



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

No. 156

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARTHA MCSALLY, a Senator from the State of Arizona.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, inspire our lawmakers to commit to accomplishing Your purposes in our Nation and world. As they seek Your wisdom, teach them Your precepts and direct their steps. May they live lives of obedience and abundance as they follow where You lead.

Lord, provide them with courage to do right as You give them the ability to follow Your footsteps. Help them to make glorifying You their top priority.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 26, 2019.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARTHA MCSALLY, a Senator from the State of Arizona, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,  
President pro tempore.

Ms. MCSALLY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4378, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 12:15 p.m. will be divided in the usual form.

If no one yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). The majority leader is recognized.

### UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, exactly 1 year ago, the administration announced the most significant trade deal in a generation—a landmark agreement with Mexico and Canada to strengthen two of our Nation's key trading relationships.

The USMCA is the most consequential update of trade policy on this continent in a quarter century. It is a huge opportunity to notch new pro-Amer-

ican policy victories and keep our North American neighbors close while we tackle other challenges, such as China.

Here we are, months after all three countries' leaders signed the agreement, and we are still waiting on the House Democrats to let it move forward. Mexico has already passed it, and Canada is waiting on our move. The Senate is ready and eager to ratify it, but the Senate can't go first. The clock is ticking.

Month after month, even as the House Democrats have continually made vague statements that they support the USMCA and want to see it passed, we have yet to see any real progress. Canada, Mexico, and millions of Americans are waiting for Speaker PELOSI to remember that serving the public interest requires more than just picking fights with the President; it actually entails addressing the people's business.

Mexico and Canada are vital partners at every level of the U.S. economy. They provide enormous, growing markets for American-made products. They, together, buy more than \$500 billion in U.S. goods and services every single year. It is a half-a-trillion-dollar export market. Every State, every industry, every corner of our country is involved.

For 90 percent of America's manufacturing sectors, Mexico or Canada ranks as the No. 1 or No. 2 export destination. For American farmers and producers, our two neighbors buy almost two-thirds of all the agricultural exports we sell to all of our free-trade partners combined. We aren't just talking about Big Business. Tens of thousands of small- and medium-sized businesses count on their Mexican or Canadian customers to succeed.

These realities affect Americans' real lives. In the last 25 years, as trade with Mexico and Canada has quadrupled, 12 million U.S. jobs have come to depend on cross-border commerce. Many of

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



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those jobs belong to workers in Kentucky, where our biggest industries, from auto manufacturing to bourbon production, depend on this export economy.

With so much at stake, the American people deserve to have an excellent trade deal in place, one that levels the playing field for American workers and reduces the incentives to ship American jobs to Mexico and one that expands American farmers' and manufacturers' access to these neighboring markets.

This is exactly what the USMCA delivers. It upgrades the playing field for American workers, farmers, ranchers, and job creators. It builds on the pro-growth, pro-innovation policies that encourage their success here at home with an upgraded, modern runway to markets beyond our borders.

The USMCA looks specifically at key sectors where outdated rules or exploitive practices threaten Americans' job security and hurt homegrown industries. It strengthens intellectual property rights to protect American innovation; it upgrades our digital trade policy; and the USMCA wins greater market access for U.S. exporters, with there being opportunities to sell more dairy and poultry into Canada, a better playing field for auto parts and investment, and enforceable labor standards so hard-working Americans aren't unfairly priced out of their jobs.

What does all of this add up to? I will tell you. According to the independent U.S. International Trade Commission, the USMCA would generate more than \$68 billion in GDP growth and create 176,000 jobs right here in the United States.

Frankly, there is very little else we could do in Congress that would deliver this kind of boost to American prosperity and brighten prospects for so many American families. It is also a bipartisan deal. It includes changes that the Democrats have themselves clamored for and for which the administration has bent over backward to accommodate their concerns.

Here we are, a year after all three countries announced the deal, and the Democrats' heel-dragging continues. Speaker PELOSI keeps saying she supports the agreement in the abstract, but the drip, drip, drip of small objections and stalling tactics keeps on coming. Even as Speaker PELOSI's moderate Members publicly beg her to pass this deal, it is almost as though she is looking for reasons to duck it.

Well, I certainly hope not, for 176,000 American jobs hang in the balance, tens of billions of dollars of new prosperity, and our relationships with two of our closest allies that have already taken difficult steps to get to yes on this agreement and whose support we need to preserve a system of free and fair trade from China's aggressive efforts to rewrite the rules on its own terms.

The United States of America needs this deal. American workers and small

businesses need this deal. The time for excuses is over. The USMCA needs to move this fall, and that can't happen until the House Democrats stop blocking an enormous win for our country.

#### TRIBUTE TO ILEANA GARCIA

Mr. President, on a totally different matter, as majority leader, I am especially grateful for opportunities to offer the Senate's thanks to the remarkable men and women who work tirelessly to preserve and protect this great institution.

On Monday, we will be saying a bittersweet goodbye to a particularly irreplaceable member of the Senate's family who has worked alongside us for 22 years.

Ileana Garcia was born in Cuba and raised in Puerto Rico. She started working for the Secretary of the Senate in September 1997 as a project accountant.

Since then she has built a remarkable success story here in this institution, rising through the ranks of financial management and becoming financial clerk of the Senate in 2014.

But with Ileana, it is not just about the impressive milestones. It is about the outsized impact she has had on this place and so many people—from the heavy lifting of getting a new financial system online in the late 1990s to helping offices navigate healthcare transitions and government shutdowns, to the everyday challenges that come with a big complicated payroll like the U.S. Senate's.

She did it all with professionalism and attention to detail. At times, my own staff observed that she was so attentive and so quick to respond to their questions that they wondered if she was detailed exclusively to handle our office. Of course she wasn't. That is just the job she does.

But professionalism and excellence aren't the only things Ileana brought into the office every day. Everyone observes that she also brought a very big heart. Patience, discretion, compassion, and an unflagging smile have been her calling cards. That was the case when she arrived 22 years ago, and it remains the case today as she prepares to depart as one of the Senate's senior-most administrative staffers.

So we are really sorry to lose somebody of Ileana's caliber, but we know she is excited to spend more time on Planet Garcia, which I understand is what she and her beloved husband Ariel of 30 years call their clan, including their three sons. And I understand there might be some more time for competitive domino tournaments—not that she apparently needs any more practice.

So I know that all of my colleagues will join me today in wishing Ileana Garcia the very best and thanking her for a job so well done.

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

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, after Speaker PELOSI decided to open a formal impeachment inquiry on Tuesday evening, there have been several developments. Yesterday, the President released a memorandum of conversation of his July 25 call with President Zelensky of Ukraine. In plain text—plain text—no ands, ifs, or buts, the President pressured the leader of Ukraine to investigate one of his leading political rivals, confirming public reports.

Yesterday, as well, the House and Senate Intelligence Committees received the official whistleblower complaint that precipitated this series of events. I read the complaint yesterday afternoon and came away more concerned—even more concerned than when I had read the memorandum of the President's conversation.

This morning, the House Intelligence Committee made public the declassified portion of the complaint and the intelligence community's inspector general's cover letter. That was the correct decision. The American people have a right to read the whistleblower's complaint for themselves, and I hope that they will.

The whistleblower's complaint begins:

In the course of my official duties, I have received information from multiple U.S. Government officials that the President of the United States is using the power of his office to solicit interference from a foreign country in the 2020 U.S. election. This interference includes, among others things, pressuring a foreign country to investigate one of the President's main domestic political rivals.

Those are his words.

The complaint goes on to describe specific, deliberate maneuvers by White House lawyers and officials to lock down records of the Presidential communications in question, including and especially “the official word-for-word transcript of the President's phone call with President Zelensky.”

The whistleblower complaint contains allegations of underlying crimes, a campaign of soliciting the interference of a foreign government in an American election, and using the power of an official government position for personal and political gain, as well as many allegations of an attempted coverup.

If this was all so innocent, why did so many officials in the White House, in the Justice Department, and elsewhere make such large efforts to prevent it from being made public?

Both sets of allegations are said to have multiple witnesses and multiple co-collaborators. If confirmed, the allegations contained in the whistleblower

complaint are nothing short of explosive. The complaint unquestionably validated Speaker PELOSI's decision to open a formal impeachment inquiry into these matters.

We are living in an incredibly delicate time for our democracy. We have a responsibility now to corroborate the facts in the whistleblower's complaint, solicit testimony from those involved, and pursue the relevant avenues of inquiry that arise.

