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, D.C., 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 for cattle producers, especially the last couple of years. The producers that I know, they don’t ask for guarantees or handouts. All that they want is a fair chance to earn a living. Unfortunately, prices have been soft, and those producers aren’t sure that the market is accurately applying margin to our feeders and to our ranchers.

Following the Holcomb fire, the market experienced extreme volatility. 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
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. Ever since that 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 servicemembers 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 94 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 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 and who is mentioned in a new book by Douglas Murray, titled ‘The Madness of Crowds: Gender, Race and Identity.’

Some of this hits me 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 conclusions, which are conscious to question . . . 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 you become conscious of it, you are confronted 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 pitiless 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 up, 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 be that way, that you are someone who you are beyond acceptable humanity. You are a homophobe, an Islamophobe, a white supremacist, or a racist, and no argument can refute these accusations once they have been made.’

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 apology, 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 bring this on yourself, 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.

This 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 magnificently imagined vision of 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 white. 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.

‘Invariably, the offense is given by the old major 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 disassociate myself from the remarks of the previous speaker. I absolutely, wholeheartedly 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 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 four African American regiments 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 22.

We know that estuaries are those places where freshwaters or rivers meet the seas. 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 consider to be the most biodiverse 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 fisherfolk, boaters, birders, and I 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 event 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.
RECESS
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today. Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.
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.
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.

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

WELCOMING DR. BRYANT R. ALI
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 1 minute.
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 Psalmsist 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 incredible. 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.

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.

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.)
Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that, by 2025, the cost of addressing America’s infrastructure needs will reach $4.6 trillion. With Federal transportation funded at $305 billion this year, we aren’t even coming close.

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 Aard Studio Gallery, which was 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.

Thanks to Gladys’ efforts, the Newark Museum 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 NewarkArts. 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 three of Gladys’ five murals, called Music Unites Us All, on the PSEG Fairmount Heights Art Wall.

Gladys has been a blessing to our cultural scene and to me personally as a great aunt 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 nowhere.

I have complained that they are now unprepared for the storms that have made landfall.

Storm Imelda, which appeared out of nowhere. Highways and roads are flooding, and local authorities are advising nowhere. Gladys has been a blessing to our cultural scene and to me personally as a great aunt and friend of all of her children. Gladys’ life reminds us of the value of art in society, and she will be sorely missed.

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.

She 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 commemorative 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 Sheriffs 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 support 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.

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 Schuylkill 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 are working 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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Gary Mabrey, for his retirement after 30 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.
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 honored to call Gary Morello to the Michael. I thank Gary for his service to our community during his tenure with the chamber, and it shows Gary’s hard work. I wish Gary and his beautiful wife, Jackie, all the best in their new retirement.

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 was 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 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 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 MaLaughlin; 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 the 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 of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 3(b) 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 9:30 a.m.

That the Senate disagrees to the House amendment, agrees to Conference and appoints conference S. 1790.

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
with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed 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, as the President determined to the 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. McGovern, from the Committee, Mr. Cole. He is not only a member of the Appropriations Committee but the ranking member on the Rules Committee. Mr. Cole, you have the floor to recognize, and the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. Cole, for 1 hour.

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.

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

Mr. McGovern. Mr. Speaker, before I begin my formal remarks, let me just take this moment also to recognize the leadership of the ranking member on the Rules Committee, Mr. Cole. He is not only a friend, but he is a fair and evenhanded appropriator that can work with both sides. I know if the gentleman could control this entire process, we would not be having continuing resolutions; we would be actually voting for funding for the entire year.

As my colleagues know, funding for the Federal Government runs out on September 30, and that is less than 2 weeks from now. I had hoped that we would have finished all of our work by now. Certainly, the House has done its lion’s share of work, but instead of prioritizing that, President Trump has been obsessed with drawing on weather maps and Twitter fights and cozying up to dictators.

And the Republican Congress 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 the actions of this House. But the Republican Senate has passed zero. Nothing. What are they doing over there, Mr. Speaker?

The Senate is just starting to get its act together, but where have they been all summer?

This House is the only adult in the room. That is why we are acting today to keep the lights on. This continuing resolution will keep the government funded through November 21. It is bipartisan and it is drafted as cleanly as possible to encourage the Republicans in the Senate and the White House to finally negotiate on a long-term deal.

I know my Republican colleagues on the other side of the Capitol are afraid to stand up to the President. They have stood by as President Trump ransacked funding for military construction projects in their States and diverted it, instead, to pay for his ineffective border wall, a border wall that I am now being told you can fry an egg on.

The President is hurting our brave servicemen and -women, their families, and their communities, but still Senate Republicans do nothing. They won’t be the ones to help them here because any compromise will require bicameral support and the President’s signature.

Someone over there is going to have to deliver some bad news to Donald Trump to let him know that he is going to have to log off Twitter and actually govern. It may not make for good television but keeping the government open for business is the most basic responsibility that we have.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, when we finally do go to conference, this majority is going to defend our values. That means fully funding a fair and accurate census, securing our elections from foreign interference, and supporting Federal research into our Nation’s gun violence epidemic, all while working to fund education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

This is what responsible governing looks like. I know that may be a radical concept for some of my friends on the other side, who enabled this President to launch the longest shutdown in American history, but we don’t believe in shutting down the government. The last Trump shutdown cost us $3 billion in economic activity that can never be recovered. That is according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

We cannot afford a repeat at a time when Moody’s has found the President’s disastrous trade war is already resulting in 300,000 fewer jobs created.

That is a figure that could increase to 450,000 fewer jobs by the end of the year if he continues these policies.

It is tough to know what will happen because it seems like the President can’t make up his own mind. You would have better luck at a casino than betting what President Trump will do next. That is not master negotiation, that is madness.

Our farmers are hurting. I am glad that the bill lessened the impacts they are facing as a result of the President’s trade war. These families need our help, and I stand with them.
Somebody 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 try enough to this uncertainty. Enough with the meetings, and 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, work together well.

I appreciate the manner in which my friend runs his committee and discharges his responsibility on that committee to this entire House.

We are here today, Mr. Speaker, on a bill that represents one of the most fundamental roles 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 for another month. The extension of funding is necessary to ensure that the House and the Senate have the time to reach a deal for full year 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 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 of our nation’s most important programs. Without passing this bill, crucial programs impacting millions of Americans in every district of the country would expire. These include programs like community health centers, the Commodity Credit Corporation, the National Flood Insurance Program, the Special Diabetes Program, and the Special Diabetes Program for Native Americans.

Every one of these programs is one 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 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 bring up H.R. 4261, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funding in support of campaigns for the offices of Senators or Representatives.

Earlier this Congress, my Democratic friends and I introduced 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 contributions under $200. For every dollar a congressional candidate raised, taxpayers would kick in an additional $6 if that contribution was less than $200. If the goal is to fix the campaign finance system and level the playing field, throwing even more money into the system—especially taxpayer dollars—makes zero sense.

As an appropriator, I find it hard to think of a worse use of taxpayer dollars than creating a government-funding system favoring super PACs and the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans, which accomplishes nothing but to further entrench the influence of the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans, which accomplishes nothing but further entrench the influence of the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. The reality is that the special interests have, instead, made clear that they want to spend taxpayer dollars on personal 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 want 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—the House has largely done its job this year. We have completed 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 of 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 of Representatives—takes this money. And I think people wonder why our institutional campaigns—special interests that are centered on the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans and 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 think you can tie that to the money. When people want to know why we can’t pass important legislation, like universal background checks, I think you can tie that to the money.

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

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 in conclusion. As my good frie— 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 he took office because President Trump's tariffs are causing the typical U.S. household $1,000 a year. That is $1,000. Mr. Speaker.

None of us can control the President's haphazard so-called negotiation with China, but we can control whether Congress acts to lift the threat of another shutdown. The Senate may be in disarray and the President may be focused on his latest Twitter feud or talking about how many mountain climbers couldn't climb over his new wall, or whether you can fry an egg on it, but this majority is focused on the American people. We are doing our job to prevent a shutdown to provide necessary funding that benefits all people in this country and buying some time so that we can work out a long-term deal.

So I urge all my colleagues to join with us today. Let's encourage the Senate Republicans and the President to finally do the jobs they were elected to do and keep this government funded. We are doing our job, and in here, today, we will bring a bipartisan product to this floor—this bipartisan continuing resolution—that deserves a strong vote on both sides of the aisle.

The text of the material previously referred to by Mr. COLE is as follows:

ANNOUNCEMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 564

At the end of the resolution, the add the following:

Sect. 2. That immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4261) to prohibit the use of federal funds for support in payment of campaign expenditures for the offices of Senator or Representative of Congress. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

Yeas 228, nays 197, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 536]
Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I demand a record vote.

Recorded Vote

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I demand a record vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

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

[Roll No. 537]

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 564, the bill is required by law to be submitted to Congress for its consideration. The text of the bill is as follows:

Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health wal. Appropriations Act of 2019

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 564, I call upon the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 564, the bill is considered read. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4378

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 “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019.”

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
The table of contents of this Act is as follows:
Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of Contents.
Sec. 3. References.
DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020
DIVISION B—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS AND OTHER MATTERS
TITLE I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS
TITLE II—OTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS
TITLE III—MEDICAID EXTENDERS
TITLE V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS
TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES
TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS
SEC. 3. REFERENCES.
Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020
The following funds are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for:

(1) The new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2019 or prior years;
(2) The increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2019 funds; or
(3) The initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, activity, or organization, programmed element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items designated as P-1 or P-2) within an appropriation account and an R-1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account, for which no funds or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 101. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.
SEC. 102. Except as otherwise provided in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2019, to be continued through the date specified in section 106.

(2) Appropriations made and funds available or authority granted pursuant to this Act or in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reverts or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 114. (a) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for emergency requirements due on or after the first day of the fiscal year for which appropriations were not available during the fiscal year for which funds or authority for such project or activity were available under this Act.
SEC. 116. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2020, appropriations and funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2019.

SEC. 110. This Act shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the Act shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.
SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2019, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(c) of this Act.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency shall be available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2019, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reverts or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.
(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) to which the TAFS is not applicable, and receive other appropriations in this Act.

The amounts provided by this Act in section 127(c) may be continued instead by reducing the rate for operations otherwise provided by section 101 for such current applicable TAFS, as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

(b) Rescissions or cancellations described in subsection (a) shall continue in an amount equal to the lesser of:

(1) the amount specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act; or
(2) the amounts 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 the rescissions and cancellations in such comprehensive list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available as of October 1, 2019, from the funds identified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101, and such updates shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate upon request.

Sect. 116. Title I of the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116–20) is amended in the matter under the heading “Department of Agriculture—Office of the Secretary” by inserting “(b) In addition to the amount otherwise provided by section 101 for ‘Department of Agriculture—National Marketing Service—Marketing Services’ at a rate for operations of $16,496,000 to continue the implementation of the Hemp Production Program (section 10113 of Public Law 115–354).”]

Sect. 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 accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) for “Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations necessary to maintain and implement the Hemp Production Program.

Sect. 125. (a) No funds shall be transferred directly from “Department of Energy—Electricity Programs” to “Department of Energy—Power Marketing Administration—Colorado River Basin Power Marketing Fund, Western Area Power Administration” to the general fund of the Treasury in fiscal year 2019.

(b) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

Sect. 127. Notwithstanding section 101, title III.D. of section 101 shall remain available only if the President subsequently so designates all amounts made available by this Act as being for expenses of implementing section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. 456), and shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) for “Department of Energy—Electricity Programs” at a rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

Sect. 128. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds to prevent loss of water systems in the District of Columbia—District of Columbia Funds” for such programs and activities under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116–6) at the rate set forth in the Fiscal Year 2020 Local Budget Act of 2019 (D.C. Act 23–78), as modified as of the date of enactment of this Act.

Sect. 129. In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided to the Office of Personnel Management for “Salaries and Expenses” at a rate for operations of $48,000,000, for an additional amount for administrative expenses: Provided, That of such amounts, $29,780,000 shall be transferred to the Independent Surrogates’ Office for Surrogate Compensation Programs, without regard to any other provision of law: Provided further, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain agency operations.

Sect. 130. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter preceding the first proviso under the heading “Small Business Administration—Borrowing Programs” is hereby deleted and the following is added in its place: Provided, That amounts made available by this Act shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand at not more than $5,000,000.”

Sect. 122. Provided, That the term “advancing billings” has the meaning given in section 2308(d)(4) of title 10, United States Code, during the period covered by this Act, any advanced billing for background investigation services and any other direct federal expenditures for activities financed using Defense Working Capital Funds shall be excluded from the calculation of cumulative advance billings under section 2308(b) of such title.

Sect. 123. Provided, That the term “advance billing” has the meaning given in section 2308(d)(4) of title 10, United States Code, during the period covered by this Act, any advanced billing for background investigation services and any other direct federal expenditures for activities financed using Defense Working Capital Funds shall be excluded from the calculation of cumulative advance billings under section 2308(b) of such title.

Sect. 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, and amounts made available by section 121, shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand for such programs and activities under the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Nutrition Service—Child Nutrition Fund—Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses pursuant to section 127(c) for the “Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations necessary to maintain and implement the Hemp Production Program.

(b) Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Food and Nutrition Service—Child Nutrition Programs” to carry out section 748(g) of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Cuts Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–80) may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to ensure that the program can be fully operational by May 2020.

Sect. 119. Amounts provided by section 111 to the Department of Agriculture for “Corporation Credit Commodity Credit Corporation Fund—Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses” may be used, prior to the completion of the report described in section 2 of the Act of August 14, 1992 (106 Stat. 1176), to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, as of September 17, 2019: Provided, That the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit a report, no later than October 31, 2019, to the Committees on Appropriations and Agriculture and of both Houses of Congress, including estimates for all Market Facilitation Program payments, in calendar year 2018 and 2019 and projected payments in calendar year 2020, that were made from substantially foreign-owned companies or their subsidiaries.

Sect. 120. In addition to amounts provided by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations of $16,496,000 to continue the implementation of the Hemp Production Program (section 10113 of Public Law 115–354).

Sect. 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 accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) for “Department of Agriculture—National Marketing Service—Marketing Services” at a rate for operations necessary to maintain and implement the Hemp Production Program.

Sect. 125. (a) No funds shall be transferred directly from “Department of Energy—Electricity Programs” to “Department of Energy—Power Marketing Administration—Colorado River Basin Power Marketing Fund, Western Area Power Administration” to the general fund of the Treasury in fiscal year 2019.

(b) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

Sect. 127. Notwithstanding section 101, title III.D. of section 101 shall remain available only if the President subsequently so designates all amounts made available by this Act as being for expenses of implementing section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. 456), and shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) for “Department of Energy—Electricity Programs” at a rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand pursuant to section 127(c) as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

Sect. 128. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds to prevent loss of water systems in the District of Columbia—District of Columbia Funds” for such programs and activities under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116–6) at the rate set forth in the Fiscal Year 2020 Local Budget Act of 2019 (D.C. Act 23–78), as modified as of the date of enactment of this Act.

Sect. 129. In addition to amounts provided by section 101, amounts are provided to the Office of Personnel Management for “Salaries and Expenses” at a rate for operations of $48,000,000, for an additional amount for administrative expenses: Provided, That of such amounts, $29,780,000 shall be transferred to the Independent Surrogates’ Office for Surrogate Compensation Programs, without regard to any other provision of law: Provided further, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain agency operations.

Sect. 130. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter preceding the first proviso under the heading “Small Business Administration—Borrowing Programs” is hereby deleted and the following is added in its place: Provided, That amounts made available by this Act shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand

Sect. 123. (b) Provided, That such amounts that were previously designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 101 of this Act.
for commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

SEC. 131. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for “Small Business Administration—Disaster Loans Program Account” at a rate for operations of $177,136,000: Provided, That amounts made available under heading by this Act may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

SEC. 132. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “Emergency Management—Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Account” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support hiring and operations required for projects and activities associated with the 2020 presidential election campaign.

SEC. 135. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “Department of Homeland Security—Hurricane Harvey Relief Account” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out response and recovery activities associated with projects and activities funded by the Disaster Relief Trust Fund.

SEC. 136. Amounts made available by section 101, amounts are provided to the Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to support hiring and operations required for projects and activities associated with the 2020 presidential election campaign.

SEC. 137. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Health and Human Services for “Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Ebola Preparedness and Response” and “Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund” may be obligated in the amount of $167,136,000 for the period beginning on September 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019, to remain available until expended for Ebola preparedness and response activities without regard to the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2019”.

SEC. 138. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Health and Human Services for “Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support” shall be available for the period beginning on September 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019.

SEC. 139. Section 114(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1011c(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 to the Department of Veterans Affairs for 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. 635a) 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. 6499) 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 115-141 and title I of division G of Public Law 116-6 shall be amended—

(a) by striking “(G) $44,164,384 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on December 21, 2019,” before “(G) $126,500,000,” and inserting “(G) $126,500,000,”; and

(b) by striking “(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking ‘‘$1,000,000’’ and inserting ‘‘$125,000,000,’’; and

(c) by striking “(3) inserting the following before the period: ‘‘(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph” and inserting “(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘$4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.’’; and

SEC. 144. Section 903(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall not apply during the period covered by this Act.

SEC. 145. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for “Housing Programs—Housing for the Elderly” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out activities for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(c)(2)), including making amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewing expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term.

The division may be cited as the “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020.”


(a) COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.—Section 10503(b)(1)(B) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254f-2(b)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “2018 and $4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019,” and inserting “2019, and $4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019, and $589,683,014 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,”.

(b) NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.—Section 10503(b)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254f-2(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “$8,400,000” and inserting “$12,650,000”, and

(2) by striking “$1,600,000” and inserting “$4,000,000,”.

(c) TEACHING HEALTH CENTERS THAT OPERATE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—Section 340B(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256b(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and $126,500,000” and inserting “$126,500,000,” and

(2) by striking “$18,621,918 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

(d) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—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 340 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264 through 256).

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (4) of section 3014(b) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 115-123, is amended by striking “and section 5090(e) of the Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 201)” and inserting “and section 5090(e) of the Affordable Care Act, and section 5090(e) of the Advancing Chronic Care, Extenders, and Social Services Act.”

SEC. 1102. DIABETES PROGRAMS.

(a) TYPE I.—Section 330(b)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-2(b)(2)(D)) is amended by striking “and $2,369,663 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

(b) TYPE II.—Section 330(b)(2)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-2(b)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting “and $2,369,663 for the period beginning on October 1, 2019, and ending on November 21, 2019,” before “to remain available”.

