Services, according to Lamb’s report, “The Trott gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua as Director of Development, Michael Krisman as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff persons for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.”

CONCLUSION—AOG’S NEW HOME

More changes similar to today’s AOG came in the 1980s. As the new decade began, AOG had just inaugurated its new travel program, which was fully implemented in the fall of 1986 with Morris Herbert ’50 as its first Director (aided by James “Skip” Wenasyl ’52 as Deputy Director of Information), sought to align the 75 or so societies and 153 society representatives present: admissions support, information dissemination, community relations, and strengthening support between AOG and societies. Around this time, AOG also established a new development program to assist West Point classes in their efforts to support the Academy, latter known as Class Giving, complete with support from AOG Financial Services, according to Lamb’s report, “The Trott gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua as Director of Development, Michael Krisman as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff persons for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.”

It’s unclear whether it had a direct impact on Thompson and Knowlton’s vision to reorganize the Association. In 1972, AOG received a $15,000 bequest gift from the estate of Leah and Clement Trout, Class of 1899. According to Lamb’s report, “The Trout gift gave us the financial flexibility to expand program and activity support of the Academy, as the Cumulus gift had provided graduates’ administrative center and student services at West Point.” Lamb would certainly know: Even though AOG was losing its active duty officer in the Superintendent’s office, who did a tremendous amount of work for the Association, the Trout gift allowed AOG to now hire and pay a full-time Executive Vice President, and the person the Association hired was Robert Lamb. He retired from his position as Alumni Secretary on the Superintendent’s staff on August 31, 1972, and the next day reported to AOG in his new role, which he labels in his report, “as executive director.” Trout gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua ’33 as Director of Development, Michael Krisman ’39 as Director of Publications, and a handful more staff persons for its offices on the lower floors of Cullum Hall.

By the end of the 1980s, AOG was taking in more than $5 million annually in donations, establishing a financial position that finally allowed it to realize a decade-long desire to eliminate membership dues, which it did starting with the Class of 1994. What’s more, in 1990, Thomas Russell ’59, a Planned Giving Officer, took a phone call from the son of a graduate who was inquiring about how much money it would take to have a building at West Point named for his father, James K. Herbert, ’30. Russell explained that the names of public buildings at the Academy were made by the Secretary of the Army and not named for donors. AOG would be willing to work with a long-term donor in the hopes that their name would go on a building. In 1990, Herbert bequeathed $3 million to AOG, which became the lead gift in a campaign to build what became known as the Herbert Alumni Center. Ground was broken for AOG’s new home on April 8, 1993, and its cornerstone was dedicated on October 12, 1993 during Homecoming. When the AOG staff moved into Herbert Alumni Center on March 1, 1995, the Association had just completed two banner years: its Development staff raised $11.94 million from 14,454 gifts in 1994, with graduate participation increasing to 24 percent, all-time high; and, a year earlier, it stood up its Office of Alumni Support (derived from the West Point Societies Program and complete with Society, Classes, and Communication divisions). But this was just the start of an amazing success for AOG. Now that it was working out of Herbert Alumni Center, it was about to realize a goal it had established for itself at the 1989 Board of Trustees strategic planning conference, a goal to raise $100 million for USMA in 10 years, a goal that became known as the Bicentennial Campaign for West Point.”
Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Owen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 30th Anniversary of Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan. Throughout their dedicated service and steadfast devotion to their community, HFHNEMI has become an indispensable part of Michigan’s First District.

Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1976 with the goal of helping Americans in need fulfill the dream of home ownership while fostering safe and healthy communities. In total, Habitat for Humanity has helped build or repair more than 800,000 homes and served more than 4 million people around the world. With their first home built in 1980, the volunteers and staff of HFHNEMI have served the people of Northern Michigan for three decades. In 2013, it implemented Habitat for Humanity’s “A Brush With Kindness” program, providing critical repair services to low-income homeowners who are physically or financially unable to maintain their homes. These projects have included painting, landscaping, roofing, and accessibility improvements throughout Northeast Michigan. Since its founding, HFHNEMI has built, rehabilitated or repaired more than 80 homes for low-income families in Alcona, Alpena, and Presque Isle counties. Day after day, Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan shows what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good.