We have a responsibility to consider the facts that emerge squarely and with the best interests of our country, not our party, in our hearts. We have a responsibility not to rush to final judgment or overstate the case, not to let ourselves be ruled by passion but by reason. For if the House, at the end of its inquiry, sees fit to accuse the President of impeachable offenses, we in the Senate will act as jury. Our role as the solemn jurors of democracy demands that we place fidelity to country and fidelity to our Constitution above all else.

#### APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, on the Appropriations Committee, the business of the American people and the responsibilities of Congress do not pause while the House prepares to formally begin an impeachment inquiry. Today, for example, the Senate must pass a continuing resolution to keep the government open through the end of November and give appropriators time to complete the 12 appropriations bills.

I expect the continuing resolution will pass this morning and head to the President's desk. That is the easy part. The hard part is getting a bipartisan appropriations process back on track here in the Senate.

Senate Republicans unilaterally departed from our bipartisan negotiations earlier this month by proposing to divert as much as \$12 billion from military construction and health programs to the President's border wall. Obviously that was a nonstarter with Democrats, and the Republican leader and the leaders of the Appropriations Committee on the Republican side had to know that. As yesterday's vote for the national emergency declaration showed, it is a nonstarter with a double-digit number of Republicans as well.

Now that Republican leaders have shown the President they tried to get his wall again, now that the Senate has taken two proxy votes on the wall again this work period, neither of which came close to passing, it is time for Leader MCCONNELL, Chairman SHELBY, and our Republican colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to sit down with Democrats and get a bipartisan process moving again.

#### NOMINATION OF EUGENE SCALIA

Mr. President, finally, on the Scalia nomination, today the Senate will consider the nomination of Eugene Scalia to serve as Secretary of Labor. Typical of the Trump administration, Mr. Scalia's nomination is a slap to the

face of labor because Mr. Scalia's life work has been utterly opposed to the mission of the agency to which he is nominated. He has sided repeatedly with the large corporate interests against working people.

If any working person doubts that President Trump does not have their interests at heart, look at who he has nominated. This guy shouldn't even make it for Secretary of Commerce, let alone Secretary of Labor, which is supposed to defend and protect the working people of America.

President Trump could have chosen a card-carrying union member for the job. He could have chosen someone who understands the needs of workers and unions, the history of the labor movement, and the established right of workers to collectively bargain for better wages and safer conditions. Instead, President Trump nominated Mr. Scalia, a corporate lawyer who has spent his entire career protecting the interests of CEOs, big corporations, and the wealthy elite—not workers, not labor. Worse, he has proactively fought to weaken worker protections. He has opposed minimum wage increases and even opposed protections in the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is a disgrace.

My guess is that if every working person knew Mr. Scalia's record and that President Trump nominated him, Mr. Trump would hardly get the vote of a worker. This shows who President Trump is. This shows who our Republican colleagues are. They talk about the rights of workers but vote for somebody—I hope they won't, but in all likelihood, they will vote for somebody who is anti-worker up and down in the very bones of his body.

Mr. Scalia is part of a larger pattern. President Trump has claimed to be a champion for working Americans, but he has filled our government with millionaires and CEOs and folks like Scalia who work for them with proven records of putting corporate interests before workers' interests. Anyone who thinks President Trump is a friend of the working person should look at Scalia's nomination.

The Republican majority, rather than use its advice and consent powers to check the President when he does the wrong thing, rolls over and approves these nominees.

Do all of these Republicans here oppose the Americans with Disabilities Act? Do all of these Republicans oppose increasing the minimum wage? Well, if you are against those kinds of things, vote for him. But we have gotten a lot of doubletalk, people who say they are for those things and then vote for nominees who oppose them and rip them apart.

We should not confirm Mr. Scalia as Secretary of Labor, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, we are a proud nation of immigrants and have benefited from the diversity of ideas and cultures that have come from around the world to experience the freedoms that we enjoy in the United States of America.

September 15 through October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month and a time to especially celebrate the traditions and contributions of the tens of millions of Hispanic and Latino Americans across our country.

Texas is home to more than 11 million Hispanic Americans. Some have lived here for generations, and others have contributed to the recent rapid growth of the Lone Star State.

Throughout our State's history, we have benefited from the leadership of people like Dr. Hector Garcia, a surgeon, a decorated World War II veteran, and a civil rights advocate. He founded the American GI Forum to ensure that veterans receive equal benefits and care regardless of their race or ethnicity. He was an ardent advocate for equal educational opportunities, and his motto was "Education is our freedom, and freedom should be everybody's business."

Dr. Garcia became the first Mexican American to serve as the Ambassador to the United Nations, representing our country on the world stage. President Ronald Reagan later bestowed upon him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His legacy is a reminder of what a single person can accomplish in the face of adversity, if only they have the courage to fight for what is right.

Today, Texas is proud to have incredible Hispanic-American leaders across our State, including Ruth Hughs, who last month was sworn in as our secretary of state, and people like Justice Eva Guzman, who is the first Hispanic woman to serve on the Texas Supreme Court.

There are incredible organizations, such as the Hispanic chambers of commerce, that advocate for Hispanic-owned small businesses that are vital to our economy. There is also the League of United Latin American Citizens—or, as we know it, LULAC—that fights to improve opportunities for Hispanic Americans, particularly when it comes to education.

Hispanic leaders can be found in city halls, board rooms, and communities throughout our State and are improving our State in big ways and small ones as well.

I have the honor of representing 28 million Texans—and it is growing by about 1,000 people a day, but nearly 40 percent of them identify as Hispanic.

When Texans come to Washington, they have the opportunity to visit the museums that hold some of the most important stories and artifacts from our Nation's history. In recent years, we have made two very important additions to the Smithsonian Institution with the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Museum of African American History and

Culture. But it is time for another addition.

Earlier this year, I introduced the National Museum of the American Latino Act, which would authorize the Smithsonian Institution to create a museum honoring America's Latinos. This has been a work in progress since 2003, when a bill was introduced to study the creation of a museum. The process took a step forward in 2008, when a Commission was established to study the viability of such a museum and, again, when that Commission released a report detailing the feasibility of the project.

This legislation will take the work that has been done up to this point and finally put into motion the process of establishing a Latino museum. As of this week, we have 200 cosponsors on the House companion legislation and nearly 20 bipartisan cosponsors here in the Senate. Bicameral, bipartisan support demonstrates that the time has come to turn the dream of this museum into a reality.

Hispanic Americans have made innumerable contributions to our country, and these stories deserve a brick and mortar home here in Washington, DC, in our Nation's Capital.

Our State and our Nation are stronger, smarter, and more inclusive because of the contributions of generations of Hispanic Americans. So I am glad to spend this month reflecting on the work they have done and celebrating the heritage that is uniquely woven into the fabric of the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the past 2 weeks have provided a kind of microcosm of the Democrat Party since the 2016 election—a combination of unhinged partisanship and a radical shift to the far left.

In the past 2 weeks, we have seen Democrats call for not one but two impeachments—Justice Kavanaugh's and the President's—and introduce another socialist-inspired, government-run approach to healthcare, this time on the issue of prescription drugs.

First, there were the calls to impeach Justice Kavanaugh based on yet another vague rumor. It quickly became glaringly obvious that there was no substance to the rumor. The alleged victim apparently has zero memory of the alleged behavior, but that didn't give Democrats any pause. It was right on to the next rushed impeachment proposal.

On Tuesday, the Speaker of the House announced that she was opening

an impeachment inquiry into the President. Never mind that the President had declared he would make public the transcript of the phone call in question. Apparently, she couldn't take the time to wait. After all, as the leader pointed out on the floor this week, Democrats have been looking to impeach the President since the moment he was elected.

For Democrats, impeachment is not something to be gravely considered as an answer to serious crimes; it is a political weapon they hope to use to fix the fact that they didn't get their way in the last Presidential election. Democrats' calls for impeachment have come so thick and fast over the past couple of years, it would be difficult to trust them to conduct an impeachment investigation if there ever were a serious reason to consider one. They have made it absolutely clear that they have no objectivity at all.

In addition to poisonous partisanship, the other thing that has characterized the Democratic Party since the 2016 election is a rapid swing to the extreme left. Last week, Speaker PELOSI introduced the latest addition to the socialist agenda Democrats have been laying out over the past year—a prescription drug bill that abandons the free market and competition that have enabled the United States to lead the way in drug innovation and lifesaving cures for Americans.

There is no question that many Americans face high prescription drug costs, and there is no question that we can and should implement measures to drive down these costs. For months, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Committee have been working on this issue. The same is true in the House.