TITLE II—OTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS SEC. 1201. EXTENSION OF SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE PROGRAM.

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

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) — (A)
(I) by inserting after ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and and for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

(II) by inserting after ‘‘for the fiscal year or period’’ in the fiscal year’ each place it appears and inserting ‘‘for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

SECTION 1202. EXTENSION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Section 513 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 713) is amended—

(I) by inserting after ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and $10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

(II) in paragraph (2), by inserting after ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and for the period described in paragraph (1)’’;

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—

(I) by inserting after ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and $10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

(II) by inserting after ‘‘for the fiscal year’’ the following: ‘‘or period’’;

(III) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting at the end the following new sentence: ‘‘The previous sentence shall not apply with respect to State allotments under this paragraph for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019.’’;

(IV) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting after ‘‘for fiscal year 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and $10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

SECTION 1306. DURING THE APPORTIONMENTS IN MEDICAID DSH ALLOTMENTS.

Section 1922(c)(7)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d–4(f)(7)(A)) is amended—

(I) in clause (i), by inserting after ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2019’’ the following: ‘‘and $10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

(II) in clause (ii), by striking ‘‘(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ‘‘for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025’’ and inserting ‘‘For each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025’’;’’;

(III) in clause (iii), by striking ‘‘For each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019’’ and inserting ‘‘and $10,684,931 for the period beginning October 1, 2019, and ending November 21, 2019’’;

SECTION 1401. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR QUALITY MEASURES AND ASSURANCE, INPUT, AND SELECTION.

Section 1890(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(I) in clause (i), by inserting ‘‘and $7,500,000’’ and inserting ‘‘$7,500,000’’; and

(II) by inserting before the period at the end inserting ‘‘and $7,500,000’’ and inserting ‘‘$7,500,000’’.

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

(a) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS.—Subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 1136 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (section 1136 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act) (42 U.S.C. 1398–b–3) is amended by striking ‘‘September 13, 2019’’ and inserting ‘‘November 21, 2019’’.

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

(1) in clause (vi), by striking ‘‘and’’ at the end;

(2) in clause (vii), 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 $1,652,000.’’;

(c) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.—Subsection (d)(3) 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 $7,000,000.’’;

(d) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONTRACT WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR BENEFITS AND OUTREACH ENROLLMENT.—Subsection (b)(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 $1,710,000.’’.

SECTION 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’’.

SECTION V—HUMAN SERVICES EXTENDERS

SECTION 1501. EXTENSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS TO ADDRESS HEALTH PROFESSIONS WORKFORCE NEEDS.

Activities authorized under section 2008 of 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.

SECTION 1502. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act

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

Activities authorized under section 2008 of 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.

SEC. 1502. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act

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

Activities authorized under section 2008 of 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.

SEC. 1502. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act

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

Activities authorized under section 2008 of 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.

SEC. 1502. EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of 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 shall be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose.

**TITLE VI—MICROSCALE POLICIES**

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

Section 434(a) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76), as amended by section 428 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141), shall be applied by substituting “November 21, 2019” for “October 1, 2019”.

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

(a) **World Trade Center Responders.—** Section 331(a)(4)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21a(4)(A)) is amended by striking “$25,000” and inserting “$75,000”.

(b) **World Trade Center Survivors.—** Section 3321(a)(5)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–3a(5)(A)) is amended by striking “$25,000” and inserting “$75,000”.

(c) **EFFECT OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING ANNUAL FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—** Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, shall alter the annual limitations on amounts allowable to the World Trade Center Health Program Fund under section 3311(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm–6a(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. 1396–8(k)(1)) is amended—

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

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

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

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

(1) by striking “manufacturers,”; and

(2) by striking “and their”.

(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. 1396n–1(b)), as amended by section 2 of Public Law 114–93, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “$3,000,000” and inserting “$9,000”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “$20,000,000” and inserting “$30,000,000”;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “2023” each place it appears and inserting “2025”;

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “32,387,000” and inserting “32,387,000”;

(5) in paragraph (5), by striking “2020” and inserting “2022”;

(6) in paragraph (6)(B), by striking “2020” and inserting “2022”;

(7) in subparagraph (A), by striking “32,387,000” and inserting “32,387,000”;

**TELEVISION—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 pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) **Senate PAYGO Scorecards.—** The budgetary effects of this division shall not be entered on any 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 committee accompanying Conference Report 105–217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division shall not include—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

The **Speaker** pro tempore (Mr. **PAYNE**). The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the **Chair** and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The **gentlewoman from New York** (Mrs. **LOWEY** and the **gentlewoman from Texas** (Ms. **GRANGER**)) each will control 30 minutes.

The **Chair** recognizes the **gentlewoman from New York**.

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

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 lasted 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 provisions that have been negotiated by both chambers that will provide certainty for our communities and our taxpayers.

It is unfortunate that we are here in this situation and have to pass this CR to keep the government open, but we can’t afford an unnecessary and costly shutdown.

Because the budget agreement did not get enacted until August, the Senate began working on the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills only last week. As a result, there is simply not enough time to complete the appropriations process by the September 30 deadline.

Passing a short-term CR will allow us the time to complete the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills, while ensuring that our military and law enforcement personnel get paid.

In addition to preventing another shutdown, H.R. 4378 promotes economic growth, strengthens national security, protects life and religious liberty, allows us to respond to disasters, and supports public health programs.

It ensures farmers and ranchers will continue to receive temporary relief from retaliatory tariffs at a critical time of the year for our Nation’s agricultural industry.

It extends programs that are essential to countering China’s influence over our economic and national security.

It continues all existing pro-life protections from fiscal year 2019 appropriations measures.

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 can 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 am also 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 want 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, a provision 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 pleases 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 allotment to each of the 12 appropriations bills, which we euphemistically 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. It involves 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.

I urge my colleagues, let me tell you, we can complete this job prior to November 21, and that is exactly what we ought to do.

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

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the continuing resolution before us today.

I think we can all agree that continuing resolutions aren’t the ideal solution to funding our government. In fact, most of the people on the Appropriations Committee hate continuing resolutions.

Ideally, all of our 12 appropriations bills would be enacted by October 1. Last year, we were able to complete several bills on time, including the energy and water bill.

But sometimes we need more time to complete our negotiations. Considering that a budget deal was not enacted before last month, there simply isn’t enough time to complete work on these bills before the new fiscal year.

So while continuing resolutions aren’t ideal, supporting a short-term CR to keep our government functioning is the only responsible vote today—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 full-year appropriations 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, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTITZ)

Ms. KAPTITZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.
Ms. KAPTUR. 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 to do 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.

The 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 fund the entire Federal Government for the remaining fiscal year 2020.

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

This continuing resolution continues Federal funding at last year’s 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.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon in support of this continuing resolution. As one that was reached last month. It will avoid poisonous, partisan riders, unlike the bills that were passed over the summer in the House, which Republicans, frankly, cannot support.

Unfortunately, this bill does fail to adequately provide for the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies. It enables the International Trade Commission to meet its statutory mandates under the bipartisan American Productivity and Manufacturing Competitiveness Act, 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 first responders and survivors.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is good to see my colleague from New Jersey in the chair. I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for yielding. She is my classmate. There aren’t too many of us left, but it is good to see her there.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of 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 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 extension of current funding will keep many of our constituents depending on the government for the remaining fiscal year 2020. Let us do what the Senate has 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 Senate colleagues willing to advance their first bills. But what has the Senate achieved? Very little.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. 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. Mr. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

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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 Nebraska (Mr. Fortenberry), 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 omnibus 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 allows us to continue the conversation 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 Ag.

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 fiscal year 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 Lowe 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 Lowe for her leadership and expertise on the Appropriations Committee. I also thank my fellow Texan, Ms. Granger, for her work on the agricultural portion of the bill. 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 working with our Senate folks, to make sure that we get this done.

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

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nebraska (Mrs. 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 Lowe 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 today.

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, Chairwoman Bishop and I will be ready to start conferencing the Agriculture appropriations bills with our Senate colleagues.
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We look forward to House and Senate leadership decisions on the respective allocations for each of these individual appropriations bills, and on that note, I would strongly recommend that the House and Senate leaders keep in mind the critical need of the agricultural and rural communities. Last year on this day, we arrived at the final number for allocations.

As ranking member of the Appropriations Committee’s Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I was surprised to learn that in the initial draft of this bill, it would have halted desperately needed payments to our farmers and ranchers in rural communities. The White House had requested an anomaly, consistent with prior years, that the continuing resolution carry a noncontroversial provision to reestablish the mechanism for farm bill programs that support conservation, risk mitigation, as well as temporary trade payments to farmers and ranchers so hurt by unjustified retaliatory tariffs. The majority did recognize the harm hindering this provision, 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 Midwest. 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 to yield 2 minutes 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 extender 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 on the mainland. This 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.

Cuts to that funding put basic healthcare at risk for many Americans living on our islands.

The fundamental problem is that the U.S. territories are forced to operate Medicaid under capped funding. A more equitable matching rate is needed on a permanent basis. We work on a final budget, that will take place after the election. I have sponsored legislation, H.R. 1354, to remove these caps permanently. I thank everyone for advancing this cause and this CR.

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

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.

Ms. GRANGER. 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 hard-working 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. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 564, the previous question is ordered on 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 third 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.

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

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 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 1, the Journal stands approved.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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 or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

CHRISTA McAULIFFE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 2019

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 cited as 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) In 1986, Christopher McAuliffe was selected to be the second teacher to travel in space.

(4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (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 leaders, by engaging them in exciting 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 shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 $1 coins, each of which—

(1) shall contain at least 90 percent silver.

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(b) PROVISIONAL MINTING.—If the Secretary decides to mint coins under subsection (a), the Secretary may mint the coins provisionally in order to determine what purity of silver would be most appropriate for the coins in order to provide market stability and to ensure that the coins do not have a face value greater than the value of their silver content.
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;

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated to receive the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act, including labor, materials, die, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping, is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5121(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the resolution 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. 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 therefrom.

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

There was no objection.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, shall be subject to the audit requirements of the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

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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 but, 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 was 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 anticipation. Obviously, NASA got it 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 and thousands of young people all over this world participating in STEM 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 travel 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 and 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.

And 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 we 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 15½ 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 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, 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 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 some 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, in my book, is a rock star. But he, in essence, is the Thomas Edison of today.

He is such an enthusiastic supporter of this idea that ever since there has been an Education State in the Nation, but all around the world now, in terms of competition. And they have provided financial assistance, I think more than $30 million in scholarship loans, to students looking to move on to higher education, particularly in 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 they get there by going to FIRST, as we saw in the worldwide competition in Detroit earlier this year, just a few months later.

So it is a great program. All of us need to support it.

Having more than 300 cosponsors was pretty awesome to do in just a short amount of time. And I congratulate my colleagues from New Hampshire, particularly the ones that are on the floor today for their work with our Senate colleagues to get this thing across the finish line. Knowing that you can only do two is pretty amazing.

I reserve the balance of my time, just in case somebody needs it. I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan cannot reserve.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding, and I thank our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

I am so thrilled today to rise in favor of the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act.

Christa McAuliffe was a teacher at my alma mater, Concord High School, and she was very smart; she was charming; she was the kind teacher who left her mark on countless students through her willingness to do whatever it took to help them succeed.

The Concord and broader New Hampshire community was thrilled when she was chosen out of over 10,000 applicants as NASA’s first teacher in space. Her mission was to inspire a generation of American students to look toward the sky and pursue careers in science. And her mentor, Mr. HOYER noted: “I touch the future. I teach.”

She cared about America, and every year she invited my mother, former State Senator Susan McLane, into her classroom so that her students would know about our government and opportunities for their future.

Her husband, Steve, and their two children, were important in our community. And I am reminded of the story when President Bush announced Christa’s appointment, he whispered into Steve’s ear: “You will be making your dinner a lot more on your own.”

Tragically, on January 28, 1986, Christa, along with six other members of the Challenger Space Shuttle crew, perished when the shuttle exploded.

I can’t tell you the number of colleagues when I was asking for their signatures to join us in this bipartisan bill said, I remember exactly where I was when that happened.

But we remember Christa because she wanted her students to seek out the best in themselves, and always to reach a little higher. Inspired by Christa’s leadership, her students did just that 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 the 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 secure the necessary 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 PAPPAS, 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 nonprofit TRUST: The Christa McAuliffe Space Education Foundation 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 mathematics 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 touched and lives. Just as she was for the 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. That is just what Christa McAuliffe meant to do when she joined the Teacher in Space project. Ms. McAuliffe was once asked to describe her philosophy of living, to which she answered, "to get as much out of life as possible."

The Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act of 2019 is an excellent way to recognize and remember Ms. McAuliffe for her contributions to education and to celebrate women in STEM. We must continue to uphold Ms. McAuliffe’s mission to boost the next generation’s interest in the sciences. Christa McAuliffe decided to embark on this adventure with her students in mind, knowing she would have incredible lessons to teach them when she returned from space. Although she never returned, Christa McAuliffe continues to inspire successive generations of students to explore, to remain curious, and to keep a love of learning alive.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). The question is on the motion of Mr. Speaker from California (Ms. NATASHA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 239.

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.
"(B) PAYMENT OF AWARDS.—Any amount paid under this subparagraph shall be paid from any funds generated from the collection of monetary sanctions.

(7) 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 member of the Board, a member of the Board’s immediate family, or a person who would otherwise have a conflict of interest with respect to the information submitted to the Board;

"(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) in a proceeding; and

"(B) 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.

"(B) 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.

"(C) APPEALS.—Any determination made under subparagraph (A) shall be final, 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).

"(7) DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Board and any officer or employee of the Board may not disclose any information, including but not limited to, information provided by a whistleblower to the Board, which could reasonably be expected to reveal the identity of a whistleblower unless and until required to disclose to a defendant in a proceeding in connection with a public proceeding instituted by the Commission or any entity described in clause (iii).

"(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section is intended to limit, or shall be construed to limit, the ability of the Attorney General to present such evidence to a grand jury or to share such evidence with potential witnesses or defendants in the course of an ongoing criminal investigation.

"(iii) AVAILABILITY TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Without the loss of its status as confidential in the hands of the Board, all information referred to in clause (i) may, in the discretion of the Board, when determined by the Board to be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act and to protect investors, be made available to—

"(A) the Attorney General of the United States;

"(B) any appropriate regulatory authority;

"(C) a State attorney general;

"(D) a law enforcement organization; or

"(E) an appropriate State regulatory agency.

"(2) PERMITTED USE.—The Commission and any entity described in clause (i) may use information referred to in clause (i) only in connection with any criminal investigation.

"(F) FOREIGN AUTHORITY.—Each of the entities described in items (aa) through (ff) of subclause (I) shall maintain such information as confidential in accordance with the requirements established under subparagraph (A) and (B). The Commission shall not disclose such information to any foreign authority in any manner unless the Commission receives a written request for such information from a foreign authority.

"(G) USE OF FUNDS.—Any award made under this section shall be paid from any funds generated from the collection of monetary sanctions.

"(H) PAYMENT OF FEES.—Any award made under this section shall be paid to the whistleblower.

"(I) DISBURSEMENT.—The Commission may disburse any amount of an award made under this section in accordance with section 107(c).

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purposes of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement.
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 gentleman 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 a 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 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 auditing partners 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 SEC enforcement actions, as we could 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 in the middle 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 this 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 the whistleblowers claim 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 his 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 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 if they came 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.

In July, 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 WATTERS 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
he may consume to the gentleman
legislating that happens on our com-
body understands that there is good
done.
commend her for the work that she has
gentlewoman for this, which it may be
support, as it should. So I thank the
functional and right and can get wide
the committee to work with my staff
ness of the Democrat majority staff on
sume.
yield myself such time as I may con-
legislation, and I ask for their support.
leagues will join me in supporting this
September 19, 2019
questions. For example, why is a pro-
porting process.
public's confidence in the financial re-
tionship, the audit process, and the
effects on the auditor-audit client rela-
ties at the expense of disrupting the ef-
fective functioning of the audit process
as it is today, especially in light of the
SEC's well-established whistleblower
program at the PCAOB even necessary in
light of the Security and Exchange
Commission’s already well-established
whistleblower program? This is a com-
pletely redundant function that is
being attempted here.

Additionally, are the costs asso-
ciated with setting up a new whistle-
blower program, and will these costs
force the PCAOB to divert resources
from other projects in order to get this
duplicative program off the ground?

So, in light of these concerns, I be-
lieve that the present and ill-
conceived bill that likely has one pur-
pose: 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 sup-
port this bill to explain why they be-
lieve that auditors, who play such a
critical gatekeeping function in our
capital markets, should be potentially
offered the prospect of monetary boun-
ties in the hope of disrupting the ef-
fектив 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 the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms.
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 yield-
ing.

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 op-
posite of that—or a whistleblower pro-
gram, but there are a number of rea-
sons why I believe, and I think are clear,
that this is a redundant program that
is already covered in other ways.

First, the bill is at odds with estab-
lished principles of confidentiality that
exist within the auditing profession.
State laws and professional standards
require accounting professionals to
maintain the confidentiality of client
information received in the course of
performing an audit. This bill purports
to exclude from whistleblower status
any person who gains the information
while performing audit work.

However, the exclusion is muddled
by an unclear and potentially broad excep-
tion. As a result, it is very possible
that personnel performing audits may
try to garner bounties by blowing the
whistle on their audit clients, contrary
to their professional obligations.

By providing monetary incentives for
audit personnel to go to the PCAOB,
the bill inevitably will have harmful
effects on the auditor-audit client rela-
tionship, the audit process, and the
public’s confidence in the financial re-
porting process.

This bill also raises other significant
questions. For example, why is a pro-
gram at the PCAOB even necessary in
light of the Security and Exchange
Commission’s already well-established
whistleblower program? This is a com-
pletely redundant function that is
being attempted here.

Additionally, are the costs asso-
ciated with setting up a new whistle-
blower program, and will these costs
force the PCAOB to divert resources
from other projects in order to get this
duplicative program off the ground?

So, in light of these concerns, I be-
lieve that the present and ill-
conceived bill that likely has one pur-
pose: to provide another avenue for
plaintiffs’ bar to enrich itself. That is a
massive concern that I and so many
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It is incumbent upon those who sup-
port this bill to explain why they be-
lieve that auditors, who play such a
critical gatekeeping function in our
capital markets, should be potentially
offered the prospect of monetary boun-
ties in the hope of disrupting the ef-
fective 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 do appreciate the
ranking member yielding time to me.