Madam Speaker, it’s my honor to recognize Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan for decades of success and service to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROGRAM IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Michigan Medical School. In 1999, the Program in Biomedical Sciences (PIBS) at the University of Michigan Medical School was established to offer students a unique flexibility in their academic pursuits. As an interdisciplinary gateway, the program allows students to access 14 different Ph.D. programs through one application. Although students can immediately begin training in one program, PIBS is designed to give students the opportunity to immerse themselves in a variety of different research rotations to find their ideal mentor and project match. Based on their discovered research interests and the help of over 500 faculty members, program directors, and academic advisors, students choose a permanent program to continue by the end of their first PIBS year, sometimes in a far different research area than originally anticipated.

The biomedical sciences are demanding disciplines, but PIBS has made the fields of study less daunting for many students who have entered its Ph.D. programs. Throughout the past two decades, PIBS has been helping students become more confident in their career paths by allowing them to take the time to cultivate their interests and explore different opportunities to discover their research passions. Thanks to the program, countless students have been trained to guide the nation in scientific discovery, truly becoming the leaders and best.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Michigan Medical School for its significant work in the biomedical sciences. For twenty years, PIBS has played a fundamental role in educating our nation’s sharpest minds.

HONORING ANNE ‘ANNA’ MAE STEWART
HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Annie “Anna” Mae Stewart after her passing on August 3, 2019. On April 9, 1917, Anna Mae Johnson entered the world as the eldest child born to Elder Allen Waters and Elizabeth Johnson in Washington, DC. She met and married Charles Earl Stewart on Oct 8, 1937 at St Augustine’s Catholic Church. She chose to follow her husband in his faith and converted to Catholicism in 1951 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church (OLPH).

Anna began working at St Teresa’s convent and later worked at the OLPH rectory, a career that would last for more than 20 years. There she fostered close relationships with many priests and seminarians, such as George Leary, Jr., a man who would become a surrogate son. She was actively involved in parent, school and church organizations, including Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Baptism and Confirmation prep, catechist and a passionate Catholic Youth Organization advisor. She was an active member of other organizations, such as St Joseph’s Ladies’ Auxiliary No. 213 KOSJI Sodality, Legion of Mary, Catholic Charities, Cursillistas, OLPH Hilltoppers, OLPH Women’s Ministry, and her two favorites, Eucharistic Ministry and Lector.

She enjoyed being of service to her church community in every way possible. Anna was also a dedicated community activist. She joined her local Orange Hat Coalition and helped rid her neighborhood of drug dealers at the height of the crack cocaine epidemic. She was instrumental in getting the Eastover Shopping Center integrated, which led to her recognition for her commitment to the civil rights movement. She was acknowledged by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. as a Village Keeper for her efforts and received other honors, including Mother of the Year 1960 and 1963 by the Afro American newspaper. She participated in the March on Washington in 1967 and took much pride in voting for the first Black President in 2008.

Madam Speaker, I know my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives agree that Anna Mae Stewart deserves to be recognized at the time of her passing for her dedication to her church, her family, and her community.

HONORING ADRIAN DELMAR SWINDLE
HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Adrian Delmar Swindle. Adrian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Adrian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Adrian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Adrian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Adrian constructed six benches for the Stations of the Cross Trail at Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Eucharist in Independence, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Adrian Delmar Swindle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING TELESCOPE CASUAL FURNITURE FOR RECEIVING THE 2019 MANUFACTURER LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CASUAL FURNISHINGS ASSOCIATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Telescope Casual Furnishings for receiving the 2019 Manufacturer Leadership Award from the International Casual Furnishings Association.

Telescope Casual Furniture was started in 1903 under the name the Telescope Cot Bed Manufacturing Company. They started in New York City making cots and chairs with “tele-scoping” legs; which is where they derived their name. In 1921, they began moving operations into Granville, New York, in the heart of
the North Country. Today, their entire operation is in Granville, housed in a one million square foot manufacturing facility and employing hundreds of workers. Businesses like Telescope Manufacturing are the backbone of the North Country economy. They provide good, high skill jobs producing products that are in demand across the country and around the world.

On behalf of New York’s 21st Congressional District, I want to join the International Casual Furnishings Association in congratulating Telescope Casual Furnishings for receiving this award. They are a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines the North Country. I look forward to their continued success.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JESSI COMBS

HON. PAUL COOK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Jessi Combs, who passed away on August 27, 2019 from injuries sustained during a land speed record attempt.

Jessi was born in Rockerville, South Dakota on July 27, 1980. After graduating from High School, Combs established a career in metal fabrication, and graduated from the Collision & Refinishing Core Program at Wyo Tech in 2004. Her unique blend of technical and personal skills led to her rapid career growth, and she frequently appeared on television shows showcasing different aspects of the automotive industry. This included serving as host of Mythbusters and Xtreme 4x4.