There are multiple bipartisan ideas both houses of Congress could act on, but Speaker PELOSI's bill is not the answer to the problem of high drug costs. The Speaker's bill would force drug companies to either accept government price controls or face up to a 95-percent tax on the sale of their drugs. That is right, 95 percent. This is not a good-faith effort to come to the table to talk about solutions for lowering drug prices and out-of-pocket costs for Americans.

Right now, America is a leader in prescription drug innovation and the development of new treatments. The Speaker's bill would threaten all of that. Under her bill, research into new treatments and cures would decrease.

Yes, we need to address high drug prices, but discouraging the innovation that has improved the lives of so many Americans is not the way to go about it. The Speaker's proposal for government-run prescription drug prices would do exactly what Democrats' larger socialist healthcare fantasy would do, and that is to hurt Americans' healthcare.

It would add limited healthcare innovation to the many negatives Ameri-

cans would experience under so-called Medicare for All—negatives such as reduced access to care, limited treatment options, long wait times, and big tax bills for ordinary Americans.

Of course, Democrats like to talk about forcing the wealthy to pay for Medicare for All and their other pie-in-the-sky proposals. The junior Senator from Vermont recently introduced a wealth tax he wants to use to pay for some of his special socialist programs. His proposal would ostensibly raise \$4.35 trillion over 10 years. Here is the problem. Let's suppose he put all that money toward paying for his government-run takeover of healthcare, Medicare for All. At a conservative estimate, Medicare for All would cost \$32 trillion over 10 years—\$32 trillion. The Senator from Vermont's wealth tax wouldn't even cover 15 percent of that cost. Who is going to pay the other 85 percent? And that is supposing his wealth tax actually raises the money he says it will.

European countries have repealed their wealth taxes right and left because they were ineffective. While I am sure the Senator from Vermont would be happy to levy additional taxes on the wealthy, the truth is, there simply aren't enough wealthy people in the United States to pay for all of the Democrats' socialist proposals. Ultimately, the burden for paying for these proposals would fall heavily on the middle class.

There is no question that divided government can make things challenging, but it can also be the occasion for real, bipartisan action. Senate Republicans would love to work with Democrats on solutions to problems like the cost of healthcare. Unfortunately, Democrats have chosen to spend most of their time on partisan messaging and on proposing socialist fantasies that would hurt the very people they are supposed to help. I don't have a lot of confidence they will change anytime soon, but I hope they will. There is a lot we could still get done if Democrats are willing to come to the table and work with Republicans on solutions that will meet the challenges faced by the American people.

Mr. President, 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.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF SHOOTING AT ROUTE 91 MUSIC FESTIVAL

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate a terrible tragedy. Today is a solemn day and a chance to reflect. Two years ago, in my hometown of Las Vegas, thousands of people gathered on a warm evening at the Route 91 music festival. They were there with friends, partners, family.

They came to listen to country music, relax, and just celebrate.

Two years ago on that evening, they heard the pop of what sounded like fireworks. After seconds for some, minutes for others, they understood what was happening: an attack that would become the worst mass shooting in modern American history.

In the space of 11 minutes, Las Vegas was transformed. In that narrow window of time, 58 people were mortally wounded and hundreds of others were injured, many of them grievously.

I still think about the stories of those who ran into the crowd to help others, those people who made a commitment that night to our community to protect others from harm. Police, firefighters, and other first responders who ran toward the festival grounds to rescue others made that commitment that October evening. The people who piled the wounded into their cars, vans, and pickups also offered a hand to help strangers. So did the doctors and nurses who rushed to the hospitals and the hundreds of Las Vegas and Reno residents who stood in line to donate blood. They all felt viscerally the desire to help those who were suffering in whatever way they could.

We made a commitment to all those caught up in the devastating attack at the Route 91 festival, a promise that I honor today. I vowed to do all I could to help my community heal, to remember those who died, and to support those who bear scars of the body or of the spirit.

During that dark time 2 years ago, my city came together to help and sustain the wounded and their families—people from all over the world, neighbors and strangers alike. I have never been prouder of Las Vegas.

So many different groups worked in tandem that evening. There were the brave actions of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Clark County School District Police Department, the Las Vegas Fire Department, and the Clark County Fire Department, who unhesitatingly risked their lives to stop the attack and rescue survivors.

Health institutions across the State joined the effort, like American Medical Response, Medic West Ambulance, Community Ambulance, the University Medical Center, Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, the Valley Health System, and Dignity Health. So many doctors and nurses, including Nellis Air Force Base medical professionals, worked then and in the weeks and months that followed to restore people to health. The Red Cross and the Department of Veterans Affairs supported the hospitals with their mobile units. There was the staff at United Blood Services, who worked doggedly to process donations from thousands of people in Las Vegas, Reno, and elsewhere in Nevada.

There were many people and organizations in Nevada and nationwide that provided food, blankets, reduced airline

tickets, and other ways to support the victims and their families. The FBI and the Nevada Victims of Crime Program helped families struggling with funeral and travel expenses. Airlines like Allegiant and Southwest also helped to cover costs. Donations poured in from Las Vegas and around the world. The donations are still coming in to support the Children of the 58 Fund, which Neysa Tonks' family set up in remembrance of her to provide scholarships to children of victims. Donations are coming in to the Kern Community Foundation Day of Remembrance Fund, which also provides scholarships to victims and survivors.

All of these people put aside their own needs—sometimes for moments and sometimes for months—to help others. They made a commitment to the victims. Part of that commitment simply has to be working to prevent other families in America from going through what families went through on that October 1 night as they waited in the Family Reunification Center, crying out for information about their loved ones but terrified at what they would hear.

Here is the frightening part, the part that keeps me and so many of us across this Nation up at night: The shootings haven't stopped since October 1, 2017. Unimaginably, people who survived the Route 91 shooting have found themselves terrorized by gun violence again since that tragic night. Some of them were at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, CA, just over a year after October 1 when a gunman opened fire and killed or wounded two dozen people. Others were in Gilroy, CA, just this July, where a man killed or wounded over a dozen people at an annual festival. Can you imagine going to enjoy yourself one afternoon or evening and having that place of community and celebration turn into a war zone? And then having that happen not once, in some horrible nightmare come to life, but multiple times. We cannot let this waking nightmare continue in America.

We have to make a commitment to each other, a promise that we will not leave each other and those we love to be victims of this senseless violence, not when we can do something to stop it.

Americans know this. They know that we are needlessly endangering our children and each other. They know that commonsense gun reform could both respect responsible gun ownership and fight the public health crisis that mass shootings and senseless gun violence represent.

That is why people in both parties support gun violence reform by huge margins. They know that we simply cannot sidestep our responsibility to each other. We have to reduce these senseless mass shootings and save lives, and we can do that while also respecting the rights of responsible gun owners. We owe that to our communities.

The families of those wounded on 1 October haven't given up on their responsibilities. They are still there for their loved ones day after day, as the visible and invisible wounds have continued to heal and as people have learned to walk, talk, and work again.

The doctors and nurses who have cared for the injured have not given up. They don't say: Well, it has been 2 years; so we will not care for patients anymore.

We haven't taken down the many moving memorials to 1 October, like the mural at the corner of Westcliff and Antelope Way, the 58 wooden crosses near the Las Vegas welcome sign on the Strip, or the Community Healing Garden on Casino Center Boulevard.

Just the opposite, Clark County Museum has been carefully photographing and cataloging over 17,000 items, from Las Vegas Strong T-shirts and bumper stickers to stuffed animals, from artificial flowers to rosaries that people left at memorials to the Route 91 victims and survivors. That care and that attention—that is what a commitment is. When you make one, you have to be there for the long haul, to see the thing you promised to the end.

I will always remember the 1 October victims and their loved ones and always commemorate their loss. I know it is a loss that can never be fully repaired but only eased by time. I will always honor the bravery of those who sacrificed their own safety to help others, and I will never stop fighting to make America safer, to save families across the country from what I watched families in Las Vegas go through that night and from what my own family went through as we waited to hear back about whether my niece was safe or not as she attended that concert that night.

This is our commitment. We have to continue to remember, but we have to do something about it. Our time is now.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, on October 1, 2017, the city of Las Vegas experienced a tragedy on an unprecedented scale—a tragedy that has left our community deeply scarred and our city forever changed.

It was a warm October night. Tens of thousands of people were gathering in town for a music festival. They were there to have fun, to dance, and to be joyous, but that joy was cut short by violence and terror when a lone gunman began to open fire.