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, 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 con-
sume.

Whistleblowers provide an important
function. We want to make sure that
there are legal constraints on this, ob-
viously. The Securities and Exchange
Commission have shown themselves
good actors in terms of implementing
the whistleblower law that we cur-
rently have on the books, and I antic-
pate, with the capacity for implementa-
tion, that there could be that like
kind of coordination between PCAOB
and the SEC in order to implement this
bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my col-
leagues 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 con-
sume.

First, Madam Speaker, I congratu-
late the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms.
GARCIA). I am so 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 un-
tertaken 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 gen-
tleman on the opposite side of the aisle
from Michigan almost forgot why he
came here, because he used the word
‘bounties’ 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 ex-
plain why he was on the floor today op-
posing this bill.

The SEC has demonstrated the value
of whistleblowers. And, yes, the whis-
tleblowers 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 is on the motion offered by
the gentlewoman from California (Ms.
WATERS) that the House suspend the
rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3625, 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.

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 for
the Appraisal Subcommittee with the
authority to modify annual registry fees
for appraisal management companies,
to maintain a registry of trainees and
trainee registry fee, 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.

Subparagraph (B) of section 1109(a)(4) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(a)(4)(B)) is amended 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 Sub-committee 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 1109(a) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(a)(3)) is amended by striking “and licensed” and inserting “, licensed, and trainee”.

(b) ANNUAL REGISTRY FEES.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1109(a)(4) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(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 inserting “by” before the semicolon the following: “; except that nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to require a State to establish or operate an program for training appraisers”,

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 1121 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338) is amended by adding at the end 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 credentialed by a State appraiser regulatory agency, or

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

Paragraph (5) of section 1109(b) of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3338(b)(5)) is amended by inserting “nonprofit organizations, 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 APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The first sentence of section 1011 of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3330) 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 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 (Mrs. McHENRY) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

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 matter.

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 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, which is a 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.

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 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.

The bill we are considering today is a good first step in that reform process. It makes the necessary improvements to the fee structure and to the appraiser registry. These reforms will help increase transparency and clarity for consumers in an already complex regulatory scheme.

The bill also allows the Federal Appraisal Subcommittee to set up a less arbitrary fee schedule for appraisal management companies. These management companies are intermediaries lenders sometimes use to provide certain appraisal-related services. This new schedule will help improve appraiser complaint investigations and enforcement activities.

The bill would also, for the first time, allow trainees to be listed on the Subcommittee’s national registry for appraisers. This will help meet appraisal needs, as well as help those trainees receive the valuable on-the-job experience they need to gain further accreditation. That is just the nature of the apprenticeship process that the appraisal industry has in order to get licensure in most States.

The bill also provides for greater transparency under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, or what we commonly call RESPA. If you have ever had a mortgage, you understand what RESPA is. You may not understand what it is, is probably the more accurate way to say it. This is an important transparency measure for the disclosure of
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 are 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 lends 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-sponsors Chairman CLAY of the Housing, Community Development and Insurance Subcommittee has done great 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 presented 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 representation 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 address this directly, every takeaway from this 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 representation of minority appraisers, which would 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 funding is another one of the bill that 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 had a significant impact on 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 joining with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, CFPB, in a truly uniform policy. 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, H.R. 3619, 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 work with consumers 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 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, 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 extending modern 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 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 required under subsection (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 excluded from a furlough during the shutdown;

(B) a Federal contractor (as defined under section 701 of title 41, United States Code) or other business, and who has experienced a substantial reduction in pay 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 701 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 Directors 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 by 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 California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

General Leave

Ms. WATTERS. 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 gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATTERS. 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 suspended.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office estimated the shutdown cost the American economy $11 billion and it delayed approximately $18 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 them 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.R. 2290 that I sponsored and was passed by the House on a voice vote in January by the recognition of Federal employees 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 rulemaking. 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, paycheck advances, or lower 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 other individuals suffering economic hardship through no fault of their own. Madam Speaker, if you look at the 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 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.

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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, paycheck advances, or lower 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 who were 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 the financial institutions that 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. It is essential that we do 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 my 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 out to Federal contractors, resulting in tens of thousands of layoffs. Unlike Federal workers, contractors did not receive backpay.

Thousands of families saw their lives upended. Missing one paycheck is a hard hit, 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 afford 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 financial hardships and confusion at some financial institutions, and regulator guidance from the Federal Government was slow to come. It was not until the 20th day of the shutdown that financial regulators provided guidance, encouraging banks to work with borrowers and account holders affected by the shutdown, and letting banks know that such efforts would not be subject to examiner criticism.

During the shutdown in 2013, it wasn’t until the ninth day that similar guidance was released. Let me give you an example of why this matters. 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 this 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.
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 Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima.

(9) The Merchant Marine provided the bulk tonnage of material necessary for the invasions 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. We are proud upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us.

(11) On 7 September 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated that the Merchant Marine 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. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of 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 were essential to the Allied Forces in both Europe and Asia.

(15) The Congressional Gold Medal could be an appreciated 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, 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, 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, dies, 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 entitled "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 California (Ms. Waters) and the gentleman from California (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 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. 550, the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019.

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-WWII, as well.

Despite this danger, some 215,000 civilan merchant marines served with courage to establish and maintain critical supply lines, ensuring that vital supplies, cargo, and personnel reached Allied Forces in both Europe and Asia.

Though they had no military standing or government benefits, these civilian mariners often faced death from German U-boat assaults. These brave mariners paid a heavy price in service to their country, suffering the highest casualty rate of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

An estimated 9,300 mariners lost their lives and another 12,000 were wounded to make sure our uniformed servicemembers could keep fighting.

Unfortunately, their sacrifices are commonly underappreciated and often overlooked.

They were not even considered veterans until Congress remedied that disservice in 1988. Many of our histories of World War II gave them a passing mention but did not recognize their vital role in ensuring the success of the Allied forces.

It is time that we give these brave mariners the recognition they so richly deserve.

I thank Mr. Garamendi for introducing this bill to Congress, and I urge Members to vote "yes." 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 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 legislating 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.
They were treacherous times, and the stakes of our actually providing support for the Soviet Union in the worst point of the ravages that they were suffering under Germany in their fight with Germany were substantial as well. The icy seas of the north to bring cargo in to save lives for our Soviet Allies during World War II were substantial, and there are massive numbers of stories of the lives put at risk in order to bring important food to save lives.

It is merchant mariners who were—use the word “bravery,” but when we think about somebody doing their job of hard labor to make a ship go that is carrying cargo, we don’t think of that as bravery. It is fortitude, the will to keep doing something that is really important, even against tough odds. It shows who merchant mariners are. At sea today, the risks that they take—this is like our global economy—work is real. But during World War II, it was on a knife’s edge, and the number of lives that were lost was extraordinary.

By one statistic, 1 out of every 26 merchant mariners was killed during that time period of World War II. Their ships sailed from port to port, and many never reached their final destination. Especially the German Operation Drumbeat targeted these ships in transport in a massive way, knowing that they were traveling mostly unarmed and unescorted. Just off the North Carolina coast, there are 80 cargo ships that were targeted and 1,600 lives that were lost. That is just off one portion of our East Coast.

There are stories of heroic acts by these folks who were just, in peaceful times, doing a normal trade—an extra step, but a normal trade—but at war were the number one target in that early stage to break the will of the British and our support of them and then again trying to snuff off the Soviet Union from supplies, food, and weaponry.

So this is a fantastic recognition of the important work that merchant mariners provided, the vital work that they provided during World War II, and a recognition of a trade, a craft, a skill, and that hard work of those folks who did make the cargo go.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), who is chair of the Subcommittee on Readiness on the Armed Services Committee and a highly valued Member of this House.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman Waters so very much for the opportunity to speak on this bill.

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 cosponsor, Representative 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 have brought us 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 mariners.

In 1944, Franklin Delano Roosevelt said that the Merchant Marines had “delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations 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 in the line of 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 bill. I think it is 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 gentleman 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 our former colleagues, Representative Janice Hahn, whom I worked with closely and she have continued to try to bring this effort before the American people and before this House.

Merchant mariners, today, are Federal employees who pursue a civil service career in the Navy while assigned aboard U.S. Government-owned ships that support the Navy’s warfighters and warfighting 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 seafarers 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 had 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. So now is the time, especially 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 endured 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 Japanese camps 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. MCKENRY. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), who chairs the Fi

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I urge adoption, and yield back the balance of my time.

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

I, too, in thanking Representatives GARAMENDI, BROOKS, and YOUNG in bringing this bill to the floor of 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.

I also thank 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, just thing, and we ought to do it as we do.

But today, let’s celebrate what has been accomplished. Let’s have this Congressional Gold Medal presented, and let’s make sure that if we see a merchant mariner, we give them the love that they richly deserve as well.

They are truly heroes who have made us the land of the free because they are members of the home of the brave.

Mr. MCKENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Mr. MCKENRY. Madam Speaker, on a personal note, on my team on the House Financial Services Committee and when I was chief deputy whip of the House, I had somebody work with me on my team named Phil Poe of Maryland.

Phil, out of college, was inspired by the stories of World War II merchant mariners and inspired by a family member, as well, to get licensed as a merchant mariner. He spent a little time as a merchant mariner and then paid his way through graduate school as a merchant mariner.

So I want to commend his willingness to serve, but I also want to note that, for the RECORD, these stories of World War II merchant mariners are having an impact generations later.

That inspirational story of the risks that they were willing to take, plus the family connection and inspiration he heard from those stories, have made a major difference for him. That work ethic that he developed and learned on that ship really steeled him to do better in graduate school, and by the time he came to the Hill, it was all easy compared to what he had been through.

So these stories we hear from long ago of merchant mariners and their sacrifices still have an impact today, and I am glad we have a Congressional Gold Medal and legislative recognition around the sacrifices that merchant mariners made during World War II.

ADVANCING INNOVATION TO ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass 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.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2613

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 “Advancing Innovation to Assist Law Enforcement Act”.

SEC. 2. FINCEN STUDY ON USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (“FinCEN”) shall carry out a study to:

(A) the status of implementation and internal use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (“AI”), digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies within FinCEN;

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(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; and

(C) how FinCEN could better utilize AI, digital identity technologies, blockchain technologies, and other innovative technologies to more actively analyze and disseminate the information it 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) Report.—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) of section (a)(1), any best practices or significant concerns identified by the Director, and their 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 effective 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 1 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 urge my colleagues to support this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. This bill ensures that FinCEN is innovating alongside industry and to-date analysis and use federal agencies and law enforcement agencies. And it drives them to utilize the most advanced computing and advanced technology available anywhere in the world in the best practices when it comes to data gathering and use.

The use of new technologies will always help streamline government operations, allowing FinCEN to move quicker in the face of emerging threats.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I want to commend the gentleman from Ohio (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.

This 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 it leads to 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 protect 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 on behalf of the House Financial Services Committee on policy recommendations. The recommendations would allow the private sector, FinCen, and other Federal agencies to improve coordination and communication through advance technologies. 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. GONTHROP RUSH) 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 combat. 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:

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 1935, 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” 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 reconstituted 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 spacecraft 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, 1922, 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 aeronautics.

(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; and

(B) wrote more than 50 articles on aeronautics and design;

(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 25, 1910, 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; and

(B) was promoted to be the head of the West Area Computing unit, becoming NASA’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.

(17) Mary Jackson started her career at NACA in 1951, working as a computer as a member of the West Area Computing unit.

(18) After petitioning the City of Hampton to offer her courses in math and physics, 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 NACA and NASA—

(i) worked in the Theoretical Aerodynamics Branch of the Subsonic-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 for NASA and successfully interviewed hundreds of women of color for entry-level positions.


(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) the airport testing during World War II;

(B) supersonic flight research;

(C) the sending of 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 to appropriate recipients in accordance with the following:

(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.
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Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act. I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for her work on this bill and to insert the request of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes?

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1396, the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act. I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for her work on this important bipartisan legislation.

This bill awards a Congressional Gold Medal to Katherine Johnson, Dr. Christine Darden, and posthumously, to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, to honor all the women who contributed to NASA’s successful race to space.

These women worked tirelessly to send a man to space, despite being segregated in workrooms, bathrooms, and cafeterias in the workspace of NASA.

They provided invaluable work, as has been outlined in a very popular, well-received, highly regarded movie.

Without their effort, it is possible we may not have been able to witness John Glenn orbit the Earth, Apollo 11’s flight to the Moon, or watch the astronauts of Apollo 13 return safely to Earth and land in the South Pacific Ocean.

In fact, Madam Speaker, when Apollo 13’s James Lovell and John Swigert—who is actually here in the National Statuary Hall collection, a statue from his home State—when they famously announced, “Houston, we’ve got a problem,” when that message reached mission control, it was Katherine Johnson who crunched the numbers to get our folks home.

This was at a time when everything was going wrong, and she had a cool head and an incredibly brilliant mind to put this complex data together. This is not hoping the computer spits out the right information. This is the long work that we all dreaded as kids when it was simple math, and this was of the longest, most complex nature, the type of math that they had to do very quickly.

These women deserve the Congressional Gold Medal. They deserve this recognition.

Madam Speaker, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bipartisan legislation. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman.
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, for Congressmen, 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, 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 man 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. MCNICHOLS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. 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, H.R. 1396, 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 service 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 Lakewood, 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 pre-eminent 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 over 40 stages. Each stage is viewed as comparable to running a marathon every day for three consecutive weeks.

(10) Greg first competed in the Tour de France in 1986, finishing third, and finishing second the following year, in both years defeating the field by more than three full minutes, becoming the first American and the first non-European to win cycling’s most prestigious race.

(11) In 1987, while racing from a broken wrist and collarbone, Greg was tragically shot during a turkey hunting accident, leaving him in intensive care, requiring the removal of over 40 staples in his abdomen, was deemed unlikely to ever ride a bicycle again, and likely survived only due to the abnormal strength of his cardiovascular system.

(12) Greg mounted the greatest comeback in the history of American sports, taking home an astonishing victory at the 1989 Tour de France, following over a 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.

(13) Greg would win a third Tour de France victory in 1990.

(14) Greg is the only American to win the Tour de France.

(15) Greg has vocally spoken out to champion healthy sport amongst athletes of all ages and competition levels.

(16) Greg and his wife, Kathy, are active in numerous nonprofit causes, including healthy sport, assisting victims of sexual abuse and various childhood illnesses.

(17) Greg is the only American to win the 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.

(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 has not only reached the pinnacle of international sport, but has devoted his time and resources to assisting his fellow athletes.

(20) Greg has demonstrated the commitment to excellence, generosity, community, and tenacity that makes him an example for all to follow.

SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck in pursuance of subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of this Act, as the “Secretary” shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to subsection (a), and the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of this Act, as the “Secretary” shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of this Act, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic.
Greg LeMond is at the pinnacle of American cycling history and ranks firmly among the most accomplished international athletes in U.S. history. In 1987, he suffered a horrific gunshot injury during a hunting accident, which left him with over 40 pellets in his abdomen. He was told he would never ride a bicycle again.

Remarkably, in what remains one of the most astonishing recoveries in sports history, LeMond won the 1989 Tour de France on its final day, to win his third yellow jersey in 4 years.

That victory—on the heels of gunshot wounds, an appendectomy, a broken wrist, and a fractured collarbone—is a testament to Mr. LeMond’s tenacity and training. It still stands as the last time an American officially won the Tour de France.

Above and beyond his considerable athletic accomplishments, LeMond has demonstrated a repeated willingness to sacrifice his own individual victories for the sake of his teammates.

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 morning. I ask Members to vote “yes” and I reserve the balance of my time.

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 rise in support of H.R. 3588, my legislation to award American cyclist 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, 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. In the months that followed, 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 his 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.

Madam Speaker, Greg LeMond is one of our Nation’s greatest athletes, a tremendous role model, and a force for...
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. THOMPSON of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I am pleased to support this bipartisan bill, and I want to thank Mr. Trott and all the bill’s many co-sponsors.

For decades, Greg LeMond has exemplified the breakaway culture of American cycling and is the embodiment of talent, tenacity, and selflessness that is uniquely 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. LEMON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. 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. LEMON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this bill.

Mr. GRAVES. 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. LEMON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this bill.

Mr. GRAVES. 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. LEMON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this bill.

Mr. GRAVES. 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. LEMON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this bill.
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 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 Commemorative 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’ sacrifices.

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 battle, he was injured and 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 in Vietnam, who returned to 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 commitment to his country and persevered, the enemy would have surely pushed forward through the United States’ position.

We can’t forget about the dedication our military nurses have shown in their lives and, again in support of freedom, nurses like Beatrice Mary MacDonald, assigned to a British Clearing Hospital as chief nurse during World War I, in 1917. Chief Nurse MacDonald and her unit served 4 miles behind enemy lines in Belgium, yet German aircraft still bombed the hospital where she served, wounding her with shell fragments. Due to those injuries, she lost sight in her right eye. Chief Nurse MacDonald fought with the Army throughout the war. She is a hero, and the first known woman to have earned the Purple Heart.

In 2013, I had the honor of presenting a long-overdue Purple Heart to the widow of 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 resiliency. 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. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 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.

As a society, we must work together to take care of older Americans who are sometimes exploited, abused, or neglected. That is why, in 1965, the Older Americans Act was enacted to support a wide range of services and programs for individuals over the age of 60. This critical legislation supports many programs important for Georgia’s seniors, like nutrition programs at churches and family centers.

I am proud to serve on the House Education and Labor Committee, where this week, with unanimous bipartisan support, we voted to move forward legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. As Congress has done many times before, I urge my colleagues to reauthorize the Older Americans Act to protect our Nation’s elderly.

HONORING DORNELL COUSSETTE

(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 fiance. As a 13-year veteran of the Tuscaloosa Police Department, he was 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 public servants 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 Dornell Cousette will not be forgotten.

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 10th leading cause of death in the United States. There are an estimated 1.7 million attempts each year. In 2017, suicide rates in

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.
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 resources.

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 wellbeing 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.

RECOGNIZING POW/MIA SOLDIERS

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

Mr. GUEST. Since World War II, 138,163 American soldiers have been listed as prisoners of war, and 83,114 American soldiers have been listed as missing in action. National POW/MIA Recognition Day was created to honor the sacrifice of the men and women who were imprisoned during wartime and to remember those brave soldiers who never returned to American soil.