As a competitor, Jessi was fierce and unrivaled. She competed in the Baja 1000, the Rallye Aicha des Gazelles, and was the first woman to place at Ultra4’s King of the Hammers. In 2016 she followed up her earlier King of the Hammers success by finishing first in the 2016 Smittybilt Everyman Challenge Modified Class. In 2013. Combs successfully set the women’s land speed record at the Alvord Desert in Oregon, holding a record of 398 mph with a top speed of 483.227 mph.

Jessi was an incredible person who was taken from this Earth far too soon. My condolences are with her family, friends, and the entire automotive industry as they continued to mourn her loss.

RECOGNIZING NANCY WHEELER-NICHOLS AS THE KERN COUNTY FAIR PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nancy Wheeler-Nichols, who has been selected as the 2019 Person of the Year by the Kern County Fair, a county that I’m honored to represent in this Chamber.

Nancy, a graduate of Bakersfield’s Garces High School and the University of San Diego, first started volunteering with the Kern County Fair in 1989, almost 30 years ago, when she was painting faces, putting together buttons, and inspiring a new generation of leaders to become involved in Agriculture. Nancy was appointed to the Board of the Kern County Fair in 2003 and has been a consistent presence for over 15 years in the fair’s operations. Her agricultural insights have taken her beyond the needs of my district, however, as she was recently appointed by then Governor Jerry Brown to the Board of Directors for California’s Mid State Fair.

Outside of her work with the Kern County Fair, Nancy has served our community through a variety of organizations, including the Junior League of Bakersfield. She has been a tireless and much-needed voice for children experiencing abuse and neglect as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, and also on the board of the California Living Museum, an animal rehabilitation facility in my district that specializes in nursing back to health many of California’s most vulnerable species.

In Kern County, agriculture is the lifeblood of our community, and the Kern County Fair has emerged as one of the biggest showcases of livestock and talent in our agricultural community. Although Nancy no longer lives in Bakersfield or Kern County, she is one of our own who consistently makes Kern County proud. Through her time and expertise, Nancy has made a tangible impact in our community and has made her a staple of the Kern County community.

Kern County Fair Person of the Year is a well-deserved honor for Nancy, who has provided years of public service to our community and has contributed to countless events, successful animal shows, and old-fashioned family fun. A selfless leader, Nancy juggles her volunteer and board work along with raising horses, cattle, and her four children: Kelsey, Jake, Sawyer, and Tommy. On behalf of our community, the Kern County Fair Board, and the thousands of people who have benefited from her guidance, I want to thank Nancy and her husband Jimmy for all that they do, and congratulate her on being the Kern County Fair’s 2019 Person of the Year.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5583–S5615

Measures Introduced: Twenty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2509–2528, and S. Res. 319–321.

Measures Reported:

S. 253, to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 116–107)

H.R. 762, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–108)


Measures Passed:

Diaper Banks: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 205, expressing the gratitude of the Senate for the people who operate or support diaper banks and diaper distribution programs in their local communities, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act: Senate passed H.R. 1058, to amend 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.

National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 319, designating the week beginning September 16, 2019, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week.

National Forensic Science Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 320, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 321, designating September 2019 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was established in Executive Order 13224 on September 23, 2001; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–30)

McGuire Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, September 23, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the Wednesday, September 18, 2019, and Thursday, September 19, 2019, sessions of the Senate ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 23, 2019.

Cella Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Joseph Cella, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu, Department of State.

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 Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy 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.

Jorjani Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

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 Joseph Celli, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu, Department of State.

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.

Black Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security.

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 Daniel Habib Jorjani, of Kentucky, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

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 Received: Senate received the following nominations:

- Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
- Robert Joseph Kruckemeyer, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2022.
- Robert Anthony Dixon, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of four years.
- Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.
- Daniel Mack Traynor, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of North Dakota.
- Grant C. Jaquith, of New York, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years.
- Scott J. Laurer, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years.
- 1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

- Heidi R. King, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which was sent to the Senate on January 16, 2019.
- Thomas Marcelle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, which was sent to the Senate on January 23, 2019.
- Jeffrey Byard, of Alabama, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, which was sent to the Senate on May 13, 2019.