In the 10 minutes that the shooting lasted, over 1,100 rounds were fired. I repeat: 1,100 rounds. There were 58 innocent people murdered and 422 injured.

Next week marks the second anniversary of that horrific evening—the deadliest mass shooting in American history. Sons, daughters, parents, friends,

and neighborhoods—each one of them were loved, and they were all taken from us far too soon.

Countless others were injured in the chaotic frenzy that followed the gunfire. Many will never live the same life they once knew.

Several victims from that night never received the care they needed, including members of the Nevada's immigrant community, who were too scared—too scared—to seek care for risk of deportation.

The 1 October shooting forever altered the lives of countless families in Las Vegas and countless families across this country. Many are still grieving and will suffer through pain that no family, no friend, no spouse, or no child should ever have to face, and that empty seat at every Thanksgiving and every holiday table will never be filled.

Numerous survivors are still working through the effects of this incredible trauma. Put simply, this massacre shook our community to its very core.

Let me be clear when I tell you today that we were not and we will not be shattered. The bright lights of Las Vegas will continue to shine through the darkness of that day. We are resilient, and we will always be Vegas Strong.

I stand here today to honor the memory of 58 victims who lost their lives and the hundreds more who were injured and are still fighting to recover. I am here to say that they will never be forgotten. We will be there to stand side by side with them as they continue to overcome the challenges and trauma brought on by the shooting.

We must also remember that in the face of terror, there were people who made the selfless choice to run toward the gunfire and to help. They were our brave first responders who risked their lives to offer aid. They were everyday citizens who allowed others to escape in their cars. They were law enforcement officers, firefighters, physicians, and cabdrivers. Every member of our community that could come out to help. All of them are heroes, and all of them must be remembered.

Heroes continue to come forward in the days, weeks, months, and even years now following the shooting, lining up to donate blood, giving financial aid to help support those who were injured and the families of those who were murdered, helping to reunite friends and families in the aftermath, and, to this day, providing counseling and the much-needed support to those who are still suffering from the trauma of that horrific night.

Our city provided legal, financial, and mental health services to those who were affected by the violence that night, including the formation of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center.

In the days immediately following the shooting, community members and local businesses formed what is now known as the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden, a memorial to those

whose lives were lost. Visitors planted 58 trees—one for each victim—and painted rocks and ornaments with words of encouragement and words of strength. Family members decorated trees of their loved ones.

Following the shooting, Nevada also took action, passing a series of gun safety measures to prevent this kind of tragedy from occurring again.

Two years have passed. I wish I could say that Congress has followed Nevada's lead, that we have come together as a nation in healing, put partisanship aside, and passed commonsense gun safety legislation to protect the lives of Americans. But, sadly, this is not the case.

Each day and each year that Congress fails to pass commonsense gun violence prevention measures is another day and another year that we fail to honor the 58 who lost their lives on 1 October and the countless lives that have been lost to gun violence.

This type of tragedy happens all too often in our country. This past year, there were 337 mass shootings. That is nearly one a day for an entire year. So far in 2019, we have already experienced over 300 mass shootings. This is unacceptable. We must work to prevent these weapons from ending up in the wrong hands, and we owe it to the countless Americans who have lost their lives, who were injured and forever scarred, to find a solution, not just for those who lost their lives in Las Vegas but for those in countless other American cities.

In the days following the terrible tragedies in Gilroy, El Paso, and Dayton, I visited the heroes of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. They have been working nonstop for 2 years helping our community to heal. As I learned of their efforts not only to help victims and survivors but also to extend a hand to help communities like ours in their greatest time of need, I was reminded by them of just how resilient we are as a people, as a community, and as a country.

We owe it to these heroes to no longer accept inaction. We must all continue to stand up, to speak out, and to refuse to allow these kinds of tragedies because they should never define us.

No American—no American—should ever have to think twice about going to church, the movies, or a concert on a warm October night, and no parent—no mother—should have a bulletproof backpack on their back-to-school shopping list.

As Members of Congress, we were elected to solve problems and to keep our country safe. When it comes to gun violence, we are failing. We are failing spectacularly on both counts, but we don't have to. We can take action. We can take reasonable steps to reduce gun violence. We can put a stop to the carnage that is happening across our country, and we can do this while still respecting the Second Amendment.

What is happening is not normal, but it is also not inevitable. Sharing our

thoughts and prayers shouldn't be the only action we ever take. Let's put our differences aside and make mass shootings a thing of the past, not a daily expectation for our future.

It has been over 200 days since H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, passed the House of Representatives. I am a proud cosponsor of the Senate's companion legislation, S. 42. The legislation is ready to go. The legislation will close loopholes and require background checks for all commercial gun sales, including those made at gun shows and on the internet.

In memory of the 58 Americans who lost their lives on 1 October and those who have lost their lives before and after, I call on my colleagues to act and to take up this legislation for an immediate vote.

It is past time. It is past time that we come together and find solutions. It is past time because if we don't act, then, the inevitable will continue to be our daily reality.

We can prevent mass shootings in this country, but "can" is not possible without the word "courage."

I implore this body to have the courage so that no other family has to endure this kind of tragedy, this kind of trauma, and this kind of sorrow.

Thank you.

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. JONES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 2486

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I am here once again to urge the Senate to take up the FUTURE Act, to extend funding for our historically Black colleges and universities.

I see my great friend, the Senator from Tennessee, across the way, and I know the Senator, as a music fan and a musician himself, understands the term "broken record." A broken record is that record that is an old album and the vinyl has a little bit of a flaw, and it just gets stuck on the same lyric, the same refrain, and keeps going back to it. That is what I feel like today.

I also know that with just a little pressure on those old vinyl records, just a little bit of pressure, you can go right through that and get to melody. That is what I was hoping to do today, that we could put just enough pressure on the Senate and others to go right through and fund HBCUs. The deadline for that funding ends September 30.

People will say it is not going to turn the lights out in our historically Black colleges and universities, and it is not. I get that. We also know we have to plan. We have to look months in advance. We have to look a year in advance to make sure that funding is there.

This bill—a similar bill has passed the House of Representatives unanimously. In this partisan world we are living in, it passed the House unanimously the other day. It has overwhelming bipartisan support in this body.

This is something our historically Black colleges and universities need today. They don't need to wait. We don't need to put them in the lurch and uncertainty because in today's world in Washington, DC, there is no certainty. We don't know what will happen tomorrow. We don't know what is going to happen next week with the legislation that will come before this body. Nothing is predictable. We don't see the kind of legislation we should be seeing. We don't deliberate and have the kind of deliberations we have seen this body have in the past.

So to say we can put this together as part of a bigger bill and hopefully get this done this year is possible, but it is also just as possible, in today's world, that doesn't get done, that it ends up somewhere buried beneath a whole bunch of other qualified and just as meritorious bills that never see the action of the U.S. Senate or the Congress of the United States.

I would urge—urge that we do the right thing by our historically Black colleges and universities. Let's get this bill passed unanimously and sent to the President of the United States for his signature so all of our historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions can breathe a sigh of relief.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 212, H.R. 2486; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Mr. ALEXANDER. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. An objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the distinguished Senator from Alabama mentioned music, and I guess a lot of us have been watching Ken Burns' "Country Music" film the last several days, which is terrific and includes lots from Alabama and even more from Tennessee.

My experience with music and Nashville songwriters is, to get a melody, you need some cooperation. You need cooperation. Usually, they have three songwriters who will write a song. I am interested in harmony, but I think we need some cooperation across the aisle as on our committee—thanks to the distinguished Senator from Washington State, Mrs. MURRAY, and Senator JONES—we often have. We had it on fixing No Child Left Behind; we had it on the 21st Century Cures; we had it on the Opioid Crisis Response Act; we

had it on the Lowering Healthcare Costs Act, which came out of our committee 20 to 3 just recently; and we need to have it on higher education.

So I have a suggestion today. I want to speak about it for about 10 minutes. It would, I believe, give an opportunity to deal with the historically Black colleges legislation and indeed an opportunity to do more than that.

In the first place, the bill passed by the House is a short-term bill, which is funded by a budget gimmick, which has no chance of passing the Senate. I propose that we do permanent funding of historically Black colleges. That is the way to provide certainty. I propose that we include within it a package of seven or eight other pieces of legislation on which there is bipartisan support—as many as half the Members of the Senate, about half Republican and half Democratic. All of these provisions—simplifying FAFSA, short-term Pell grants, Pell grants for prisoners, increasing the amount of Pell—help low-income Americans go to college and simplify the process for doing that.