Today, we thank our Heavenly Father for returning home those American soldiers who found themselves confined on foreign soil, and we bow our heads in prayer and remembrance of those still missing.

I ask the Members of this body and American citizens everywhere to include these soldiers, their families, and their communities in your prayers and to join me in thanks for the freedoms and liberties we enjoy every day because of their sacrifice.

COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE WITH AGGRESSIVE ACTION AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TLAIB). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN) is recognized as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to begin by saying that the issue of climate change is very personal to me. I have a 5- and a 7-year-old at home, and like any parent, there is a lot that I worry about for their future. One of the things I worry most about is the planet that we are going to leave behind for them and for their future children.

The problem right now leads to a grim future for our planet. We have burned fossil fuels like coal and oil at unsustainable rates, releasing extraordinary amounts of greenhouse gas emissions into the air. We have destroyed forests and other carbon sinks around the world that previously absorbed some of those emissions.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a collection of 1,300 independent scientific experts from countries that have concluded there is a more than 95 percent probability that human activities over the past 50 years have warmed our planet. As a result, the last 5 years were the hottest every recorded, according to the Trump administration’s own report on climate and space agencies. Over the last century, average global temperatures have increased steadily. Sixteen of the last 17 years have been the warmest ever recorded by human observations.

In my home State of California, the indicators of our rapidly changing climate are unmistakable. Our summers are hotter, our droughts are more severe, and our land is drier, creating fuel for year-round wildfires that have wiped out entire communities.

According to the Trump administration’s own report on climate change compiled by more than 300 experts across 13 Federal agencies, the impacts of climate change are already being felt across communities and will become increasingly devastating over a short period of time.

The President would be well served to read the report of his own agencies.

We are having more frequent and extreme weather events like hurricanes and floods. We are experiencing sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Our national security agencies have warned us that unless we take aggressive action to combat climate change, we will see a deterioration in global stability caused by food and water insecurity, worsening public health, economic distress, and damage to military infrastructure as a result of sea-level rise and more extreme storms.

Climate change is a defining issue of our time. If we don’t take bold action to address this crisis now, our children and grandchildren will suffer the worst consequences.

Unfortunately, this President and many in the Trump administration are content with inaction or worse. In fact, some refuse to admit climate change is real, instead pushing policies that would exacerbate the problem, catering to the fossil fuel industry and corporate polluters at the expense of our air, land, and water.

While we should be taking aggressive action to combat climate change and pushing countries around the world to do the same, the White House gladly undermines our standing as a global leader.

My colleagues and I are here to say that we will lead. We will continue to fight for action. My colleagues that you will hear from, they are leading right now.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Ms. HILL), my friend from California’s 25th District.
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 followship. 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 helping all communities, which unfortunately 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, energy combustion sources, 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 host 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 mortality, including cardiovascular 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 re-locate out of flood zones. They also face challenges adopting new clean energy technologies.

Meanwhile, while the 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.'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 Moore 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 re-voke 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 passed 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 need to acknowledge that his decision has fallen 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 44th 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 by the President this issue has certainly been noted.

Madam Speaker, our leader, Speaker NANCY PELOSI, did a very unusual thing in reaching out and choosing a fresh-man Member of Congress, and it is because of Mr. LEVIN’s background and clarity on these issues that she put him on the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, where I am proud to serve with him. So I thank the gentleman so much for his leadership.

And, Madam Speaker, he is doing more than that. He is putting great bills into the hopper. He is leading this debate this evening. So we are well served with Mr. LEVIN’s leadership in southern California.

Now, one of the previous speakers mentioned that we are gathered here on the eve of this global climate strike tomorrow. Tens of thousands of students all over the United States, 80 countries, all building in harmony with 156 other countries where young people are doing the same thing worldwide. This is a week of action.

These are high school kids, and even younger in some cases. They understand what is at stake here. The part of their message that I think we really need to hear is that we don’t have time.

There is an extreme urgency to confront this crisis, and they understand that the longer we wait, the harder it is going to be to preserve a livable future for their generation. Of course, if we wait too long, it is game over.

They are scared, and they ought to be scared. We all ought to be scared about the fact that we are running out of time to address this crisis.

Yesterday, I had a chance to sit down with a few of these young leaders. I am super grateful that four of them were able to meet with me. A couple of hours were from Sonoma County in my district. So I want to thank Olivia, Kate, Christian, and Jonah. They were from the National Children’s Campaign and also Schools for Climate Action. They came all the way to Washington, D.C., to make sure that the country heard their story.

That story, of course, involves the terrible firestorm of October 2017 that the folks in the North Bay had to live through. These young people had their lives uprooted and impacted in profound ways, and it helped sharpen their climate activism. They brought that story to a very important, urgent conversation that Chairman GRIJALVA and I had a while ago.

More and more people like them are living the very real impacts that climate change is having right now. This is not some abstract thing in the future. It is happening now, and it is going to worsen as we go forward, especially if we don’t act.

So this message of urgency, clearly the public understands it. Congressman LEVIN and I were just in the Cloakroom, and MSNBC showed a brand-new poll that shows that 65 percent, I believe, of the American people understand this is a crisis.

It is not just an important issue. It is a crisis.


does a very unusual thing for addressing climate change. The President is taking when it comes to this decision.

Second that, the harder it is going to be to preserve a livable future for their generation. Of course, if we wait too long, it is game over.

The public gets it. The rest of the world gets it. In fact, on Monday, the nations of the world will gather in New York to map out the next steps on climate action. They are 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 car 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. LEVIN talked about the fact that our authority under the Clean Air Act goes back to 1967. I think it was a Governor named Ronald Reagan, actually, who got us started on this critical authority. It has been so successful. California has used it to protect clean air over 50 times.

Madam Speaker, I would ask Congressman 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 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 actually happening 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 heinous blocks.

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. We also 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. No 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. When we passed AB 617, we had a bipartisan group of nine Republican legislators who helped get that passed in the California legislature.

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 to do 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 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 trillion to $35 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 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, tourism, and public health, and 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 transition to zero-emission vehicles, which will also have an enormous health benefit to 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 19,000 fewer deaths, 58,000 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, the 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.

Alternatively, 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 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 half an hour.

He should think about climate change when he makes appointments. Unfortunately, he has been appointing climate science deniers like William
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, oil 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.

We have known about this crisis, it even in the Johnson administration, 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 my school tomorrow afternoon at one of the demonstrations, the many demonstrations that are taking place across the country on climate change and so many 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.

Our species is in danger. Every species living on Earth today is in danger. This is truly a matter of life and death. We are only alive to climate refugees, people who can’t live in places because they can’t grow crops anymore. We are seeing the spreading of the Sahara desert. We are seeing the Amazon rainforest burning. Every fifth breath that every person taking in Earth is breathing in the oxygen that comes out of the rainforest.

What are we doing? We are still debating this. We are still talking. We are having conversations about it and waiting too little action.

I am really happy that, last week, we passed a bill, at least in the House, to stop offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, in the Pacific Ocean, and in the Gulf. I am really happy that we are trying to reverse the drilling in ANWR up in Alaska.

But we have to do big things. We have to take action together with countries around the world. We have to 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 to the House 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 SCHAKOWSKY for coming.

It is a great honor to sit on the new Select Committee on the Climate Crisis under the chair, Karry Carnor 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 SCHAKOWSKY. 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 the words, right here, they are counting on those 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 more work to do.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance.

ACT NOW ON IMMIGRATION CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TLaIBI). 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 107TH 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 his third 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. We must remember, "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 those 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 that ultimate price. We must continue to honor them in the years to come.

HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS 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 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, still serving 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 arriving, 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 danger was all around him, hazmat gear, scavenging 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 Mr. Lankenau, 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, under the leadership of Dr. Kent Fuchs, has again risen in 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 a row the University of Florida has advanced in this ranking.

The University of Florida incorporates all health disciplines, is one of the largest engineering schools in the country, and has a top-rated veterinarian 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 something that is not 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 why we are talking about 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 come together on that. We want to 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.
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.

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 a GWIC card, which is short for "guest worker identification card." 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 that 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 4½ years into the program. After that, they can continually do that, provided they stay a person of good standing in the Nation.

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 year they get approved, and State when they pass the test. But that will allow them to drive in the country legally.

It gives them a chance to come into the country legally, whether they want to be a temporary worker or a 5-year, year-round worker.

We have a restriction in there that they have to commit to work 75 percent of the year in the agriculture sector, on the guest worker program for agriculture. That person has taken on the responsibility and commitment that they will work in ag, and ag only.

On both programs with the H-2A or the 5-year guest worker program, that individual is automatically entered into the E-Verify system. So when our employers take somebody out of the pool, they are automatically using E-Verify.

That person, again, is free to travel the country. If they come in, say they want to do citrus in Florida, that season is over actually by mid-June. They can go to North Carolina and work with another crop, or maybe the State of Washington or New York, and they can stay indefinitely in the country for that 5-year period of time. But they must work a minimum 75 percent of the year in the United States in agriculture.

If they choose to leave agriculture and work in construction and they get picked up or found out and they get hired illegally by a contractor, what happens is they have broken the terms of their agreement, and they will be deported for that.

That identification number will be a 15-digit identification number with the initials “AG” at the end of it for agriculture. So that person, when they are put into the E-Verify system, if they are hired by an ag employer, those have to jibe. If that person tries to go to construction, then his number won’t work in a construction entity.

If an employer tries to hire somebody illegally who is permitted to work in agriculture and they want to hire them out to construction, they are subject to a $2,500 fine per person per incident.

This is something that we hear over and over again from our producers and our contractors in the hospitality industry. They need a guest worker program, and our goal is to create a reliable, a predictable, and a certain workforce for the labor of this country.

The second part of the 5-year program is this: For the people who are in the country illegally, they can apply to this program. What we have done is we have moved ag labor from the Department of Labor to the USDA.

So for that group of people who are in this country illegally, they can apply to this program. The program will be run by the United States Department of Agriculture, and they will run a program that says: For this time period, if you are here illegally and you want to apply to that program, then you can apply with the understanding that we are not looking to deport you. We are looking to get you to a legal status in this country for 5 years at a time.

While that person is applying, he is what we call the applicant. During that process, they are protected from being deported. Background checks will be run.

We realize that some people are going to have fender benders. They may not have shown up for a court date or didn’t return a library book. We understand that, and they will be given due time to get right with the law and clear up their past.

When they get accepted into the program, they become a participant. During that time period as a participant, they are here for 5 years at a time and can renew 4½ years into it. They get a GWIC card, and they get a 15-digit identification number that dedicates them to work in the ag center. They are not dedicated to a certain employer, and they can renew 4½ years into it.

If they came in illegally with a family, their family is also protected during that period of time when a background check is being done. Once that
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, and 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. It 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 first-hand account of what the migrant had to talk 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 worker who wants to come here for a better life, and they have the opportunity to become a citizen if they go through the normal channels.

The other thing this does, and I didn’t mention this, is there is a $2,500 fee for the 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 Dream. 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.

1915

OUR GREATEST ECONOMIC THREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes a gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, don’t you love that, when we take a few minutes getting organized because sometimes we walk around with so many moving parts?

This is sort of the continuing conversation that we have been doing on a theme for well over a year now, in the last Congress and now into this one. It is a combination of a couple things.

One, our office works very hard on actually looking at solutions, but first you have got to understand some of the problems. And I want to say this very nicely—and maybe in the next couple weeks we will come back and do it again, we have already done it a half a dozen times here on the floor—and that is: The miracles of technology are about to do amazing things in environment protection.

So to our brothers and sisters on the left who were sharing their heartfelt concerns over global warming and greenhouse gases, well, what is so disappointing is the lack of optimism in these incredible breakthroughs that have happened.

Think of this: Outside Houston, they are burning coal, they are burning natural gas. And there is no smokestack. They are capturing every bit of this CO2.

There is just a litany of these types of technologies that sort of the old Malthusian view of the way you save the planet is we live much poorer. Well, that has been wrong now for centuries.

And once again, we are going to prove that the 1968 book, The Population Bomb, which predicted that the world was going to starve by the late 1970s has been wrong over and over and over.

We, as policymakers, have an obligation to make sure we are moving those technologies forward, just like the Ways and Means Committee last year actually updated the tax credit for carbon sequestration. And if you follow the literature, there are amazing things that have happened just in that 1 year with that technology and now efficient, good things are happening.

But that is not my reason for being behind this microphone tonight. We are going to continue the theme and I will fulfill my obligation from last week when I said I would bring in the new revenue numbers for the first 11 months of the year. What is actually happening in the economy; what is the greatest threat to our future.

Let’s start with the threat and then let’s talk a little bit about the good things and the solutions.

Almost every Member at some point has walked behind these microphones and shown this slide. But this is so important to understand what the actual conversation is that drives almost every policy on this floor. It is called demographics. It is the reality of the math.

You see this red? That is 1965. I accept that is—what?—55 years ago. But 34 percent of the government spending was what we called mandatory, earned and unearned benefits. Social Security, you earn it. Medicare—this is prior to Medicare—but you earn those things.

Today, it is no longer 34 percent of our spending. Today, it has actually crossed over 70 percent of our spending that we don’t even vote on for this floor.

It is a formula:

You turn a certain age, you get a benefit.

You fall under a certain income, you get a benefit.

You are part of a certain group, you get a benefit.
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—or the workers who are moving into retirement.

Madam Speaker, 10,300 Americans every single day turn 65. It is not Republican or Democrat. It is math.

But it is repeated many times—even though it is a little bit of a dark humor—welcome to a math-free zone.

So let’s actually continue to talk about what is the greatest threat to our society and also the fact that we have some amazing opportunities to actually deal with it.

Here is the math. Take a look at the chart behind me.

If I could sit in front of you and say the next 30 years—we are going to remove Medicare from the conversation—your government, your Federal Government has, $23 trillion in the bank. But if we roll Social Security and Medicare back into the math, we are $103 trillion upside down—$103 trillion we owe a couple 100 percent of GDP. And that is the 30-year window.

Because remember the math, every 5 years, just the growth in Social Security, Medicare, and healthcare entitlements, just the growth, equal the Defense Department—every 5 years. So every 10 years it is as if we added two Defense Departments, just the growth of Social Security and Medicare.

Is that Republican or Democrat? It is demographics. Somehow, this place completely forgot there was a big boom 50 years ago plus—60 years ago over an 18-year period of time, and we have 74 million of us who are baby boomers moving into our earned retirement, and we have not set aside a fraction of the resources necessary.

So this is the great fragility for my little soon to be 4-year-old little girl. This is a threat to her economic life, her economic future. But I will argue the future of our country, and actually the economic vitality of the entire world, because when the United States runs into crushing headwinds, the rest of the world also suffers.

And once again, look at the chart. The Social Security—where Social Security is huge—but it is an easier fix. It is Medicare, Medicare is what our great fragility is.

So let’s actually talk about some of the positives because—and it is my very last slide that we typically start with.

We come here and talk about, hey, there is sort of five pillars, economic expansion, Tax Code, trade, regulatory, that you do those policies to maximize economic growth, incentives to join the labor force—though even the August numbers were stunning—now we have broken over—what is it? 63.2 percent labor force participation. I know that is geeky, but when tax reform was done, the models 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—we have the models, Americans saving have exceeded the models, and now that we are, in many ways, still the healthiest 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 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 having their wages growing faster 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 models out there that I had these conversations that are 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 instead of who we intend to punish next.

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 record revenue growth 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 I do constant dollars over the last few decades, it is the second-highest revenue in U.S. history. I think about how that is happening in our economy. How many of you and your 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 because this is the chart behind me, 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 manufacturing 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
why do we fixate on industrial production? What are the two factors that allow a business concern to pay their workers more? Well, it is traditionally inflation, which doesn’t mean a bigger paycheck buys you anything more. It is productivity.

When productivity goes up, people get paid more. And the purchasing power is more. Industrial production is linked to productivity. It means this is part of the reason our brothers and sisters out there, who are out there working their hearts out, are getting paid more, and their purchasing power is better.

I know this is geeky. I know I come behind this microphone and sometimes sound like an accountant on steroids, but these things are important because it is real. It is not some emotional blaring of, you know, we hate this person, we like this person.

We made the math work. And we are seeing the results of good things for hardworking Americans. Growth is moral.

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 seeing the workers in the 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 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 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 have workers in our 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 better for those in this room who brought this to my attention, because we have been working on this concept that there is a disruptive revolution coming in healthcare.

We have done the presentations here on the floor many times of the thing you can blow into and it instantly tells you your flu, and the algorithm, if we could just legalize it, could actually order your antivirals, except for the fact that that technology is illegal under current law.

But, also, the concept of, in just a few months, there is going to be a drug that cures hemophilia. It is going to be really expensive, but, for our brothers and sisters who have one of the most expensive diseases in our society, they are cured.

So what would happen to those numbers I was showing you on Medicare if I came to you and said: Hey, there is one disease group that is 30 percent of Medicare spending in the model for the next three decades? It turns out it is diabetes.

It is one of the reasons this body has been investing in things like the Cures Act and other miracles that are now happening in many tools of synthetic biology, in the new types of biological drugs—you have all seen the stories, and it is still a bit of optimism—that we may be able to start growing pancreatic cells again.

Could you imagine if we cured just diabetes? It is not only the noble thing of curing a disease that is part of our chronic population; we often don’t think about what is the economic cascade that it has to, actually, retirement security.

It turns out, if 30 percent of Medicare future costs are just somehow related to first-degree or second-degree or third-degree effects of diabetes, it is part of the reason so many of us in this body have worked so hard to say: Put the money in. Let’s invest in the disruptions.

Because I do believe, if we could buy a calculator for our Members here and understand the technology disruptions that are going to make the environment and healthcare and so many other things just amazing—and, then, if we could legalize many of the technologies that, oddly enough, are illegal under our reimbursements and under our rules today, there are some really amazing things.

These next few decades could be just amazing, particularly for my little 4-year-old girl. But these amazing things don’t happen when everything is political and everything is weaponized and, if it is not a melodrama, we don’t do it.

So we typically start with this, but I am going to close with it this time.

We have been trying to help our brothers and sisters in here understand, the old discussions of, well, we can do this little bit of entitlement reform. Reform the other taxes, undo this and that, and fixes the fragility that is the future of, particularly, Medicare, but those days are over. We lost that mathematical opportunity a decade and a half ago.