Messages from the House: Pages S5599–S5600

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S5600, S5609

Executive Communications: Page S5600

Petitions and Memorials: Pages S5600–02

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S5602

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S5603–05

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S5605–07

Additional Statements: Pages S5597–99

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S5608–09

Privileges of the Floor: Page S5609

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:24 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5609.)
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. 2520) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2522) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020; and

An original bill (S. 2524) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Marshall Billingslea, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights), Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, who was introduced by Senators Cassidy and Whitehouse, and Michael Pack, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of W. Stephen Muldrow, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Michael D. Baughman, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Kerry Lee Pettingill, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and Fernando L. G. Sablan, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, all of the Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 3, 4395–4428; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 75; H. Con. Res. 65; and H. Res. 565–568 were introduced. Pages H7834–35

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H7836–38

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 564, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–212); and


Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H7777

Recess: The House recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. Page H7780

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey. Page H7780

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal by voice vote. Page H7780

Recess: The House recessed at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Page H7785


H. Res. 564, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4378) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 537,
after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 228 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 536.

Pages H7783–85, H7785–86

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019:* S. 239, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe; Pages H7796–H7800

*Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Whistleblower Protection Act of 2019:* H.R. 3625, amended, to establish a whistleblower program at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board;

*Appraisal Reform Act of 2019:* H.R. 3619, amended, to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to provide the Appraisal Subcommittee with the authority to modify annual registry fees for appraisal management companies, to maintain a registry of trainees and charge a lower trainee registry fee, and to allow grants to States to assist appraiser and potential appraiser compliance with the Real Property Appraiser Qualification Criteria;

*Shutdown Guidance for Financial Institutions Act:* H.R. 2290, amended, to require the Federal financial regulators to issue guidance encouraging financial institutions to work with consumers and businesses affected by a Federal Government shutdown;

*Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019:* H.R. 550, amended, to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II;

*Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act:* H.R. 2613, to require the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to carry out a study on the use of emerging technologies within the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network;

*Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act:* H.R. 1396, amended, to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine Johnson and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race;

*Greg LeMond Congressional Gold Medal Act:* H.R. 3589, amended, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his service to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader; and

National Purple Heart Hall of Honor Commemorative Coin Act: H.R. 1830, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

Pages H7816–18

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–64).

Pages H7782–83

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today and message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H7782, H7818.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7785–86, H7786, and H7796. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Committee Meetings

TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL FARM AND DISASTER PROGRAMS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management; and Subcommittee and Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a joint hearing entitled “To Review the Implementation of Federal Farm and Disaster Programs”. Testimony was heard from Bill Northey, Under Secretary, Farm Production and Conservation, Department of Agriculture.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) ENGAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Engagement”. Testimony was heard from Michael Kincaid, Associate Administrator for STEM Engagement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and Karen Marrongelle, Assistant Director, Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation.
MARINE DEBRIS: IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEMS AND SPECIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Marine Debris: Impacts on Ecosystems and Species”. Testimony was heard from Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management/Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Anne Kinsinger, Associate Director, Ecosystems Mission Area, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Linsey Haram, Marine Ecologist, Marine Invasions Research Lab, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Smithsonian Institution; and public witnesses.

SOLUTIONS TO RISING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Solutions to Rising Economic Inequality”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BROKEN PROMISES: EXAMINING THE FAILED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment held a hearing entitled “Broken Promises: Examining the Failed Implementation of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program”. Testimony was heard from Yael Shavit, Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General; Melissa Emery-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Jeff Appel, Office of Federal Student Aid, Director of Policy Liaison and Implementation, Department of Education; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) AND THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS (OFCCP)


PROTECTING UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN: THE ONGOING IMPACT OF THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION’S CRUEL POLICIES


PROFITS OVER CONSUMERS: EXPOSING HOW PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES GAME THE SYSTEM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a hearing entitled “Profits Over Consumers: Exposing How Pharmaceutical Companies Game the System”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES


MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES
THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION’S AFGHANISTAN POLICY

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Trump Administration’s Afghanistan Policy”. Testimony was heard from Alice G. Wells, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State; Karen Freeman, Assistant to the Administrator, Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

THE NORTHERN NORTHERN BORDER: HOMELAND SECURITY PRIORITIES IN THE ARCTIC, PART I


OVERSIGHT HEARING ON POLICING PRACTICES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight Hearing on Policing Practices”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H.R. 496, the “Sinkhole Mapping Act of 2019”; H.R. 2485, the “Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act of 2019”; H.R. 2640, the “Buffalo Tract Protection Act”; H.R. 4026, the “Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act”; and H.R. 4299, the “Data Preservation Act of 2019”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Haaland, Soto, Fulcher, and Westerman; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 3458, the “Recreation Not Red Tape Act”; and H.R. 3846, the “Reserve Equitable Compensation Act”; H.R. 3846, the “Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4153, the “Health Care Access for Urban Native Veterans Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Huffman, Luján, and Khanna; Darryl LaCounte, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Rear Admiral Chris Buchanan, Deputy Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Sonya Baskerville, Manager, National Relations, Bonneville Power Administration, Oregon; and public witnesses.