So if it is urgently important, as I believe it is, to properly fund historically Black colleges, I am ready to do that, but I am also ready to continue to work to pass a small package of bills that will help many of the same people the historically Black colleges legislation would help and then continue to work with Senator MURRAY and with other members of the committee on a larger package of bills that would include issues that could be part of a more comprehensive Higher Education Reauthorization Act—issues such as accountability, Federal-State partnership, campus safety, and the like.

For the last 5 years, Senator MURRAY and I have been working on a bipartisan reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. We have had about 30 hearings on all manner of issues, from accountability, to campus safety, to simplifying the student aid process. We have yet to reach agreement on some of those issues, but on several important issues, as I mentioned, we have bipartisan proposals by members of our committee and Senators who are not on the committee that will make college more affordable for low-income students and make college worth students' time and money.

I am committed to working with the Senator from Washington State to develop a larger, more comprehensive bill, but right now, why should we pass up an opportunity to enact a package that includes several of the bipartisan proposals that are the result of our 5 years of work, including permanent funding for historically Black colleges and universities?

At the end of the month, as the Senator from Alabama said, the law providing for funding for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions expires. Everyone wants to see that continue.

The House of Representatives passed legislation, but instead of the short-

term patch that the House passed, we should pass a long-term solution that gives certainty to college presidents and their students. Congress has time to do this. It is true that the law expires at the end of this month, but the money doesn't. The U.S. Department of Education has sent a letter assuring Congress that there is enough funding in the program to continue through the next fiscal year. So there is a year for us to work on permanent funding and this small package of other bills on which we have already spent 5 years. That ought to be enough time even for U.S. Senators.

We should reach a long-term solution. That is why today I am introducing a long-term solution to permanently provide funding for minority-serving institutions, including the six historically Black colleges and universities in Tennessee. The solution would be part of a package of 8 bipartisan higher education bills drafted by 35 Senators—20 Democrats, 15 Republicans—that will help many of the same students who are helped by the historically Black colleges act.

The package of bills will make it easier for millions of students to receive a college education by simplifying the Federal application for student aid, providing Pell grants to parole-eligible prisoners, allowing Pell grants to be used for short-term programs, and increasing the maximum Pell grant award.

Here are the eight provisions that I believe should be included in the package.

First, permanent mandatory funding of \$255 million each year for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

Second, FAFSA simplification reduces the number of questions on the student application for Federal aid from 108 to between 17 and 30 questions that Senator JONES and I have proposed. This means that a quarter of a million students will now be eligible for Pell grants. In addition, 1.3 million students will be eligible for the maximum Pell grant award.

There is no excuse for not passing the FAFSA Simplification Act. Senator BENNET and I, as well as Senators MURRAY, JONES, and others, have been working on this for years. Twenty million American families have to fill out these 108 questions every year that are unnecessary for them to fill out, and delay is unnecessary for us.

No. 3, Pell grants for prisoners allows incarcerated individuals who are eligible for parole to use a Pell grant for prison education programs. This is something a number of Senators want to do, including Senators SCHATZ, LEE, and DURBIN.

No. 4, the short-term Pell is a proposal that a large group of Senators, including Senators PORTMAN, KAINE, CARDIN, GILLIBRAND, HASSAN, KLOBUCHAR, STABENOW, BALDWIN, BROWN, CAPITO, COONS, ERNST, JONES, MORAN,



SHAHEEN, SINEMA, SMITH, WICKER, and BRAUN, support. This legislation has been introduced to use Pell grants for high-quality, short-term skills and job training programs that lead to credentialing and employment in high-demand fields like healthcare and cyber security.

No. 5, a proposal to simplify aid letters. Sometimes students get a letter that says they have received money, but some students don't understand that some of it is a loan that has to be paid back and some of it is a grant. Senators GRASSLEY, SMITH, CASSIDY, ERNST, HASSAN, JONES, KLOBUCHAR, MANCHIN, and RUBIO have legislation that would simplify and make that clear.

No. 6 in the package increases the maximum Pell grant award.

No. 7 is a bipartisan proposal that both President Obama and President Trump have supported, which is to ensure that students who opt to pay back their loans under the income-driven repayment plan pay the full 10 percent of their discretionary income as the law intended.

Finally, No. 8 is a proposal by Senator MURRAY and me, along with Senators COLLINS, CORNYN, GARDNER, HASSAN, KING, STABENOW, TILLIS, and WHITEHOUSE, to allow students to answer up to 22 questions on the current FAFSA with one click by using the data the government already has from the IRS.

I can't tell you how many times Tennessee parents have said to me: Why do I have to give the government the same information twice in order for my student to be able to go to college?

This would also reduce the burdensome verification process.

The Senate has already passed this legislation once. That provision is within the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee and will be included once the package is ready for consideration on the floor.

In addition, there are at least three other bipartisan provisions that, with a little more discussion and work, I believe should be included in this package. They have the support of 30 Senators from both sides of the aisle.

The College Transparency Act is the first. It creates a student unit record system to help students and families compare how students perform in specific colleges and universities. Senators WARREN, CASSIDY, BALDWIN, BROWN, CASEY, CORNYN, DUCKWORTH, ERNST, GARDNER, GRAHAM, GRASSLEY, HASSAN, HYDE-SMITH, JONES, KAINE, KLOBUCHAR, MURPHY, PERDUE, ROBERTS, ROMNEY, SCOTT, SINEMA, SMITH, SULLIVAN, TILLIS, TOOMEY, WHITEHOUSE, and ALEXANDER all support this provision. There is substantial bipartisan support in both the Senate and House for it. We will work to include it as we move forward.

The Education of the Deaf Act simply reauthorizes Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, and has a long history of bipartisan support.

The Educational Opportunity and Success Act reauthorizes the TRIO Program, which helps low-income, first-generation, and other disadvantaged students enroll and succeed in a college or university program and has the support of Senators COLLINS, BALDWIN, CAPITO, and TESTER.

To continue funding for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions, the House of Representatives took a shortcut. They rushed a bill to the floor that has serious problems.

First, it is not a bill that can pass the Senate. My objection is not the only objection. Second, it only funds HBCUs and minority-serving institutions for 2 years, setting up yet another artificial cliff. Finally, it uses a budget gimmick to pay for it, which is one reason it won't pass the Senate.

This presents Congress with an opportunity to do it right and to pass other important legislation that we have already agreed to—at least half of us. It presents Congress with an opportunity to give certainty to HBCUs and minority-serving institutions and make it easier for millions to receive a college education.

The package of eight bills I am proposing—the eight bills I am introducing today and the three bills I hope to include later—has been drafted by 48 Senators—25 Democrats and 23 Republicans. Working together on a bipartisan bill that can pass the Senate now is the best strategy to give permanent funding to HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions, to simplify the Federal application for student aid, to provide Pell grants to parole-eligible prisoners, to allow Pell grants to be used for short-term programs, and to increase the maximum Pell grant award.

Senator MURRAY and I have discussed as recently as yesterday her desire and my agreement to try to work toward a comprehensive higher education piece of legislation. We have been working on that for 5 years. We can continue to work on the issues that still divide us. In the meantime, I agree, it is urgent to deal with historically Black colleges. It is also urgent to deal with 20 million families who fill out FAFSA every year and to work on the other issues I mentioned. We have agreed on those. Let's put it in a package, turn it into law, and keep working on the other issues.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, let's stop playing games with critical funding for minority serving institutions or MSIs.

Mandatory funding expires on September 30, just days from now.

If that funding isn't reauthorized, MSIs will collectively face a \$255 million annual shortfall.

That will impact these institutions' academic programs, ability to provide housing to students, renovate facilities, and provide critical counseling and other student supports.

In 2018, Illinois received \$5.3 million of this funding, which supported city

colleges in Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago State, the University of Illinois, and other institutions around our State.

Recently, the House of Representatives passed the FUTURE Act to reauthorize this funding.

Unfortunately, the passage of this bipartisan bill has been blocked in the Senate.

This is a great example of what frustrates the American people so much about Congress.

We have a bipartisan bill that passed the House by voice vote and that maintains funding for institutions of higher education that enroll 6 million students, of which two of three are students of color.

But it is being held up, and we are unnecessarily creating a crisis.

Let's stop the games.

Let's show America that we can come together.

Let's pass the FUTURE Act now.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am here today to advocate on behalf of Maryland's four Historically Black Colleges and Universities that face a funding cliff next week. Without the immediate passage of the FUTURE Act, Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore face a collective \$4.2 million funding shortfall when the Higher Education Act's authorization for mandatory funding for these institutions lapses.