But there is a way to survive the debt bomb that is coming at us if we do the things that are necessary for economic expansion, do the things that are necessary to encourage our brothers and sisters to be in the labor force, actually embrace the disruptive technologies instead of being fearful of them and being fearful of sort of telling many of our incumbent business models that they are going to have to adopt.

And we are going to have to tell the truth that, within the benefits, we need incentives for you to think about, if you are healthy and can do it, staying in the labor force.

But the other thing is we are going to have to actually talk about, just as Mr. Yoho before me, things we do in immigration and population stability, of an immigration system that maximizes economic vitality, sort of the talent-based system the President talks about.

But, even in a country where our birthrates have collapsed, how we encourage family formation, if you mix these things together with a couple good lucks, like with the technology we are talking about that cures diabetes, we can make the math work that the $103 trillion of debt that we are over the myopic here or do this substantially because of our demographics, does not have to destroy this country, because we can cut that in half. If we do that, we have some amazing decades ahead of us.

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

CURRENT STATE OF IMMIGRATION LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the
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 from Wisconsin, Mr. DUFFY, who I do not think is going to address some important issues of Congress tonight.

I hope everybody pays attention because I think, other than perhaps lecturing about tall and fishing, 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.

FINAL ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Wisconsin for yielding tonight.

Madam Speaker, I have got to tell you, you are 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 want to take a moment, as I give my last address to the House, to thank my constituents who have put so much faith in me that they would give me the opportunity—a guy from small town Wisconsin, from Hayward, Wisconsin, who had a big family and grew up doing lumberjack sports—to come here and represent them. And they have done that five times, five times over.

I would just note that they have been so kind to me, whether they agreed with me 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 many of us will tell you, I 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, “SIGH 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—well, now, this is going to be 8 months in—new Congressman to represent them, not that the people’s seat. It is mine. It is theirs.

So, I thank, the Seventeenth District.

I want to say thanks to my fellow colleagues and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. We get a bad rap 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 committees, 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 MCHENRY, 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. I want to 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 creatvity, 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, and 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 has created it—people 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 a 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 will all 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 for your kids.

So I hope that this Chamber will recalibrate and think through what the best economic model 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 you can see how the 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 Chamber, 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. We 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 en-gage with China. And I am not going 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 worked on in this Chamber, and one of the great issues I am proud to have fought for is 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.

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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 en-gage with China. And I am not going 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 worked on in this Chamber, and one of the great issues I am proud to have fought for is 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.
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.

2000

All those other walls are effective. I am glad the United States is finally getting going on the wall.

The next 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 it was a year ago and why is that still higher than it was 20 or 30 years ago?

Some people think the reason so many 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 saying he would reform and enforce immigration stability, 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 its time babysitting children, not guarding the border. These new employees are less costly than the Border Patrol.

I respect the Border Patrol so much. When we talk about 64,000 people being processed, in one 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—

I don’t know what I can refer to it as—

the 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 Second, we have to 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 been doing for 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, the 40th wealthiest countries in the world to have birthright citizenship.

Donald Trump had 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, fewer 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 treatment 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.

The British and American countries are 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 the 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 needs to continue on 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.

On 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

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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

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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. 3589, the Greg LeMond 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. 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

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EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2183. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause “Returnable Containers Other Than Cylinders” (DFARS Case 2019-0205) [Docket DARS-2019-0055] (RIN: 0750-AK26) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2189. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause “Readiness of Payments” (DFARS Case 2019-0027) [Docket DARS-2019-0046] (RIN: 0750-AK54) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2191. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause “Award to Single Offeror” (DFARS Case 2018-0050) [Docket DARS-2018-0050] (RIN: 0750-AK10) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2197. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-09, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2199. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 19-39, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2200. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause "Returnable Containers Other Than Cylinders" (DFARS Case 2019-0205) [Docket DARS-2019-0055] (RIN: 0750-AK26) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2201. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause “Award to Single Offeror” (DFARS Case 2018-0050) [Docket DARS-2018-0050] (RIN: 0750-AK10) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2202. A letter from the Acting Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Modification of DFARS Clause “Returnable Containers Other Than Cylinders” (DFARS Case 2019-0205) [Docket DARS-2019-0055] (RIN: 0750-AK26) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.
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Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.
2212. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, regarding the Service's only rule — Method change procedures accompanying the section 451 NPRMs (Rev. Proc. 2019-97) received September 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 564. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3578) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-112). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security, 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. LAITTA (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OLSON, Mr. LAMAR, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. STIVERS of New Jersey, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. GIANFARTE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BARIN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RATTCLIFFE, Mr. LOUDENBERG, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FLORES, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. HARDER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. HIGGINS of Virginia):

H.R. 4398. To amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anti-competitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees 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. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. ENGEL):

H.R. 4399. 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 the 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 (commonly known as the "Fairness Doctrine"); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. CHEN-SHAW):

H.R. 4402. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an inland waterway threat analysis, for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. HILL 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 increased risk prominently, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself and Mr. NEAL):

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. RADEWAGEN):

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. CLARKE 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. OMAR, Mr. 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 federal grants by persons who violate this provision's prohibitions, 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. GOSS, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. Yoho):

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 prohibit assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 4412. A bill to prohibit the Bureau of the Census from including citizenship data in the data collected by the Census Bureau, and 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, Mr. 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. FINCHEN)

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 Committee 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. SWIFT 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 when calculating 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. LANGEVIN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LOEZO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. TLAIR, Mr. MITCHELL, and Ms. MENG)

H.R. 4420. A bill to amend subpart B of part III of the Privacy 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. LOPFGREN (for herself, Mr. SENENHRENTER, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. STEHR)

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. NORTON (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 the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ROUDA (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. SAHAB, Mr. TRONE, Mr. BASS, and Mr. SCHECHTER)

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. SAHAB; and Mr. SCHECHTER

H.R. 4424. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure 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-
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. SCOTT of Virginia:
H.R. 4397.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 4096.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. Latta:
H.R. 4399.

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RUCSHON:
H.R. 4400.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GABBARD:
H.R. 4401.

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

The U.S. Constitution including Article I, Section 8.

By Mrs. LÉSKU:
H.R. 4402.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CLEAVER:
H.R. 4403.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RUSH:
H.R. 4404.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:
H.R. 4405.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. COLE:
H.R. 4406.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma:
H.R. 4407.

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

Commerce Clause.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 4408.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the execution the foregoing powers.

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS:
H.R. 4409.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution, Congress’s authority to make all rules and regulations respecting the Terri
tories and possessions.

By Mr. TIPPTON:
H.R. 4410.

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

section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 4411.

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

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, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CRIST:
H.R. 4413.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 4414.

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

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:

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:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 4417.

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

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:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
H.R. 4419.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE:
H.R. 4420.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. LOPFREN:
H.R. 4421.

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

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. NORCROSS:
H.R. 4422.

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

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. ROUDA:
H.R. 4423.

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. SARLAN:
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. 4425.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. TAKANO:
H.R. 4426.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:
H.J. Res. 75.

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

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18) THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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. Shearman.
H.R. 141: Mr. Levin of Michigan.
H.R. 307: Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 453: Mr. Pascrell.
H.R. 510: Mr. Rouba and Mr. DeSaulnier.
H.R. 550: Mr. Cline.
H.R. 553: Mr. Meeks.
H.R. 576: Mr. Dotzert.
H.R. 587: Mr. Calvert.
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. Pingree, and Mrs. Luria.
H.R. 791: Mr. Bishop of Utah.
H.R. 855: Mrs. Axne.
H.R. 906: Mrs. Rodgers of Washington, Mr. Graves of Missouri, Mrs. Napolitano, and Mr. Waltz.
H.R. 912: Mr. Johnson of South Dakota.
H.R. 929: Mr. Casioti of Illinois.
H.R. 934: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mrs. KIRK-PATRICK, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 935: Mrs. KIRK-PATRICK, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 946: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. AXNE.
H.R. 1034: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1043: Mr. GOTTIEBER and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 1049: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1167: Mr. JUDY CHIU of California, Mr. KILDEE, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 1154: Mr. RUDA.
H.R. 1348: Mr. TAYLOR of New Mexico, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1171: Mr. ZELDIN.
H.R. 1175: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. McCACHIN, Mr. PETTENKOFER, Mr. CARTRIGHT, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 1195: Mr. Brown of Maryland and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1293: Mr. Beatty.
H.R. 1255: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1228: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 1236: Ms. FINKENAUER and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 1238: Mr. Burgos, Mr. Gooden, Mr. CONWAY, Mr. Crenshaw, Mr. Flores, Mrs. Murphy of Florida, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Price of North Carolina, Mr. Bishop of Georgia, Mr. Michael F. Doyle of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LRVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 2423: Mr. CONWAY, Mr. STEWART, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. RATLIFF, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 2435: Mr. Tipton, Ms. Craig, and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 2441: Mr. Larson of Connecticut and Ms. RICE of New York.
H.R. 2466: Mr. NEKUSE.
H.R. 2474: Ms. LOPRINZI, Mr. Kuster of New Hampshire, Mr. Swallow of California, and Mr. Himes.
H.R. 2496: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 2526: Mr. Rush.
H.R. 2562: Mr. Cooper.
H.R. 2571: Mr. Crenshaw.
H.R. 2579: Ms. Velázquez.
H.R. 2592: Ms. Spanberger and Mr. Posey.
H.R. 2599: Mr. Schrader and Ms. Lofgren.
H.R. 2662: Mr. Velazquez.
H.R. 2674: Ms. Scanlon.
H.R. 2681: Mr. Hastings.
H.R. 2730: Mr. Wittman.
H.R. 2775: Ms. Sánchez.
H.R. 2796: Mr. Bera.
H.R. 2808: Ms. DelBene.
H.R. 2818: Mr. Cox of California, Mr. Smith of Washington, and Mr. SARBANES.
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. Shumink.
H.R. 2929: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2930: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2985: Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. Kind.
H.R. 2995: Mr. Kim.
H.R. 3063: Mr. Cline.
H.R. 3077: Mr. Katko, Mrs. Rodgers of Washington, Ms. Sánchez, Mr. Amodei, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. Bonamici.
H.R. 3103: Mr. Cunningham.
H.R. 3106: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 3107: Mr. Huffman, Ms. Velázquez, Mr. ROE of New York, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3138: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3162: Mr. Trone.
H.R. 3439: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 3455: Mr. Hill of Arkansas.
H.R. 3199: Mr. Rush.
H.R. 3208: Mrs. Lovely.
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. 3289: Mr. Flores.
H.R. 3306: Mr. Connolly.
H.R. 3317: Mr. Crawford.
H.R. 3373: Mr. Veasey.
H.R. 3446: Mr. Higgins of New York, Mr. Rouda, and Ms. Jackson Lee.
H.R. 3451: Mr. Smith of Washington.
H.R. 3458: Ms. McCasrel-Powell.
H.R. 3485: Mr. Smith of Washington and Mr. Kind.
H.R. 3495: Mrs. Kuster of New Hampshire, Mr. KATKO, Mr. WALKIE, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. SENNENBRENNER, Mr. TAMI LANDECKER, Mr. BURK, Mr. Rudo, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. CURRILL, Mr. Peterson, and Mr. Rouda.
H.R. 3511: Ms. Norton and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3571: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3584: Mr. Long, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WALKER, and Mr. Smith of Nebraska.
H.R. 3588: Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. FINKENAUER, and Mr. MCHENRY.
H.R. 3593: Mr. Espaillat.
H.R. 3598: Mr. BALDERSON and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3637: Mr. MCAULIFFE.
H.R. 3662: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3742: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 3797: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
H.R. 3808: Mr. Cunningham.
H.R. 3819: Mr. Bishop of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. Lewis, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Ms. Plaskett, Ms. Pressley, Ms. Johnson of Texas, Mr. FUDOX, Ms. MOORE, Ms. Lee of California, Ms. CLARK of New York, Ms. Jackson Lee, Mrs. BRATY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. CHESLEY, Mr. Cleaver, and Mr. Lawrence of Florida.
H.R. 3849: Ms. Schakowsky.
H.R. 3851: Ms. Sánchez, Ms. 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. 3968: Mr. Conyers.
H.R. 3969: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 3975: Mr. BROWN of Michigan.
H.R. 4022: Mr. EVANS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. CLARK of New York.
H.R. 4029: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 4031: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 4044: Mr. Van Drew.
H.R. 4073: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 4096: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 4107: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4193: Mr. Kind, Mr. STANTON, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 4213: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 4219: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. Brooks of Alabama, Mr. Wright, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. Cline.
H.R. 4220: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 4229: Ms. Craig and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4239: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4272: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4286: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 4301: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. ESHOO, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 4304: Mrs. RODGERS of New York and Mr. DÉSAILLIER.
H.R. 4319: Mrs. RODGERS of New York and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 4327: Ms. Rodgers of Washington, Mr. CLAVER, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 4335: Ms. SHEHILL.
H.R. 4363: Mr. TITUS.
H.R. 4391: Mr. McGovern and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.J. Res. 38: Mr. BERA.
H. Res. 48: Mr. Trekpe.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mr. Spano 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:

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS

H. Res. 72: Mr. Byrne.
H. Res. 114: Mr. Burchett, Mrs. Trahan, and Ms. Matsui.
H. Res. 241: Mr. Byrne.
H. Res. 326: Mr. Cooper, Ms. Craig, and Ms. Dean.
H. Res. 387: Mr. Engel.
H. Res. 461: Mr. Zeldin.
H. Res. 540: Mr. Langevin, Ms. Schakowsky, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Pingree, Mr. Kilmer, Mr. Yarmuth, Mr. Van Drew, Mr. Deutch, Ms. Meng, Mr. Nadler, Mr. Payne, Mr. Hastings, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, Mr. Lowenthal, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Espaillat, Ms. Sewell of Alabama, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. Brownley of California, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Cox of California, Mr. Schiff, Ms. DeLauro, Ms. Castor of Florida, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Carson of Indiana, Ms. Davids of Kansas, Mr. Brown of Maryland, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mrs. Dongell, Ms. Titus, Mr. Soto, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Castro of Texas, Mr. McGovern, Ms. Norton, Ms. Spanberger, and Mr. Swalwell of California.

H. Res. 543: Mr. Meeks and Ms. Kuster of New Hampshire.
H. Res. 546: Mr. Courtney, Mr. Yarmuth, Mr. Espaillat, Mr. Allred, Mr. Payne, Mr. Cuellar, and Mr. Langevin.
H. Res. 552: Ms. Tlaib.
H. Res. 556: Mr. Hastings, Ms. Barragan, Mr. Gonzalez of Texas, and Ms. Adams.
H. Res. 561: Mrs. Lisk of Nevada and Mrs. Axne.

LIMTED TAX BENEFITS

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, 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 unfiltered love sustains us. Stagger freedom’s enemies and bring them to their knees. Use our lawmakers so that they recognize 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 what happened yesterday. That is how we get to a spectacle like what happened yesterday. That is how we get to a place where 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 about compromising and getting to yes. It is about not wanting to take yes for an answer.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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.

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 in a situation’s 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 nominees—over 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 of the nominations combined having been filibustered. If you think about that and if you add it up totally, cumulatively, it is not 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 judges. Mr. President, in that case, the Democrats 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 enough before the Republicans’ efforts to get judges confirmed. High numbers of vacancies result in there being long waits to get cases heard, which serves nobody.

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The Supreme Court is not well, and the President—the Commander in Chief of the greatest military of the world and despots, not Members of the U.S. Congress, and it is deeply disturbing that prominent Democrats apparently had the opportunity to choose a Justice but they did not. Unbelievable.

Unfortunately, it is becoming apparent that there are few lengths to which the Democrats will go in their increasingly desperate 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 the 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 which is not even in the news section, not to mention that after running this piece, the Times had to quickly issue a correction and note a glaring omission in the original story. What was the omission? It was the fact that the supposed victim of Justice Kavanaugh’s supposed behavior declined to be interviewed and that her friends said she had no memory of the alleged incident. It is not hard to see what is behind the Democrats’ relentless campaign to smear Justice Kavanaugh’s name. 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 leftism and attacks on the judiciary. The Democrats aren’t just targeting 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 ideal.

Sure, it might seem nice when an activist judge 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’s.

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. I quote 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 judiciary has 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 enforcing laws, and 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 (AUMF)

The President. Mr. President, I could stay here all day, listening to the names of the brave men and women whom I was lucky enough to serve with in the military. I could stay here all night, telling stories about their heroism and courage. I could stay here all week, all month, talking about the troops who are serving overseas right now and about those who are on their eighth or ninth tours of duty or about those teenagers who weren’t even alive when the Twin Towers fell, yet who are ready to ship off to Afghanistan at this very moment if that is what is asked of them. I could go on and on all year if I wanted, and I still wouldn’t be able to convey the sacrifices they are making because they love this country and would do anything to defend her.

I will not stand idly by and let a single one of them shed blood in an avoidable conflict because Donald Trump has adjudicated matters of war and peace to a bad judge or a bad jurist or to a bad scholar or high school student taking a political science class. The bipartisan legislation that 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 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 US 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 take orders from foreign leaders. They take directions from Congress. I am here to say that we have not authorized him to ensue 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.

This week, in events past, when prior Presidents have gotten us entangled in bad wars based on bad intelligence, at the very least they made sure to loop the United Nations, but Trump is acting as if he wouldn’t even do that. He is too busy trumping his chest and catering to the whims of autocrats. He is too infatuated with maximum pressure to consider even minimum diplomacy, too distracted beating the drums of war to even think about how many troops he would be sending into harm’s way.

For what? To protect the Saudi oil industry or the Crown Prince’s personal profits?
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 have come 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 logistically and legally.

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 and cents but in human sacrifices 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 source 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 that Iran is 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 ruck sack, to dust off my uniform, I am ready 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 protect and defend this Nation we love, no matter what.

It would be nice if we had a President willing to do the same instead of one who thinks he looks tough by pushing us to the brink of a needless conflict.

Listen, Trump may think he comes off as strong by using phrases like “locked and loaded” and by spewing threats 280 characters at a time, but he has never seemed weaker to me. A real Commander in Chief would not dole out matters of war to the highest bidder. A true leader would not bend to the whims of despots just because of the size of their bank accounts. A strong President would not care more about keeping tyrants happy than safeguarding our nation’s most precious resource: 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, and 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 that serve foreign regimes. I serve the American people. Trump would do well to try that sometime.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum calls be rescinded.

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 isn’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.