H.R. 51: MAKING D.C. THE 51ST STATE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “H.R. 51: Making D.C. the 51st State”. Testimony was heard from Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia; Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia; Jeffrey S. DeWitt, Chief Financial Officer, District of Columbia; Kenneth R. Thomas, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. The Committee granted, by nonrecord vote, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Science and Technology at the Environmental Protection Agency”. Testimony was heard from Andrew Wheeler, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

SBA PROGRAMS SPURRING INNOVATION

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “SBA Programs Spurring Innovation”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3632, the “Fair and Open Skies Act”; H.R. 1620, the “Chesapeake Bay Program Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 1132, the “San Francisco Bay Restoration Act”; H.R. 2247, the “Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound Act”; H.R. 4031, the “Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2019”; H.R. 4044, the “Protect and Restore America’s Estuaries Act”; H.R. 4275, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 3779, the “Resilience Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2019”; H.R. 2242, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include certain services in the definition of critical services, and for other purposes; H.R. 4347, the “PREPARE Act of 2019”; and General Services Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions. H.R. 3632, H.R. 1620, H.R. 4031, H.R. 4044, and H.R. 4347 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1132, H.R. 2242, H.R. 2247, H.R. 4275, and H.R. 3779 were ordered reported, as amended. General Services Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were adopted.

UPDATE ON VA CONTRACTED EXAMS, QUALITY REVIEW PROCESS, AND SERVICE TO RURAL VETERANS

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Update on VA Contracted Exams, Quality Review Process, and Service to Rural Veterans”. Testimony was heard from Mary Glenn, Deputy Director, Mandatory Disability Exams Program, Veterans Benefit Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Elizabeth Curda, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING VA’S OVERPAYMENTS AND COLLECTION PROCESSES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Overpayments and Collection Processes”. Testimony was heard from Jon Rychalski, Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

HOW THE TAX CODE SUBSIDIZES HATE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled “How the Tax Code Subsidizes Hate”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS: A LOOK AT THE WORK OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Recommendations for Improving the Budget and Appropriations Process: A Look at the Work of the Joint Select Committee”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lowey and Representative Womack; Megan Lynch, Specialist on Congress and the Legislative Process, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Conferences met in closed session to resolve the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of S. 1790, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to the call.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for the U.S. Building Sector”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, continue a markup on H.R. 123, the “FHA Additional Credit Pilot Program Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 132, the “North America Development Bank Improvement Act of 2019”; H.R. 4029, the “Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019”; H.R. 4067, the “Financial Inclusion in Banking Act of 2019”; H.R. 4242, the “Greater Accountability in Pay Act of 2019”; H.R. 4300, the “Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019”; H.R. 4302, the “Facilitating Access to Homeless Assistance Act of 2019”; H.R. 4328, the “Protecting Innocent Consumers Affected by a Shutdown Act”; H.R. 4329, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act of 2019”; H.R. 4344, to amend the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for the SEC to seek and Federal courts to grant restitution to investors and disgorgement of unjust enrichment; H.R. 4335, the
“8–K Trading Gap Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4320, the "Corporate Management Accountability Act of 2019", 8:45 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day Hearing”, 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on National Security; and the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, joint hearing entitled “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part III): Addressing the Transnational Terrorist Threat”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Monday, September 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Brian McGuire, of New York, to be a Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 a.m., Friday, September 20

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Consideration of H.R. 1423—Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

Graves, Sam, Mo., E1177, E1178, E1180, E1181, E1182, E1183, E1184
Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E1178
Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E1179
Lowey, Nita M., N.Y., E1180
McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E1185
Nadler, Jerrold, N.Y., E1177
Payne, Donald M., Jr., N.J., E1184
Pence, Greg, Ind., E1177
Rogers, Mike, Ala., E1180
Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho, Northern Mariana Islands, E1181
Shimkus, John, Ill., E1182
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E1182, E1184
Stevens, Haley M., Mich., E1177
Stivers, Steve, Ohio, E1182
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1179
Welch, Peter, Vt., E1178

Congressional Record

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.