This clean, bipartisan, 2-year reauthorization gives us breathing room to continue to negotiate the full reauthorization of the Higher Education Act without holding these historically underfunded institutions hostage. Our HBCUs and minority serving institutions know that they can count on this mandatory funding each year to strengthen their course offerings in in-demand STEM programs, make infrastructure improvements, and provide academic counseling and student support services to first generation and historically underrepresented students.

This potential lapse in the authorization for mandatory funding is exacerbated by the inability of Congress to provide a fiscal year 2020 budget on time, leaving institutions in even more of a financial planning crunch. Throwing the budgets of these institutions into chaos directly harms their ability to serve their students and communities. If this mandatory authorization were to lapse, schools could not count on mandatory funds to backfill spending at a later date. Institutions would have to make decisions about reducing levels of academic services, delaying needed infrastructure investments, or make staffing decisions.

This is an unnecessary obstacle that our HBCUs and MSIs do not need to face. I urge this body to join with the House of Representatives and pass the FUTURE Act to ensure this mandatory funding remains in place.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I yield the floor.



The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Alabama for his tremendous leadership on this very critical effort because right now we are days away from a very damaging lapse in funding for our HBCUs, our Tribal colleges, and other minority-serving institutions that creates unnecessary and needless uncertainty for students in schools across this country.

Both of my colleagues spoke of music and the need for harmony. Well, it appears to me that the bill the Senator from Alabama is asking us to approve today for the funding for HBCUs is a heck of a lot of harmony. The House has already acted to fix this. They sent this bill to the Senate on a bipartisan basis. All Members of the House support it, and it is paid for in a way even the White House supports. In this day and age, I would take that harmony.

So I am very frustrated about today's opposition to this simple step to protect colleges and universities with such important missions. I can't see a good reason why we haven't sent the President this bill.

I listened to the Senator from Tennessee, and it sounds to me like he wants to write a whole new song. He is interested in a small package of higher education proposals, and he said he wants to see the FUTURE Act as a part of that. But it is pretty clear to me that when you have a good song and you have everybody together moving that, and maybe there is a discordant note somewhere, you just keep moving forward with that song—if we want to stay with the country music theme here.

I believe we should not delay it. Let's move this forward. Let's not threaten the funding for some of our most valued institutions. We should take this up and pass the FUTURE Act right away and then continue our committee discussions about how to reauthorize the Higher Education Act.

Since the start of those discussions, I have been very clear that we need to do this reauthorization in a comprehensive way that really helps students with the many challenges they face. We have so many students today who are struggling with the burdensome costs of getting a degree, who find themselves cheated by bad actors that, by the way, Secretary DeVos is not holding accountable, and they are stuck with mounting debt. They face bullying, harassment, and assault when they should be focused on learning in their classes, or they are faced without pathways to help them get into higher education in the first place.

Today the House is rightly looking at a comprehensive higher education reauthorization to address all these issues of affordability, accountability, campus safety, and acceptability, and that is what the Senate should do as well. Surely the Senate can reach an agreement on those issues but only if

we stay at the table and keep working together rather than veering off the course we set. That is what I am very concerned a smaller package would mean.

I believe that we have a real opportunity to reach a comprehensive agreement that helps students in need, and we ought to take it. In the meantime, there is no excuse for playing politics, holding up the FUTURE Act, and exposing students and schools nationwide to uncertainty and to dysfunction.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues, Senator MURRAY and Senator JONES, to call upon the Senate to pass the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education Act—the FUTURE Act—today because that future is today.

Should the Senate fail to act on this legislation, hundreds of minority-serving institutions and historically Black colleges and universities across America are going to face some drastic funding cuts that could jeopardize the education of millions of students of color nationwide. Collectively, these institutions serve nearly 6 million undergraduate students throughout the United States, two-thirds of whom come from communities of color.

Without these Federal dollars for MSIs, we will be facing the potential for job losses, the possible closure of important academic programs, and most importantly, the doors of educational opportunity slamming shut for young men and women of color across this country. Minority-serving institutions have long enjoyed bipartisan support in this body. It is perplexing and concerning to think that the Senate would depart for recess without passing this critical legislation.

In the coming years, these institutions of higher learning will play an increasingly vital role in our increasingly diverse Nation. Consider that, already, Hispanic children make up one out of every four children in America's public schools and counting. Of these students, approximately one out of five will go to college. And when they do, two-thirds of them will wind up studying at a Hispanic-serving institution. Can we, as a nation, really afford to shortchange their education?

In representing a community that is already such a large part of the American population—one out of four is going to be one out of three in just a couple of years—can we afford to shortchange their education and, as such, the success of this country, which demands that we do not?

Just last Thursday, this body joined me to unanimously pass my bipartisan resolution honoring Hispanic-serving institutions week. But it is hard to take seriously our words of support for minority-serving institutions if we fail to back up those words with real ac-

tion. Unfortunately, that is where we stand today—on the cusp of skipping town without voting to properly fund these institutions.

Across America, 523 Hispanic-serving institutions in 25 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico serve more than 2 million hard-working Latino and Latina students who dream of a college education. I know this dream well. Indeed, my own story began at a Hispanic-serving institution, even though that designation did not yet exist at the time. I was the first in my family to attend college, and I did so at St. Peter's College in Jersey City, NJ. It is because of the professors and educators at St. Peter's, who recognized that not all children arrive at college with the same advantages or opportunities for upward mobility, that I am here today—one of four Hispanic-American Senators.

It is a story that is repeated not only in Hispanic-serving institutions but at HBCUs and other MSIs across the country that help students from underserved communities overcome the odds and reach their true potential.

This isn't a Democratic or Republican issue. The House passed this bill by voice vote. It was such an easy vote that they didn't even require a rollcall. I understand that there are many other issues facing our higher education system, and I appreciate that. I am committed to working with my colleagues—particularly Senators ALEXANDER and MURRAY, the chairman and ranking member of the HELP Committee—to help create a system in this country that helps serve all of our students and prepares America's workforce to compete all around the world. Yet the fact is that these minority-serving institutions face a funding cliff if we fail to act.

Let's not make our students of color pay the price while we continue to debate the broader issues facing our higher education system. Let's pass the FUTURE Act today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I appreciate the comments by the Senator from New Jersey.

To be clear, the House bill for historically Black minority-serving institutions creates a new funding cliff. It is a short-term patch for 2 years that creates a cliff after 2 years. It is supported by a budget gimmick that can't possibly pass the Senate.

What I have proposed is a permanent solution to get rid of the cliff—a permanent solution that those institutions and those students can depend on. The proposal is \$255 million a year, fully paid for. Second, the U.S. Department of Education has written a letter to Congress and said that no one is going to lose their money at the end of the month. The law expires, but the money doesn't. There is enough money to continue the program for another year. It shouldn't take us another year

to work this out. Third, it is urgent to deal with historically Black colleges.

Let's look at the students, not the colleges. Who goes to historically Black colleges? Low-income students often go there. And every year, 20 million low-income Americans fill out this ridiculously complicated FAFSA application for student aid that has 108 questions. We agree on both sides of the aisle—and have for several years—that it could be limited to 17 to 30 questions. The president of the Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis, TN, which is almost all African American in terms of its students, tells me he loses 1,500 students a year, almost all African American, who are intimidated by this complicated FAFSA.

Let's do both of these things. Let's have a permanent solution for historically Black colleges, and let's help the 20 million families who fill out this ridiculously complicated form every year because we agree on that. There is no need to wait on that. We have Republicans and Democrats who agree on it. We could finish this in a matter of a few weeks. No one is going to lose any money. There is enough money for historically Black colleges for a year, and there is no excuse for creating a new cliff to replace the one that will occur in a year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 942

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 942 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Paul amendment by number.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 942.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To reduce the amount appropriated by 2 percent)

At the appropriate place in division A, add the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . REDUCTION IN RATE FOR OPERATIONS.**

The rate for operations provided by section 101 is hereby reduced by 2 percent.

Mr. PAUL. I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to complete my remarks before we begin the next vote.

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

Mr. PAUL. My amendment to this spending bill will be to cut 2 percent across the board, so we can actually be responsible and try to balance our budget.

Most people I talk to at home or people who come up here, who are seeking assistance from the Federal Government, say: That doesn't sound too bad—1 or 2 percent. We could deal with that.

People come to me and say: Well, my group is doing this great research for this disease that affects all of these people.

I say: How much are you getting?

They say: \$100 million.

I say: We have a trillion-dollar debt, and everybody ought to try to spend what comes in rather than spending money we don't have. Does it make sense even for a good cause to borrow money from China to spend money we don't have?