Read today’s Washington Post. Our military people are upset with this. Now, their chain of command is not going to publicly say it, but we know it. Over 120 military projects stand to lose funding, and we’re not talking about fixing parking lots. We are talking about military readiness. We are talking about medical facilities for troops in North Carolina. We are talking about schools for military families in Kentucky. We are talking about explosives stored in unsafe conditions. We are talking about an important engineering lab at West Point to train our future soldiers. Even hurricane recovery projects in Florida are at risk.

The Defense Department was very clear that without this funding, lives would be at risk, but that is what Republicans on the Appropriations Committee proposed. The Senate rightly rejected that idea.

The Republican leader is saying we are hurting the military? Give me a break. We are defending the military. How much bull does the majority leader think the American public will swallow? They are taking money out of the military to put it in the wall, and he is surmising we are being lazy? Oh, no. Leader McConnell is hurting the military, and we defended them. We defended them because we want the money to go to the military, not to the wall.

By the way, in that regard, Leader McConnell did not stick with the agreement. The agreement was not only on the 302(a) but there would be bipartisan agreement on where the money on the defense side and the non-defense side would be distributed.

Instead of consulting Democrats, they tried to jam something down our throats, taking money out of defense, out of Head Start and other programs in the health and human services budget. Well, that wasn’t going to stand, it isn’t going to stand, and it will not stand.

I hope Leader McConnell has learned his lesson. Shutting down the government or trying to eyeball for the money isn’t going to work. Roll up our sleeves and work together.

My friend the Republican leader and Chairman Shelby have now shown the President that they tried again to fund his wall. They have seen, once again, that the votes are not there. They have not been, once again, that when the Senate Republicans do the President’s bidding and refuse to engage the Democrats, the only thing they accomplish is wasted time.

The pattern repeats itself far too frequently. The same impulse to do the President’s bidding—they are so afraid of this President—and that is what led to the 35-day Trump shutdown earlier this year. Let’s not repeat that. Republicans. Let’s learn our lessons.

The same impulse led Republicans to deny for months disaster aid to Puerto Rico. In each case, whether it be taking money out of 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 Republican Congress has failed to reauthorize 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 outsized 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, were shortchanged 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 in the program. 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 an wrinkle in 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 next year’s full appropriation bill 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: election security. This morning, after months and months of Republican resistance and months of insistent Democratic pressure, Senate Republicans have finally agreed to support our Democratic request for additional 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 short-sightedly, 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 change 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 or domestic 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 protect us 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, of course, Russia, pose significant 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 appropts, 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 American Security from Kremlin Aggression Act, the Secure Elections Act, and the DETTER 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, yes 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 regressive or, at the very best, toothless. Get it through your heads. That is how it is.

If you want to do something 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, recalcitrant and divided.

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.

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Mr. President, apparently, we have some technical difficulties here. The PRESIDING OFFICER. I can hear you better now.
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 Washington on 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.

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.

The Speaker’s plan is just the latest example of partisan messaging disguised as legislation, and it has absolutely no chance—zero, zip, nada—of passing the Senate or becoming law.

So that is exactly what we did before the August break. Our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, led by the chairman, Senator Shelby, worked day and night to reach an agreement that was acceptable to both parties in both Chambers, as well as earning the support of the President. That is not easy to do. That was the 2-year budget caps agreement. But they got it done. That is until the August recess occurred, and, apparently, memories faded about what exactly had been agreed to, or people reconsidered their previous agreement and decided to withdraw their consent.

We knew this caps deal, as imperfect as it was, would lay the foundation for the appropriations process this fall and get us out of this reoccurring movie called the looming shutdown. At the end of July, we passed a 2-year budget agreement. It was a fair compromise, considering everybody’s interests. While there are still details to be hashed out in the individual appropriations bills, it was a strong start. We thought we had made it past this shutdown movie and scenario.

We agreed to top-line defense spending and nondefense spending. There was also a bipartisan agreement to de-escalate the poison pill policy riders, and we got it done with plenty of time to spare.

Now it appears that our Democratic friends are backing down from their commitments, which is a serious mistake on their part. If we can’t work together in good faith and trust that our colleagues will actually stick to their word and keep their commitments, then, that is going to do nothing but further erode our ability to function on behalf of the American people.

Imagine my surprise when, yesterday, the Senate voted to begin debate on the first batch of funding bills and Democrats blocked it. They stopped it dead in its tracks. Once they had agreed to the spending caps and a process to go forward, they blocked it. They voted to deny our troops the largest pay raise in a decade. They voted to withhold vital funding from our military at a time when we face growing threats abroad. They voted to derail the very process they had agreed to before August. In so doing, they once again put partisan politics above our responsibilities to the American people.

What is the reason for this? A disagreement over funding allocations of 0.003 percent of the total budget—0.003 percent of the total budget. That is like robbing a bank in order to steal the change from the gumball machine. I am really disappointed. We are better than that, and I hope our colleagues will reconsider.

Our national security is on the line. If there is one thing we ought to do above all else, it is to provide for the defense. And to make sure that the American people are safe and that those who put themselves in harm’s way and who volunteer to wear the uniform of the U.S. military are treated with respect and fairness. It is inappropriate and it is just wrong to play games with national security or with our military, as our Democratic colleagues appear to be doing.

Debbie Smith Act

Finally, Mr. President, 4 months ago, the Senate passed a bill that I introduced with the Senator from California, Mrs. Feinstein, to authorize what has arguably been the single greatest driver behind our progress to reduce the rape kit backlog. The Debbie Smith Act was first passed in 2004 to provide State and local crime labs with the resources they need to end the backlog of unsolved crimes. At one point, we learned there were perhaps as many as 400,000 forensic kits, or rape kits, sitting either in lockers or in labs that had been untested—400,000. In each one of those kits is the evidence needed to identify the assailant in a sexual assault or, conversely, to rule out somebody in a sexual assault.

Also, as a result of uploading of this information, if it is tested, into the FBI system, or the CODIS system, it can help to solve a myriad of crimes, not just sexual assault cases.

The Debbie Smith Act is one of those rare cases where there has always been bipartisan and bicameral support. More than $1 billion has been provided to forensic labs because of this law, enabling those labs to get evidence off the shelf so we can provide victims 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 the promise of this innovative system, and once the evidence is tested, 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 a 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 introduced the Debbie Smith Act to authorize funding for 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 Senate doesn’t 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 issue. Since the legislation led by 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 article of the Constitution provides for the legislative branch of government, and that is us. We make the laws, not the President of the United States. It is up to us to deliver and consider legislation and pass legislation. Yet there is no action from the floor of the Senate. Mr. McCONNELL will not bring up gun safety legislation.

Every day we wait—every single day—100 people in America die from gun violence. That is why many of us are frequently speaking on the floor of the Senate. We need to consider gun safety legislation.

It has been over 200 days since the House took bipartisan action on the universal background checks. Since that time, we have seen many mass shootings, including on August 3 in El Paso, August 4 in Dayton, and August 31 in Odessa. There is no action on the floor of the Senate. Every day, there are people dying in our communities and in our homes from gun violence. Yet there is no action on the floor of the Senate.

The United States is an outlier among the developed nations in the world. We have 10 times, 20 times, 30 times more instances of gun violence than in developed countries in the world. We have more guns in private ownership than the people of developed worlds, more suicides, more mass shootings, more gun violence. Yet there is no action on the floor of the Senate.

The issue is kind of simple. Inaction is not an answer to gun violence in America. Americans are expecting us—the Members of the Senate—to consider gun safety legislation. We want the majority leader to bring that bill to the floor today before another 100 people die. Let us take action.

I mentioned several times the bill that passed the House of Representatives over 200 days ago, the universal background checks. Let me just talk a moment about why that bill needs to be considered and passed as soon as possible. In 1993, we passed the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act. It provides for a presale check as to whether an individual is entitled to own a handgun. As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Supreme Court of the United States has determined that the Second Amendment is not abrogated. If you have been convicted of a violent crime, if you have mental issues, you are not entitled to have a handgun. 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 legislation passed in 1993, 3 million sales have been stopped. It works. It is compliant with the Supreme Court, and it doesn’t interfere with legitimate 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 done their homework 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. I mentioned that the universal background checks that are 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 by keeping guns out of the hands of people who are not entitled to have guns.

How do the American people feel about this? There are 90-plus percent who believe that we should have universal background checks. Yet there has been no action on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The Republican leader will not bring the bill to the floor. This is a bill that should have been passed a long time ago. Every day that we delay, there are another 100 deaths from gun violence.

We shouldn’t stop there. We should deal with assault-style military weapons. When someone has one of these assault weapons, within a matter of seconds, he can shoot off multiple rounds and kill multiple numbers of people. Even if you have those who come to the rescue—if law enforcement is on the scene or people are able to deal with the circumstances—in a matter of seconds, you can already have multiple casualties. We need to get rid of these military-style weapons in private ownership.

When you talk to law enforcement officers and ask them what they fear the most when they go into a situation in which someone is armed, it is the assault weapons they fear. It is not fair to our law enforcement officers, who put their lives on the line for us and who rush into harm’s way, to allow for these types of weapons to be available to the general public.

We can do something about it. Let us take up 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 the tragic results 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 the type of 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 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, 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 our 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 wait game because, unfortunately, the Senate does little or nothing under the
Constitution is somehow holding us back—binding us and restraining us—from doing the most basic things.

The answer is obvious for those of us who spend time in that great city. 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.

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 affected across America. That violence 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.

In the city of Chicago, hardly a week-end 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 was a great city. That is why no State can solve this problem. We need Federal legislation. 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 private interest of the National Rifle Association, the National Rifle Association prevailed.

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 so that you can take 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 700,000 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 rescinded 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 our Federal judiciary as to whether President Trump has this authority.

On November 12, across the street, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider that case—700,000 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, Senator McConnell, and the Senate 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 return to 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 so that you can take 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.

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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 as to 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called 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 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.

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 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 David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025. (Re-appointment)

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 as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David Fabian Black, of North Dakota, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for a term expiring January 19, 2025, (Re-appointment)

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from 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 made and laid 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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 do 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 sponsor 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 to make it a reality 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 allow us 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 the rules and guidelines that should be followed. They are the guidesposts 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.

The need is critical to all of us. We are Americans as the notion that people should be judged and treated by their government based on their own merit, as individuals—as individuals with inherent God-given rights—and not how they look like. That is the skin or of 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 this moment as they were when they were written some 243 years ago. Our laws should reflect that. They should reflect the enduring truth found in those words, which I believe were inspired at this moment 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 this moment as they were when they were written some 243 years ago.

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Despite this ideal, section 1152 of the Immigration and Nationality Act provides that “the total number of employment-based visas made available to natives of any single foreign state ... in any fiscal year may not exceed 7 percent ... of the total number of such visas made available.” That rather antiseptic language, technical and clinical on its face, is, on closer inspection, deep and abiding principles upon which this country was founded, the per-country cap system violates another of those commonsense maxims of good lawmaking that I mentioned earlier: the need for clarity and for consistency in the law.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act provides that it is unlawful for an employer “to discriminate against any individual with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions, or other aspects of employment, because of such individual’s race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.” Yet the conditions created by the per-country caps virtually guarantee that employers on some immigrants based only on their country of origin when recruiting certain immigrant workers.

If prospective hires from one country will be available to obtain a green card in 12 months, while those from another—even a person who happens to have superior training and skills—will be unable to obtain a green card for possibly decades, it is virtually unavoidable that the employer will take national origin into account. Think about that. One section of the U.S. Code forbids employers from taking national origin into account when making employment decisions; another section makes it impossible for an employer not to take that into account. The grounds on which that kind of system can be defended as sound public policy are beyond me.

The pernicious consequences of this intrinsically flawed system do not stop there. As 95 percent of immigrants ahead in the green card backlog are already in the United States on temporary visas. In many cases, they have brought their spouses and their children with them to build a life in this country. Yet, because temporary visa holders can only sponsor their foreign-born child up until the time the child turns 21, many in the backlog, waiting decades for a green card, are forced to choose between separating from their child as the child ages out of the temporary visa or abandoning their dream of returning to their home country in order to keep their family together. In the most heartbreaking among those cases—of
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 these 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 law 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’ve 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 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 immigration system. Indeed, it is directly at war with the supposed purpose of our immigration system. Such a system is irredeemably flawed because, among other things, it makes it impossible to attract the best and brightest to the United States. It is not even close to that.

The other reason the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act has been so successful in attracting support is because it makes clear that the merit-based portion of our immigration 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 immigration system. Such a system is irredeemably flawed because, among other things, it makes it impossible to attract the best and brightest to the United States. It is not even close to that.
the end of September, all funding for HBCUs is set to end.

Our act would extend that. We need to make sure that we fund all of our HBCUs, that they are not left in the lurch and not left with any uncertainty about their future funding. I truly believe this is such a bipartisan effort that we can get this across the finish line. I have urged Senator MCCONNELL to put this on the floor because it is quite urgent.

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.

As an alternative, the South Carolina Democrat introduced a bill that would use funds to increase the FAFSA, which is an opportunity to prevent a critical part of our higher education system—HBCUs, Tribal colleges, and other minority-serving institutions—from having to deal with a lapse in funding. We should take it. This is bipartisan legislation. It has passed the House. There is no reason at all to delay it a minute longer here in the Senate.

I thank the Senator from Alabama for his leadership on this. I express my personal strong support for the FUTURE Act, which will give us 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 legislation. 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 done 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.

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.

UNITED AUTO WORKERS STRIKE

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 Toledos, 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. Auto-workers 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 has happened in the last 10 years. The President has a new offer, and other companies followed suit. 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 GMs and Chrysler—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 to the richest 1 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 plant 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 if 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 has now moved on to another 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. Workers will transfer to other plants in Michigan, Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana are coming back to join them. That is what the
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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 a minute. 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 the 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 worth 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 State.

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 are talking hundreds, if not thousands, of miles, literally, between communities. There was a lot going on.

Unfortunately, as it happens in 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 the things that so many people in Alaska who 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. Winter is coming, but not just yet. I will let you know when that happens.

School has started, and Alaina Vik has entered 8th grade. 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 600, 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; isn’t it?

I love Girl Scout cookies. I think they are the best in the country, but 5,000 boxes in one State is pretty darn impressive.

What is her secret? She said: ‘‘My mom told me to go out almost every day to sell cookies, to talk to people and to interest them in buying the cookies.”

Her older brother, Kyle, who, by the way, is an Eagle Scout—you could see a photo of him in the record—he also helped coach his sister and helped take her out to sell cookies.

Alaina said: “I’m a really hard worker when it comes to Girl Scout cookies.” Obviously, she is—5,000 boxes.

Selling cookies just wasn’t good enough for her. She wanted to do more for her Girl Scout project. So she took her selling skills to help others and focusing on the men and women in our military, particularly those who are deployed.

In Alaska, we proudly boast of having the record of more vets per capita than any State in the country. So this is something that a lot of our communities can get behind. She and her fellow Girl Scouts began to send our deployed military members Girl Scout cookies. She got the idea when the father of one of the members of her Girl Scout troop was deployed. Her troop wanted to make sure he felt remembered on his deployment.

All told, in 2017, she was able to donate 800 boxes to our troops, some of whom are deployed in Kuwait and Qatar.

She didn’t stop there. As I have often said, we live in one of the most patriotic States in the country. Alaina Vik is just one more bit of proof of that. She wanted to do more for the men and women in uniform. She said:

They’re fighting for us. They’re protecting us. They deserved 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 those whom are deployed. 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 for 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 and Curtis, thanks for raising 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 pediatric cancers. 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.

We are so proud to have Ali here in the Chamber with us today. She is currently 21 years old and healthy as can be. They said ‘healthy as a horse.’ I say ‘healthy as can be.’ She is a student at BridgeValley Community and Technical College, majoring in healthcare—what else?

Nick, I know you are at home watching this now, and I just want to thank you. I really want to thank you for sharing your story with me. It really touched me how brave you are for speaking up and advocating for people other than yourself.

I am so glad you are able to do this in such quick order. Usually things don’t happen this quickly in Washington, but, truly, when it comes to the children of our country and our home State, it means so much to us.

I am proud to say that this is a bipartisan resolution, and I have teamed up with Senator Josh Hawley from Missouri to introduce this resolution. This resolution is also supported by Senator Jack Reed from Rhode Island and my fellow West Virginia Senator, Shelley Moore Capito.

In addition to recognizing September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, this resolution calls on 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.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD INGOLD

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the chair and ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, it is 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 the Army Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army and as the vice chairman of the Army Judicial Hearing Board.

Mr. Ingold is a member of the board of directors of the Military Officers Association of America and has served as a legislative advocate and as a legislative liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army and the Army's Legislative Liaison Office.

Mr. Ingold has been a long-time advocate for the military and a strong supporter of the Department of Defense and the Armed Forces. He has been instrumental in ensuring that the needs of our military and their families are met.

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lege 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 legislative liaison. For the past 10 years, Mr. Ingold has implemented and enhanced strategic partnerships with Congress. He has assisted seven Army chiefs of legislative liaison and helped the Army significantly advance its relationships with both legislative chambers 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 funding to improve readiness, accelerate modernization, and reform processes to support combat operations, sustain the all-volunteer force, 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 service, and contributions to this great Nation. We join our colleagues in wishing him future success as he transitions into retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE “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 shoe. 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 350 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 1972, during the Vols 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 remarkable achievement by a 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 RICK LATER

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 city’s fire district 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 7,000 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 BROOKE MILLS

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 in high school, 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 that she used 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 impact 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 to provide 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, resilience, 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. Serving 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 aero science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In his time in the U.S. Air Force, he flew F-16s with the 307th 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. It 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 house 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 30 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 West region. In this capacity, she assisted more than 60,000 candidates navigate the West Point application process.

In 2002, Joyce was promoted to be a 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 nominations 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 Radhapyari 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 at NASA 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 spacecraft.

Through a special recommendation from famed aero-space engineer, Dr. Wernher von Braun, Dr. Lal earned a rare extension of his postdoctoral associate position with NASA, and spending 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 United States 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 programs in physics. 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 also served as hosting 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 the ShivaKiran, 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 butt 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 Brooke 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. 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.

Often, 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 much 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.)
Mr. Vponents, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2486. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding for historically black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

H.R. 4378. 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)” (RIN0790-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” (RIN0790-AK58) 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)” (RIN0790-A189) 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 Exempt 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–2627. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Report to Congress: The Child Welfare Sys- tem Response to Sex Trafficking of Children”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–2628. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to 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 Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of State, transmitting, pursuant to 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.