Most of them—even groups that live at the Federal trough, groups that need and want and all they come here for is Federal money—say: Well, that is not too unreasonable. We got \$100 million last year.

Could you take \$98 million for the good of the country? Instead of getting \$100 million, could you take \$98 million—2 percent less—in order to balance the budget and not destroy the country with all of this debt?

Interestingly, whether these groups are from the left, right, center, Republican, Democrat, or Independent, most of them look at me and nod their heads. I think the groups that receive Federal money realize this massive debt we have is destroying the country. Even the groups receiving it are willing to cut 1 percent or 2 percent. But do you know who is not? The Senate—the Congress. They will not cut anything.

My amendment today to add a 2-percent cut to this spending will get 15 or 20 votes. Not one Democrat will vote for this bill. Do you know what the Democrats will say? They will say: The debt is because you cut taxes. This is something that is factually incorrect. We did cut taxes, but revenue is up. This is a fact. We cut the tax rates, but the economy is growing gangbusters, and revenue is up.

Why do we have a massive debt? Why are we breaking records? Why, in February, did we have more debt added than at any other time in our history? Why are we about to bust a trillion dollars in debts this year? It is spending; it isn't revenue. Revenue is up.

We did cut tax rates, and companies are growing like they haven't grown in decades. If you talk to businesses, the biggest problem in our country right now is they can't find enough people to work for them. There is a labor shortage in our country. It is a great time to be a worker in our country.

But this will not pass. My amendment will not pass because people are afraid that the public will not like them if they don't give them more money. I am afraid we will destroy the country if we keep running more debts.

The debt is growing at 8 percent a year. Spending is growing only at 4.5 percent, 5 percent a year. The debt is growing more rapidly because we have accumulated so much. We have over a \$22 trillion debt. The interest this year is over \$300 billion. As it grows faster and faster, the interest will exceed what we are spending on the military within about 5 years. Nobody is doing anything about it.

We passed spending caps 5 years ago. It was called the sequester. It went on for a while and actually was reducing the debt. Then you ask whose fault is

it that we have this massive debt, this massive spending; is it Republicans or Democrats? The answer is yes. Both parties are fiscally irresponsible, but it has nothing to do with taxes or revenue. Revenue is going up dramatically. It has to do with spending. Both parties are guilty of this.

The Republicans want unlimited military spending, and the Democrats want unlimited welfare spending. People say that there is not enough compromise in Washington. That is absolutely untrue. It is absolutely misreported by the media. There is too much compromise here. The compromise is always to spend more money and to spend money we don't have. The military gets their unlimited money, and the welfare state gets unlimited spending. Republicans and Democrats both join hands together, and what happens around here on a day-to-day basis is compromise to spend money we don't have, to borrow it from China and, sometimes, to send it back to China.

Do you realize we send economic development aid to China? That is ridiculous. We send money all around the world. Many of these countries that get money don't like us. They hate us. They burn our flag in the street, yet we send them money. We are not even sending our own money. We borrow from China to send it out.

I think this is a very reasonable proposal. Some will say it is draconian. If they passed my amendment today and cut spending by 2 percent, we would still be spending more money than 2 years ago. We would be spending \$19 billion more than 2 years ago. If we pass my 2 percent cut—the 2-penny cut that I am proposing—we would still be spending more money than the caps that the vast Senate majority voted on 5 years ago.

Why is the debt burgeoning? Whose fault is it? Is it Republicans; is it Democrats? The answer is yes. Both parties are acting fiscally irresponsibly. It has nothing to do with tax revenue and has everything to do with spending. People say that the people want it. Do the people want a bankrupt country? Do they want a country that is being eaten from the inside out? Do they want this reckless spending that someday will lead to a day of reckoning? No.

I think we have to get our house in order and get our budget in order. I think we need to balance our budget. If my amendment for a 2-percent cut were to pass—how many families have had to deal with 2 percent less? How many businesses in bad times have to cut their budget by 2 percent? If the government were today to pass my amendment—a 2-percent cut—that means you get 98 percent of everything they are spending. We would balance the budget within 5 years. That is ostensibly what many Republicans say they are for.

When we have a vote for a balanced budget, everybody lines up, and all of

the Republicans vote for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution that says the budget will balance within 5 years. Then, when given the opportunity to vote for spending cuts, we lose half of the Republicans. The Democrats don't care, as they will not vote for spending cuts, but the Republicans at least profess to be for spending cuts. Yet, when we offer a modest proposal like this, we lose half of the Republicans.

There is a problem with debts, and both parties share some guilt. What I have put forward today, though, is an opportunity for the Senators who truly believe the debt is a problem to try to restrain spending with a 2-percent cut across the board. I hope Senators will consider voting for this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 942

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to Paul amendment No. 942.

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 24, nays 73, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 310 Leg.]

YEAS—24

Barrasso	Ernst	Risch
Blackburn	Fischer	Rubio
Braun	Grassley	Sasse
Cornyn	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cruz	Lankford	Tillis
Daines	Lee	Toomey
Enzi	Paul	Young

NAYS—73

Alexander	Harris	Peters
Baldwin	Hassan	Portman
Bennet	Hawley	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Roberts
Blunt	Hirono	Romney
Boozman	Hoeben	Rosen
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Schatz
Cantwell	Isakson	Schumer
Capito	Jones	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	King	Shelby
Casey	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cassidy	Leahy	Sinema
Collins	Manchin	Smith
Coons	Markey	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Tester
Cotton	McSally	Thune
Cramer	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Feinstein	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Gardner	Murphy	Wicker
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Graham	Perdue	

NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Sanders	Warren
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The amendment (No. 942) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. CRAMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 311 Leg.]

YEAS—81

Alexander	Gardner	Murphy
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murray
Barrasso	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Grassley	Portman
Blumenthal	Harris	Reed
Blunt	Hassan	Roberts
Boozman	Heinrich	Romney
Brown	Hirono	Rosen
Burr	Hoeben	Rubio
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Capito	Isakson	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson	Shaheen
Carper	Jones	Shelby
Casey	Kaine	Sinema
Cassidy	Kennedy	Smith
Collins	King	Stabenow
Coons	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Tester
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Thune
Cotton	Manchin	Tillis
Cramer	Markey	Udall
Crapo	McConnell	Van Hollen
Duckworth	McSally	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Whitehouse
Enzi	Merkley	Wicker
Feinstein	Moran	Wyden
Fischer	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—16

Blackburn	Inhofe	Sasse
Braun	Lee	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Paul	Scott (SC)
Daines	Perdue	Toomey
Ernst	Risch	
Hawley	Rounds	

NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Sanders	Warren
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 81, the nays are 16.

The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the bill is passed.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, on rollcall vote No. 311, I voted yea. It was my intention to vote nay. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to change my vote since it will not affect the outcome.

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

(The foregoing tally has been changed to reflect the above order.)

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 nomination of General John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility in accordance with title 10, U.S.C., sections 154 and 601: to be General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 1:30 p.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Texas.

TRIBUTE TO SHEA WOODARD HALL

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today to give tribute to a great American, a great Texan, a dear friend, and a 26-year veteran of this institution who has dedicated her career to serving the needs of her fellow citizens. Her name is Shea Woodard Hall. Shea has worked as the West Texas regional director on my team for 7 years. She is now retiring. Shea started working in the Senate in 1993, when she was hired by my predecessor, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson.

As West Texas regional director, Shea started with 89 counties in her region. By land area, that is bigger than some States. She could leave her office in Abilene, drive 7 hours north, and still be in her region. That is how much territory she was responsible for.

Shea has always been willing to go the extra mile, literally. In her first 3 years working in the Senate, Shea put 75,000 miles on her car. In fact, she has put so many miles on her vehicles throughout the last 26 years that it is probably for the best that she married a local car dealer in Abilene.

After 26 years serving 89 counties in West Texas, everyone knows Shea, and Shea knows everyone. From every mayor, to every county judge and sheriff, to every State elected official, Shea made it a point to know them all. In fact, when I traveled with Shea in West Texas, we would arrive at an event, and there was no doubt who folks were happy to see—me or Shea, and it sure wasn't me.

Shea is also known in West Texas for her rural tours. They are legendary. You see, Shea's region is diverse. It spans from Amarillo, to Lubbock, to Abilene, to San Angelo, to Big Spring, to Midland-Odessa.

On the last tour she planned, an ag tour, we started in Lubbock, with stops in Muleshoe, Fredonia, Dalhart, and Amarillo. If you know Texas, that is one heck of a big loop. On one of the stops, I asked Shea what we would be seeing that day, and she answered: "Strippers." I was fairly puzzled with

that response, and she quickly clarified: “Cotton strippers.” I was relieved.