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred to and acted on the table as indicated:

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred to and acted 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 J联合 RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, Two Federal Social Security Administration laws, the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, paid by Congress and enacted almost 40 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 for a period of time to provide coordinated Social Security benefits, such as California public school teachers who have not been able to receive Social Security credits since 1965; 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;

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 workers that are reentered the workforce 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 to workers 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 Senate and the Assembly request 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 United States. 

S5600 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE September 19, 2019
United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

POM–138. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Kansas, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the several states for 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; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, the United States Constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against excessive use of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, the federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, the federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of our people, particularly for the generations to come, by proposing amendments to the United States Constitution through a convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution for the purpose of restraining these and related abuses of power: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit copies of this application to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Clerk of the United States House of Representa-
tives, the members of the Arkansas congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of each house of the legislatures in the several states, requesting their cooperation; and be it further

Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the several states subject it to a convention; 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 call an amendment convention of the states is a continuing power to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention; and

(2) The United States Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two-thirds (2/3) of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine for any reason or for any purpose, for proposing amendments called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. The United States Congress does not 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 convention 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 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 be rendered consid-
eration 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 further propose 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 for the 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 consti-
tutes a breach of the delegate’s duty and subjects them to recall and replacement.

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 call an amendment convention of the states is a continuing power to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention; and

(2) The United States Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two-thirds (2/3) of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) The United States Congress does not have the power or authority to determine for any reason or for any purpose, for proposing amendments called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. The United States Congress does not 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 convention 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 are subject to recall to the extent provided for in the instructions provided.

POM-140. A resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, urging the United States Congress to amend 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 amendments:

S. 253. A bill to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools (Rept. No. J6E-107).

By Ms. MUKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 762. A bill 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, and for other purposes (Rept. No. J6E-108).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2509. A bill to require the Energy Information Administration to publish an annual report on the status and trends of energy consumption in the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Police with the authority to enforce the rules of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the State of New York; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 Mrs. HIRONO):

S. 2511. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to establish an Assistant Secretary of Health for the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

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. GILLBRAND):

S. 2513. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to fund research on the effects of radiofrequency radiation in the 5G networks on human health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 2514. 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 those workers and communities help to create, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2515. A bill to require the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a study on the effects of radiofrequency radiation in the 5G networks on human health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 2516. 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, Ms. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WHITE, 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, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. KAINES (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. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2523. A bill to amend section 455(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 defense waste; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM for the Committee on the Judiciary.

W. Stephen Muldrow, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of four years.

Michael D. Baughman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

Kerry Lee Pettingill, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Penny P. Clark, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CULLIGAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2508. A bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, to reassess the functions and duties of the Office, 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. SINEK):

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. COLLINS):

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 Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. LEE):

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. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2514. 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 those workers and communities help to create, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2515. A bill to require the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a study on the effects of radiofrequency radiation in the 5G networks on human health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 2516. 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. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WYDEN):
S. 2527. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to restate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):
S. 2528. A bill to require the Director of National Intelligence to submit to Congress a report on the purposes, 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. CORNYN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HERNANDEZ, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MARKEY):
S. Res. 319. A resolution designating the week beginning September 16, 2019, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):
S. Res. 320. 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, Mr. REED, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MARKEY):
S. Res. 321. A resolution designating September 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. 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. 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 hazardous substances under the Comprehensive 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 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain 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. 743, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the soldiers 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. 818
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. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 875
At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws.

S. 975
At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 975, 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 indicates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue criminal charges under State law, and to ensure that the Department of Justice reports to Congress on prosecutions secured 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 alcoholic 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-exempt status of certain corporations.

S. 1188
At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic controller 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. 1355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion 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. BALKOWSKI, 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 increased protection for horses participating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions, and for other purposes.

S. 1630
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 Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the employer credit for paid family and medical 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 Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1700, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate 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 refiners 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 services 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. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senators from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and 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 (Mr. 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 Ms. 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 benefits 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”.

At the request of Mr. Risch, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKET) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 2517, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Ms. HRONIO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MUR- RAY, 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 on 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 Representaives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Tobacco Equity Act of 2019.”

**SEC. 2. INCREASING EXCISE TAXES ON CIGAR- BATTER TO ESTABLISHING EXCISE TAX AMOUNT 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 “$24.78” and inserting “$49.56”.

(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 “$9.56”.

(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 “$3.05”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “50.33 cents” and inserting “$10.74”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) SMOKABLE TOBACCO SOLID 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”; and

(B) by inserting “and (3), 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:

“(4) 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 Smoking Cigars—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “53.33” and inserting “$100.66”.

(e) Tax Parity for Snuff Cigars—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “52.75 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, including 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.

(3) FUEL TAN TAX—For roll-your-own tobacco and certain processed tobacco—Subsection (c) of section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, and includes processed tobacco that is removed for delivery to a person other than a person who is in the trade or business of processing tobacco for exportation” after “wrappers thereof”.

(4) Clarifying Tax Rate for Other Tobacco Products—

(a) 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 or article that is not otherwise described under this section that has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration shall be taxed at a rate equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis as determined by the Secretary for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis.

(b) Clarifying Definition of Tobacco Products—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 5702 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(c) Tobacco products.—The term ‘tobacco products’ means—

“(1) cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco, and

“(2) any product subject to tax pursuant to section 5701(i).”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS—Subsection (d) of section 5702 of such Code is amended by striking “49.56” and inserting “$105.69”.

(3) 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 (i) thereof).

(C) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate.

(4) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Rules similar to the rules of section 5681(e)(3) of such Code shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

(5) 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 that such taxes are imposed by such section.

(6) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

“(1) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of $0.01, such amount shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of $0.01.”

(F) 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 to be sold by any person, there is hereby imposed a tax in 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.

(3) 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 the amount of 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.

(4) 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.

(5) ARTICLES IN FOREIGN TRADE ZONES.—Notwithstanding the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the Foreign Trade Zone Act, 48 Stat. 950, 19 U.S.C. 120 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 tax due 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).

(6) 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 (i) 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 5681(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 that such taxes are imposed by such section. The Secretary may treat any person who bore the ultimate burden of the tax imposed by paragraph (1) as the person responsible for withholding such provision may be allowed or made.

(1) EFFECTIVE DATES.—
SEC. 2. RURAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) IN GENERAL.—The term "Department of Transportation" means the Department of Transportation;

(2) COUNCIL ON CREDIT AND FINANCE.—Sec- toral agencies, the Assistant Secretary for Rural

(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, including 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 advantages in those areas while avoiding duplicative Federal, State, and local investments; and

(F) to ensure that all rural communities lacking resources receive proactive outreach, education, and technical assistance to improve access to Federal transportation programs.

"(D) DUTIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(A) provide information and outreach to rural communities concerning the availability and eligibility requirements of participating in programs of the Department;

(B) help rural communities identify competitive economic advantages and avoid duplicative and contradictory investments 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) serve as 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 purposes 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 any combination of any of those entities—

(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.

(6) EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall ensure that not more than 4 full-time equivalent employees are assigned to the Office.

(7) 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.

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(Sec. 2. RURAL ECONOMIC INVESTMENT.)
the number of people aged 65 and older
direct care professionals to care for
the Secretary determines to be appropriate.
the number of opportunities for assistance for
mitigate duplicative investments in key
governmental and local resource cooperation
to remain in their communities while
help ensure that older Americans and
deficit care they need while remaining
active members of their communities. However,
direct care workers are often
paid low wages and may face poor
work 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
together with my friend and col-
league in the Virginia delegation
Chairman Bobby Scott on this bill, who
has also introduced the bill today in
the House of Representatives. The Di-
care workforce shortages. We encour-
gage, 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
face both a national 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 costlier 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
to receive loan forgiveness for public
service loan forgiveness; 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 more than double between 2015 and
2060, from nearly 48 million to 98 mil-
ion. Approximately 61 million Ameri-
cans are currently living with a dis-
ability. By 2024, 5.3 million direct care
workers will be needed across all care
settings.
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
work conditions and economic inse-
curity. The majority of direct
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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
face both a national 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 costlier 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.
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; Whereas Hispanic-Serving Institutions are leading efforts to increase Hispanic participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); 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 19, 2019, as "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 exoneration of innocent individuals falsely accused of crimes 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; (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; (ii) organize community events to encourage a better understanding of forensic science; and (iii) provide tours to Federal, State, and local policymakers to assist those individuals in gaining better insight into the current operations of forensic service providers and future demands that forensic service providers will face; and (B) local policymakers to—(i) recognize the formal commendation or resolution, the contributions of local forensic science laboratories to the communities of those policymakers; (ii) for the third week of September to be "Forensic Science Week" by proclamation; (iii) visit local forensic science laboratories to understand the capabilities and needs of those laboratories; and (iv) discuss the operational needs of State and local forensic science laboratories; (C) members of the media in the United States, including members of the media, to— (i) attend community events sponsored by local forensic science laboratories; (ii) take tours of local forensic science laboratories; and (iii) ask local forensic science laboratories about the operational and legislative needs of those laboratories; (D) members of the media to highlight local news stories that focus on the work of local forensic science laboratories in the communities that those laboratories serve; and (E) public safety officers, law enforcement officers, and officers of the court to— (i) attend community events sponsored by local forensic science laboratories; (ii) take tours of local forensic science laboratories; (iii) discuss the operational needs of State and local forensic science laboratories; and (iv) engage local forensic science laboratories regarding working together more effectively; and (2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Forensic Science Week.

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, Mrs. CAPITTO, Mr. MARKKAY, 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, 174,650 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; 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 (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 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:
Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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.

Mr. McCONNELL. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to. The preambles were agreed to.

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 prayers 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 speeches, 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 ASSIST-
ANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY. VICE HEATH F. TAYLOR, JUNIOR, RETIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE
HUMANITIES

ROBERT JOSEPH KREUCKMeyer, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMAN-
ITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 28, 2022. VICE DOROTHY A. HUGHES, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROBERT ANTHONY DIXON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUM-
NIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SUPE-
RIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE
TERM OF FOUR YEARS. VICE MICHAEL A. HUGHES, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

DANIELLE J. HUNSAKER, OF OREGON, TO BE UNITED
STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT. VICE HARRIET E. BAXTER, HUMPHREY, TERM EXPIRED.

WILLIAM JOSEPH NARDINI, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE
UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SECOND CIR-
CUIT. VICE CHRISTOPHER D. UNDERWOOD, RETIRED.

ROBERT J. SCHOELEN, RETIRING.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE Assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

MAJ. GEN. MARK C. SCHWARTZ

To be lieutenant colonel

DAVID B. MARTIN

To be colonel

LINDSEY P. DAVIS

To be major

SHAYLA A. CANTY-SMITH

To be lieutenant colonel

JEFFRY J. AUTRY

To be major

TRAVIS M. ALLEN

To be colonel

JASON R. RAEKER

To be lieutenant colonel

RACHEL R. DAVID

To be major

CRADIC M. FORSYTHE

To be captain

KEVIN M. HUDSON

To be major

KEVIN L. HUMPHREY

To be captain

JASON T. KIDDEN

To be colonel

DAVID R. LEOUARD

To be colonel

JONATHAN T. RUSNELS

To be captain

DAVID V. RUD

To be captain

CHRISTOPHER D. UNDERWOOD

To be major

ANN A. ADKINS

To be major

STEPHANIE C. ANDERSON

To be major

EDUARDO R. ARTIGA

To be major

KATHERINE M. BIAL

To be major

MICHELLE A. BALSAM

To be major

MICHELLE A. S. BELL

To be major

JAMIE L. BLESSINGCALCONE

To be major

LAUREN B. BROOKS

To be major

AMESHIA B. BROWN

To be major

JAYDA L. BUCKLEY

To be major

DIANE L. BUEHLER

To be major

RICHARD P. BUI

To be major

JESSICA A. CARPENTER

To be major

RYAN B. CARSON

To be major

JAMBS W. CAVINESS

To be major

WYATT C. CHESSMAN

To be major

KATHERINE A. COFFMAN

To be major

JENNIFER A. COLOMBO

To be major

JESSICA Y. COMBS

To be major

LADEN J. COOPER

To be major

RICK H. COPE

To be major

BRIAN M. CROSSMAN

To be major

MICHAEL J. DAVIS

To be major

ASHLEY M. ESTELLE

To be major

LISA FERNANDEZ

To be major

ZACHARY J. FERREIRA

To be major

ALEXIS N. FLITTE

To be major

PAULINE M. FLYNN

To be major

ELIZABETH R. FOLLEY

To be major

AUBRE H. FRAZER

To be major

JASON M. FREEMAN

To be major

SARAH E. FRY

To be major

MARTIN G. GAKURIA

To be major

SARAH P. JANG

To be major

ALLISON H. JAXON

To be major

KASSHA O. GARFIELD

To be major

CASEY J. GLEESON

To be major

KEVIN D. GRAHAM

To be major

MAGGIE A. GREENSTEIN

To be major

BRIDGETTE D. GRIFFITHS

To be major

JIMMY GROSSKY

To be major

SAMANTHA L. GUY

To be major

NATHAN W. HAMPTON

To be major

JEFFREY R. HARRIST

To be major

MARLA R. HARVEY

To be major

LINDSEY J. HATCHER

To be major

GRIFINN M. HOLACOCK

To be major

DANIEL J. HUSKARD

To be major

BAKERY M. JALLOW

To be major

CHRISS J. JENSEN

To be major

ERIN A. JOHNSON

To be major

LINDSAY A. JOHNSON

To be major

DANAH D. JONES

To be major

FRANCES M. KATUMBA

To be major

DANYELLE KAWACZCZUK ANDERSON

To be major

RACHEL R. KINNOR

To be major

KIERSTI M. KING

To be major

LIBOR R. KNEZ

To be major

ANNE H. LEE

To be major

SAMMY J. LEE

To be major

EMILY P. LUCAS

To be major

PHILLIP D. MAILLOUX

To be major

MICHAEL D. MARK

To be major

BENJAMIN A. MACBETH

To be major

SARA J. MCCOY

To be major

BARBARA A. MCELROY

To be major

ROCK A. MENNS

To be major

VALENTINA M. MIROLA

To be major

DIVIN L. MERRITT

To be major

JACQUELINE MILLS

To be major

JENNIFER L. MUSARICH

To be major

RYAN G. MONTANARI

To be major

GABRIELLE B. MOORE

To be major

SYBILLA V. MOORE

To be major

BRIANNE A. MORRISSEY

To be major

TIMOTHY W. NALL

To be major

DREW R. O'NEAL

To be major

JAMIES T. O'NEIL, II

To be major

REGINA M. ORTEGA

To be major

JAMES R. PHILLIPS

To be major

JANICE R. PERIDO

To be major

MARISSA R. PENA

To be major

LAURENCE L. PASS

To be major

JAMES T. S. O'NEAL, II

To be major

DREW R. O'NEAL

To be major

TIMOTHY W. NAILL

To be major

REBECCA A. MORRIS-DAVIS

To be major

GABRIELLE B. MOORE

To be major

RYAN G. MONTANARI

To be major

JENNIFER L. MINARCIK

To be major

JACQUELINE MILLS

To be major

JENNIFER L. MUSARICH

To be major

RYAN G. MONTANARI

To be major

TIMOTHY W. NALL

To be major

DREW R. O'NEAL

To be major

JAMIES T. O'NEIL, II

To be major

REGINA M. ORTEGA

To be major

JAMES R. PHILLIPS

To be major

JANICE R. PERIDO

To be major

MARISSA R. PENA

To be major

LAURENCE L. PASS

To be major

JAMES T. S. O'NEAL, II

To be major

DREW R. O'NEAL

To be major

TIMOTHY W. NAILL

To be major

REBECCA A. MORRIS-DAVIS

To be major

GABRIELLE B. MOORE

To be major

RYAN G. MONTANARI

To be major

JENNIFER L. MINARCIK

To be major

JACQUELINE MILLS

To be major

JENNIFER L. MUSARICH

To be major

RYAN G. MONTANARI
The following named officer for temporary appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BRYAN A. HOLSON

MICHAEL D. CRIBBS

To be lieutenant commander

BRACKERY L. BATTLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

JOEL D. MYERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

JENNIFER G. RYKACZEWSKI
FRANK E. SACCO III
PAUL MARYVIN M. SANTOS
RICHARD W. SCHERMERHUND
ALLISON C. D. SCOTT
JAMES C. SHAW
RUSAN B. SHEDDOW
LUCIAN H. SMITH
JOSHUA H. SNOKO
BRADLEY M. STINSELHART
TIMOTHY J. SMIECZINSKI
JOY J. TAPAUK
MICHAEL P. TAYLOR
TIMOTHY TRAN
KEITH B. TRAPP, JR.
PHILLIP URISH, JR.
ALICIA A. VISSCHER
JASON A. WADELL
NICOLAUS W. WDOWSKI
JACQUELINE W. WELLS
SOMMER J. WOODSON
COURTNEY K. WRIGHT
ANDREW C. WYSHAK
KENDRA M. YATES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

MARIO D. ADAME
SCOTT K. ARMSTRONG
KRISTOPHER W. BAIR
JASON D. BAKES
TRENT A. BARNES
WILLIAM T. BEAL
LINDSEY A. BEATES
BRIAN V. BEASLEY
BRIAN C. BEARD
BRANDON W. BEAM
TIMOTHY C. BARTH
KAYLA J. BARRON
MATTHEW P. BARRETT
GEORGES E. BANKS, JR.
IAN L. BALLARD
ROBERT E. BALL III
SEAN T. BAKEY
TIMOTHY P. BAKER
NIKITA N. BAKER
MATTHEW J. ATWOOD
REUBEEN J. ATTAH
DRAKE E. ARNOLD
BENJAMIN J. ARNETT
GREGORY N. ANDERSON
KIERIN W. A. ANDERSON
JOSHUA M. ANDERSON
GREGORY N. ANDERSON
ERNESTO H. ACOSTA
NICHOLAS H. ABELEIN
ALANA M. ABERNEETHY
KENNETH H. ABOUDA
TIMOTHY L. ADDUCIO
JAMES R. ADAMS
ALI A. AGHA
DANIEL T. AGUILERA
HAROLD J. AGUERO
RAMY Y. AHMED
LENA A. AKERSON
BRADLEY K. ALBACETIN
JASON T. ALLEN
GABRIEL M. ALFSTAD
BRIAN E. ALLEN
KELLY C. ALSCHUL
MATTHEW T. ALVAREZ
DAVID R. ANDERSEN
GREGORY N. ANDERSON
MARTIN A. ANDERSON
KIRK W. A. ANDERSON
STUART B. ANDERSON
MICHAEL P. ANDREWS
RYAN N. ANDREWS
ANETHY T. S. ANDREWS
DANIEL AMBERGER
KYLE C. AMBROSE
JONATHAN J. ARMETT
STEVEN H. ARMSTRONG
BRIAN E. ARNOLD
JUAN M. ARIENDO, JR.
PATRICK F. ASANTE
OHEE J. ASANTE
EBUBE J. ATTATH
CATTI M. ATWOOD
MATTHEW J. AUTOBY
DONALD R. BABCOCK
DANIEL R. BAKER
NICKI M. BAKER
TIMOTHY P. BAKR
STEVEN T. BANKS
TROY A. BALDING
ROBERT E. BALESTRIERI
IAN L. BALLARD
GEORGES E. BANKS, JR.
JASON T. BARBOUR
MATTHEW P. BARRETT
KAYLA J. BAIER
TIMOTHY C. BARTON
ROBERT E. BATTLE
MICHAEL R. BEALL
BRANDON W. BEAL
BRIAN C. BEARD
BRIAN V. BEASLY
ABRAHAM M. BRATES
LINDSAY A. BRENES
BRIAN W. BRETOYE
MICHAEL A. BEDWELL
BENJAMIN L. BERTHOLD
JAMES R. BELL

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
September 19, 2019

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S5615

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on September 19, 2019, withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

HENRI B. KING, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION.

JAMES M. STEPHENS, OF MISSOURI, TO BE CHIEF, NAVAL EFFECTS UNIT, UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE.

JEREMY A. SASKO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE COMMISSED ON THE ACT OF APRIL 15, 1862, ASSIGNED TO THE NAVAL RESERVE, TO BE APPOINTED AND PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF SENIOR LIEUTENANT, UNITED STATES NAVY.

JASON C. ABELL, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE APPOINTED AS COMPETENCY TRAINING OFFICER, UNITED STATES MINE WARFARE SCHOOL, IN THE GRADE OF LIEUTENANT, IN THE NAVY.

EMILY J. T. BACKEY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE COMMISSED ON THE ACT OF APRIL 15, 1862, ASSIGNED TO THE NAVAL RESERVE, TO BE APPOINTED AND PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT, UNITED STATES NAVY.

KATIE R. ELKINS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE COMMISSED ON THE ACT OF APRIL 15, 1862, ASSIGNED TO THE NAVAL RESERVE, TO BE APPOINTED AND PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT, UNITED STATES NAVY.

KATHERINE W. MANNION, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE COMMISSED ON THE ACT OF APRIL 15, 1862, ASSIGNED TO THE NAVAL RESERVE, TO BE APPOINTED AND PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT, UNITED STATES NAVY.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624.

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THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624.
HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARAB AMERICAN AND CHALDEAN COUNCIL

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 JENSEN 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 Inter

national 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.

CELEBRATING DENISE PENCE

HON. GREG PENCE
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say Happy Birthday to my most important constituent. She is the mother to Nicole, Lauren, Emily and John. She is a grandmother and a small business owner.

Madam Speaker, I am referring, of course, to my wife, Denise Pence. On Saturday, September 21, our family will celebrate Denise’s birthday, and I wanted to take this opportunity to wish my bride, here on the floor of the People’s House, a very Happy Birthday.

The best decision I ever made was to pursue Denise Karen Tullo of Chicago, Illinois, and our 38 years of marriage have been blessed with love and joy.

Happy Birthday to Denise Pence.

HONORING JACOB BEDNAR

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 of Tennessee. 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 1985, 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
prized event for those invited. In 2018, Columbia established the Ira A. Lipman Center for Journalism and Civil and Human Rights. Mr. Lipman was a leader in social justice organizations, and served as chairman and later as honorary chairman for life of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He stood up to racism wherever it raised its ugly head. In 1983, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He served on the board of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and on the board of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Mr. Lipman held many positions with the University of America, including as the first chairman of its ethics committee, and headed up its Memphis United Way chapter with record-setting donations. In Memphis, Ira was a model of civic responsibility, a thoughtful philanthropist and, like “Mr. Anonymous,” was looked to for his leadership, including financial support for the Memphis and Shelby County Crime Commission. In 1992, when Minister Louis Farrakhan was given the keys to the city by then-Mayor W.W. Herenton, Ira stood up and made it clear the decision was questionable. When he realized his lifelong dream of moving to New York City, he became a leader in the African American community, serving on the board of The New-York Historical Society. As New York City’s quasi-anthem says, if you can make it there, you can make it anywhere, and Ira made it there and New York was the better for it. He was a longtime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and, in 2007, a gift creating the Ira A. Lipman Chair in Emerging Technologies and National Security at the Council. Recognized worldwide for his dedication to Jewry, he was a member of the board of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for 38 years and last year received its highest honor, the Humanitarian Award. He also served as an officer of the American Jewish Historical Society. Ira served on the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Ohio Wesleyan University, which conferred on him its Distinguished Achievement Citation for significant accomplishments and service to mankind. Mr. Lipman received the Stanley C. Marcus Chair in Ethics from Ohio Wesleyan and the University of Miami, and the Penrose Award from Mt. Sinai Hospital. In 1985, he co-founded the I. T. C. AirTech, LLC, and James Cavnar, Founding Partner with The Bartech Group, served on several major committees throughout her career, Dr. McClelland has been a member of U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; National Science Foundation; National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council; Centers for Disease Control; State of Michigan, Governor’s Council on Environmental Quality; and American National Standards Institute. The work that Dr. McClelland has done in her groundbreaking career furthering safe wastewater treatment, and her determination to public health is laudable. We congratulate her on all her accomplishments and wish nothing but the best for the researchers that will work in the newly created...
HONORING BAXTER BRECHT
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 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 Ordal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Baxter has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Baxter built storage shelves 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 ANNIE LOU HAMER,
ANNIE DEVINE, AND VICTORIA GRAY
HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

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 that they had been denied access to the ballot. The MFDP garnered the support of Congressmen 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 been a member of the MFDP’s delegation, led the entire delegation to the floor of Congress in support of the bill. The three women were long-time civil rights activists and fought for their families, communities, and their driving passion to fight for Civil Rights.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S. MARINE CORPS WORLD WAR II VETERAN YSABEL CISNEROS
HON. J. LUIS CORREA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of U.S. Marine Corps World War II Veteran Ysabel Cisneros.

Mr. 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 he chose the option 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 Guam 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 time, 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 PNEYTON 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.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MR. G. BROWN LOFLIN

HON. TED BUDD
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. G. Brown Loflin.

Brown was born November 23, 1934 in Davidson County to Justice Snow Loflin, Sr. and Alice Elliott Loflin. He was an active member of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, the Denton Lions Club, and Denton Lodge No. 404 AF and AM.

Over the course of his life, Brown wore many hats. Some that come to mind are U.S. Army Reserve veteran, Davidson County Commissioner, owner of the Loflin Garage, and bluegrass enthusiast, just to name a few.

But Brown will probably be most remembered as the visionary behind the Denton FarmPark, which started back in 1970. It all began when Brown and a buddy decided to lower airplane rides to raise money for the local rescue squad. But the crowds and wait time for airplane lines grew so much that they needed another attraction. They quickly added antique farm machinery and tractors for folks to view while waiting in line. Brown would eventually abandon the airplane rides and transition to farm equipment, which was a major attraction. He also brought the Handy Dandy Railroad to Denton FarmPark, which features an old steam train that runs during the show and provides rides to visitors of all ages.

Today, the Southeast Old Threshers’ Reunion is the largest steam, gas, and unique farm machinery show in the Southeast. The property has 15 restored buildings, including a church, grist mill, general store, plantation house, and blacksmith shop.

In 2018, Loflin told local reporters that there were more than 1,200 tractors at the Southeast Old Threshers’ Reunion. Even when his health declined a few years ago, Brown remained the driving force behind what has become one of the largest events of its kind in the entire country. I’m grateful to have met Brown and know that his many contributions to Davidson County will live on for years to come.

Brown is survived by his wife Ruby Johnson, son who he had married to for over 60 years along with his son, Gordon Keith Loflin, a daughter, Karen Loflin Miller, four grand-children, and a great grandchild.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Brown Loflin for his service to Davidson County.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD WILLIAMS

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 Redick. They married in Savannah, Georgia, in 1952 and had two children, Martha Nell and Susan Kay.

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 lab 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 (nee Reddick); daughters, Martha McElroy and Susan Williams McElroy; granddaughter, Erica Chiles and father Don Chiles, Opal McElroy and father Daniel McElroy; sister-in-law, Charlesetta Redick 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...
Health and Medical Co-Director of Cancer Genetics at Northern Westchester Hospital, Northwell Health. Until 2018 he was a Full Academic Professor of Surgery at SUNY Downstate and Surgeon-in-Chief at VA New York Harbor Health Care System, Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Weber’s career includes significant accomplishments in multiple arenas including clinical surgical leadership, academic appointments, mentoring of young investigators, and international recognition for innovation and leadership in cancer prevention and collaborative translational cancer research. In addition to his clinical and academic appointments he led at least 10 national and international organizations, such as the National Colorectal Cancer Round Table, the Collaborative Group of the Americas and the NYC Health Department sponsored “Citywide Colorectal Cancer Control Coalition” (C5).

Dr. Weber was an early and passionate advocate for addressing the early age onset colorectal cancer (EAOCRC) issue. He organized and chaired the nation’s first Summit focused on EAOCRC and was instrumental in the American Cancer Society’s 2013 recommendation that Americans be screened for colorectal cancer at the age of 45 instead of 50. He published extensively on hereditary and early age onset colorectal cancer and was a frequently invited speaker on both subjects at national and international meetings.

Dr. Weber was a pillar of the colorectal cancer community and has been recognized for his philanthropic leadership and contributions. He founded New York City’s first colon cancer awareness event in 2003, the Colon Cancer Challenge, which led to the formation of the Colon Cancer Foundation. With Dr. Weber at the helm, the Foundation supported research into the causes, potential cures and most effective treatments for colorectal cancer. The Foundation has increased public awareness of the disease, educated the public about the importance of early detection, and advocated on behalf of thousands of colorectal cancer patients and their families.

He has been recognized for his leadership in public health, cancer control and research by New York City Health Commissioner Thomas Farley, the Health Department of New York State, the Advocate-Kickin’ Foundation, the American Cancer Society, the Prevent Cancer Foundation, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and the National Institutes of Health.

Year after year, Dr. Weber would travel to Washington to meet with lawmakers, including members of my staff and myself, to discuss the importance of scientific research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), removing barriers to colorectal cancer screening, and other priorities in the health care community.

Dr. Weber leaves behind a remarkable legacy of civic and community engagement. Individuals suffering from colorectal cancer and their families are better off today because of his work. He is survived by his loving wife Clare, sons Luke and Nick, sister Jeannie and her husband David Aplin, and family.

Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Dr. Weber’s many years of service to the community and in sending our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

HONORING ALEX GALLAGHER
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 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 local businesses, 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 have the tools necessary to thrive. Thanks to its tremendous work, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is recognized as one of the best Chambers in the State of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce. We are grateful for its impact on our community and wish it many more years of continued success ahead.

ELEVATION OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION ACT
HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Elevation of the Education Profession Act. This legislation sets up within the U.S. Department of Education an advisory committee of teachers and other stakeholders. Their job: to make recommendations on how we can improve recruitment and retention of teachers and school leaders for the benefit of America’s children.

Every child in the United States deserves quality instruction from quality teachers. Unfortunately for our children, however, far too many of their most qualified teachers are leaving the profession. As a nation, we need to understand why. Because these departures are having a serious, negative impact on the quality of education, especially on the education of children from low-income families and on children of color. In fact, the Learning Policy Institute reports teacher turnover rates are 50 percent higher in Title I schools, which serve low-income children, than in non-Title I schools.

Testimony from teachers at an Education and Labor subcommittee hearing I chaired in July cited various reasons that lead teachers to leave their profession. We heard teachers are not being well prepared, especially when it comes to serving students whose backgrounds and experience with trauma and poverty may differ from the teachers’ own. We learned school systems are not giving teachers the support they need. And, of course, we were told teachers are underpaid.

It is important to raise these issues in a congressional hearing. More important is that we provide a forum for teachers and other education stakeholders to come together to take a deep dive in the issues our hearing could only glanceingly examine. Most important is to find solutions.

That is what the Elevation of the Education Profession Act does. The Act brings together teachers and the unions that represent them; state, local and local education agencies; school administrators; parents; civil rights organizations; teacher colleges; and others who can comprehensively assess the concerns raised in our hearing. How can we increase the value of pre-service and in-service training for teachers? Are certification and credentialing practices setting an adequate standard? And are these quality controls sufficiently uniform across our nation? These are the kinds of questions we want answered.

Having made these assessments, the advisory committee is charged with recommending rigorous standards and implementing evidence-based best practices for educating and training profession-ready teachers and school leaders and supporting them once they are at

September 19, 2019 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks E1181
HONORING HARRISON HEUTINK
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harrison Heutink. 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 Ord-Real Member of the Order of the Arrow. Har-Real 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 Heutink for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING 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 commend Patty and Kenny Wells for rendering 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 ’42. 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 Activities Endowment.” Virtually from its inception in 1961, the West Point Fund 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 that shakeup, Knowlton had early 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 Directorate of Academy 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 believed that $10 million raised would be directed to AOG “and that USMA at most would get crumbs.” At a fall 1970 meeting, Thompson convinced George Wehman ’31 and Cortland Smith ’15, 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 valued by 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 public relations responsibilities to AOG.” On February 8, 1972, AOG and WPAF signed two memorandums of agreement (one for fundraising and one for publishing) to that effect. To that point, WPAF had raised $1.8 million for the Academy. It continued its existence as a backup to AOG from.
SEEDS OF "WPAOG" SOWN

Stepping back a bit, one more significant event occurred closely after AOG’s centennial, but it’s unclear whether it had a direct impact on Thompson and Knowlton’s vision to reorganize the Association. In 1972, AOG received a $1.5 bequest gift from the estate of Leah and Clement Trott, Class of 1899. According to Lamb’s report, “The Trott gift gave us the financial flexibility to expand the program and activity support of the Academy, as the Cullum gift had provided graduates their administrative center, and the Trott gift 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 Trott 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 “managing director.” The Trott gift also allowed AOG to hire Stephen O. Fuqua ’33 as Director of Development, Michael Krisman ’39 as Director of Publications, and to add three more staff personnel 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 ($81,996), and in 1972 AOG’s Endowment Fund exceeded the $3 million mark, allowing and 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). By the summer of 1973, the basic elements of the reorganization of the Academy’s alumni affairs were in place,” noted Lamb in his report. Despite these positives, there were still challenges for the reorganized AOG, none bigger than trying to convince more and more graduates to support the Academy, with a donation to the Academy. Most of these graduates had served in an Army for which almost all recreational activities and facilities were paid by appropriated dollars, and they did not understand why the Academy needed private funding. Lieutenant General Sidney Berry ’48, the 50th Superintendent, addressed this matter in his March 1976 ASSEMBLY letter, stating: “Public funds supported the necessaries of cadet life, education and training. Privately contributed funds augment programs and activities supported by the United States Military Academy. Public funds support the necessaries of cadet life, education and training. Privately contributed funds augment programs and activities supported by the United States Military Academy.”

CONCLUSION—AOG’S NEW HOME

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 decades-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, but that AOG would be willing to name its longest-tenured alumni center after its donor’s death. 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 December 12, 1993 during Homecoming ceremonies. When the AOG staff moved into the 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, an 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 the most significant successes 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 1982 Board of Trustee’s 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 2000. At the start of that campaign, AOG had just inaugurated its new travel program, which was finally implemented in the fall of 1986 with Morris Herbert ’50 as its first Director (aided by James "Skip" Wensel ’52 as Deputy Director of Information), sought to align the 75 or so activities scheduled for the reorganization of the firm’s plant while Michael’s father, H.B. “Bob” Foster joined as a partner in 1969. Today, Statesville Brick Company currently employees over 90 people and their work can be found at some of our nation’s most prestigious academic institutions such as Princeton University, Ohio State University, and the University of North Carolina.

Statesville Brick Company’s 115 years of business are a source of pride for our region, demonstrating how an operation dedicated to high craftsmanship with deep local roots can succeed and thrive in a changing landscape. Madam Speaker, please join me today in celebrating Statesville Brick Company for 115 years of business.

HONORING GRANT OWEN

HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
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. Through their dedicated service and steadfast devotion to their community, HFFNEMI 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 1990, the volunteers and staff of HFFNEMI 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, HFFNEMI has built, rehabbed, 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 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 very 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 of tomorrow.

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 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 ANNIE “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 KOSJ Sacred Sodality, Legion of Mary, Catholic Charities, Cursillistas, OLPH Hilltoppers, OLPH Women’s Ministry, and her two favorites, Eucharistic Ministry and Lector. Anna 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 that effort 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 Furniture 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 & Novelty Company. They started in New York City making cots and beds with “telescoping” legs; which is where they derived their name. In 1921, they began moving operations to 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 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.

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 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. Laumer, 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:**

**Measures Read the First Time:**

**Executive Communications:**

**Petitions and Memorials:**

**Executive Reports of Committees:**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Additional Statements:**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

**Privileges of the Floor:**

**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, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

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.

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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.

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H7834–35

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.

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;

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.

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).

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


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. 3879, the “SOAR Act”. Testimony was heard from Representative Bishop of Utah; Leah Baker, Acting Assistant Director, Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Chris French, Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES
Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 1312, the “Yurok Lands Act of 2019”; S. 216, the “Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation 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 Ponchartrain 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 “Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound Act”; 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 Under 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

Bergman, Jack, Mich., E1184
Budd, Ted, N.C., E1180, E1183
Cohen, Steve, Tenn., E1177
Cook, Paul, Calif., E1185
Correa, J. Luis, Calif., E1179
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E1181, E1184
Graves, Sam, Mo., E1177, E1179, E1180, E1181, E1182, E1183, E1184
Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E1180
Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E1178
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 Kelii Camacho, Northern Mariana Islands, E1181
Shimkus, John, Ill., E1182
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E1182, E1184
Stivers, Steve, Ohio, E1182
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1179
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