There are too many stories of Shea helping people in West Texas, but one of my favorite stories is about how Shea helped to bring the B-1 bomber to Texas. When the city of Abilene and Dyess Air Force Base were working to secure low-level training routes for the B-1 bomber, Shea received some questions and some concerns from local ranchers who were afraid that the noise would upset their cattle. Always the steady hand, Shea responded with some West Texas wisdom. She would tell them that the low-level training routes were good for our national security; that they would enhance Dyess Air Force Base as the premier B-1 base in the country; and finally, she would tell them that she hadn’t received a single phone call from a cow protesting the noise. I am proud to say that because of her efforts and many others, those training routes remain, and today Texas is one of the homes of the B-1 bomber.

Shea has become a living legend in West Texas because no problem is too big and no problem is too small. She wants to help anyone and everyone who calls her with an issue. She often helps people in stressful situations, navigating the leviathan of Big Government on behalf of fellow Texans in their time of need. Shea also doesn’t take no for an answer. If she didn’t get the answer she needed to help a fellow Texan, she didn’t give up.

She has been a tireless and effective member of our team. That is her legacy, and I know it will endure.

Shea is retiring next month. While we will miss her greatly, she will remain a friend, and she will remain family. We wish her well as she begins her well-earned retirement. The Senate, the people of Texas, and the thousands of people and families whom she has helped over the course of 26 years of service will miss her too.

Thank you, Shea, for your work, your determination, your passion, your patriotism, and your love for Texas. Texas says thank you.

God bless you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

#### NOMINATION OF EUGENE SCALIA

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to speak on the nomination, which will occur before the Senate shortly, of Eugene Scalia as Secretary of Labor.

I think it is important to say that as President Trump continues relentlessly pursuing his anti-worker agenda, now, more than ever, we need a Secretary of Labor who will stand up to the President and stand with working families, not someone like Scalia, who is an elite corporate lawyer, who has made his career fighting for the biggest cor-

porations and against workers. We need someone who will fight for strong health and safety protections, not someone who has crusaded to strike them down. We need someone who will hold companies accountable, not someone who used his last position in the Department of Labor to undermine whistleblower protections and fought to get his corporate clients off the hook for workplace harassment and discrimination against workers with disabilities.

We need someone who will fight for workers’ economic security, not someone who helped companies get away with stealing their workers’ wages and denying overtime pay. We don’t need someone who avoids committing to support our efforts to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and close the pay gap and, certainly, not someone who costs working families billions of dollars by fighting to strike down a crucial rule that made sure they could get retirement advice that was in their best interest.

We need a Secretary of Labor, not a secretary of corporate interests. Yet at our confirmation hearing last week, Scalia made very clear that is exactly what he would be by dodging taking a stand for workers and deferring to President Trump’s anti-worker agenda.

I have been deeply concerned about his awful record since day one. I strongly oppose his nomination. I urge my colleagues to do the same. Everyone needs to take a long, hard look at who Mr. Scalia fights for and who he does not and think carefully about the message their vote will send to working families in our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I guess I shouldn’t be surprised. I have seen 2½ years of a betrayal of American workers from this White House, this government, this Senate, and the President of the United States. The White House looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives, except on the days it looks like a retreat for insurance executives, except for the days it looks like a retreat for drug company executives.

I guess I shouldn’t be surprised, but a few weeks ago, when we saw the nomination of Eugene Scalia to be Secretary of Labor, it just underscored again the betrayal of American workers by this government and by this President.

Eugene Scalia is the President’s nominee to serve as Secretary of Labor. His job as Secretary of Labor is to represent workers, to advocate for workers, and to fight for workers—not to advocate for corporations, not to sell out to special interests, but to side with American workers. Yet all you have to do is look at his job. The President has sent us a corporate lawyer who has fought over and over to stop workplace protections, to undermine worker safety, and to cut and depress workers’ wages over and over again.

Mr. Scalia, as an elitist, multi-million-dollar corporate lawyer, has repeatedly defended companies against whistleblowers. He defended Walmart against its workers. And he is nominated to be Secretary of Labor?

He defended a corporation against 30 women who had been sexually harassed at assembly plants. And he is going to be the Secretary of Labor?

He defended other corporations against workers with disabilities after the companies violated the Americans with Disabilities Act. And he is going to be Secretary of Labor?

Over and over, he fought to help the most powerful corporations against workers, asking the courts to put their thumb on the scales of justice, to choose corporations over workers, to choose Wall Street over consumers, and to choose health insurance companies over patients. He has always come down on the side of corporate interests, of special interests, and in the end, always betrayed workers. And he is the President’s nominee to be Secretary of Labor?

He has defended union-busting corporations. Boeing has been rabid in its anti-union coercion. Scalia worked for them, advocated for them in their never-ending quest to stop workers from having a voice in their company. And he is going to be the President’s Secretary of Labor?

What Mr. Scalia doesn’t understand and what President Trump doesn’t understand is that you can’t say—let me back up for a second. The President loves to say that he supports this, that he is for workers, that workers are his friends, and that he is a friend to workers. He loves saying that, but what he doesn’t understand is that you can’t support workers individually without supporting workers collectively. You can’t support workers individually without supporting workers collectively. You can’t support workers if you attack unions.

We know what unions have brought to this country. Ever since the generally rapid decline of trade unionism, we have seen wages flatten, we have seen benefits cut, and we have seen retirements taken away from workers. You know, when people can organize and bargain collectively, they have higher wages, they have better healthcare, and they have a retirement system.

You can’t support workers if you attack unions like Mr. Scalia has done. We need a Secretary of Labor who will actually fight for labor. It is not called the secretary of corporate interests or the secretary of special interests; it is called the Secretary of Labor. You are supposed to honor work and respect work. We need a Secretary of Labor who will fight for labor, not fight for corporate interests.

It comes down to whose side you are on. Are you on the corporations’ side, or are you on American workers’ side? Do you fight for Wall Street wealth, or do you fight for the dignity of work?

The President promised to fight for American workers. If you love your country, you fight for workers. Instead, this President has betrayed them over and over again. The nomination of Eugene Scalia to be Secretary of Labor is the biggest betrayal of them all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

NOMINATION OF GENERAL JOHN E. HYTEN

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Gen. John Hyten is before the Senate today to be confirmed. We are anxious to get to this. It has been a long time in the working. It is going to happen, and I am very thankful, not just for the sake of General Hyten but for other officers and junior officers who are looking at a future, knowing some of the problems that exist out there.

I have stood in this very spot and talked about exactly what our Nation is dealing with when it comes to our national security. The world is more dangerous now than it has ever been in my lifetime. China and Russia are building their capabilities as we have fallen behind.

Our national defense strategy lays it all out. We have a document that we use. This is our blueprint. It is one that was put together by Democrats and Republicans some time ago, and we have adhered to it. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I have adhered to it and will continue to do that.

As the Department of Defense and the administration implement the national defense strategy and the recommendations of the NDS Commission, we need confirmed leadership at the Joint Chiefs to provide the military perspective. We need strong, innovative leadership, someone who understands strategy, competition, new warfighting domains like space, and the importance of a strong nuclear deterrent. We need strategic guidance born from years of firsthand experience.

To me, there is no doubt that General Hyten is the right man for the second highest ranking military office. Throughout his service, General Hyten has developed a reputation of discipline, integrity, and honor. For the past 2½ years, he has led STRATCOM, where he has demonstrated shrewd and decisive understanding of our national security objectives.

Before that, he served honorably in top leadership positions at Air Force Space Command. He has willingly and selflessly served this Nation in uniform for nearly four decades. I am confident he is going to keep us on a path to rebuild our military advantage and protect our civilian military relations in all this.

The Senate considered his nomination yesterday on a 20-to-7 vote to advance General Hyten's nomination, and here we are today making this final decision. This came after a fair, exhaustive, bipartisan process, where we

closely reviewed his nomination, including allegations against him. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations ran a tight and thorough investigation.

Now, in all my years I have been here, I have never seen one of those more exhaustive than this one. It went on and on and on, and all the members of the committee were able to read every document that is out there. I am very proud of the committee for taking the deliberate time to make this happen. The committee held five executive sessions, studied thousands of pages of investigative records, and reviewed statements from more than 50 witnesses. Every member had the opportunity to ask questions and to read all the documents. We did it.

The Armed Services Committee made available all the information to make sure there was nothing that was overlooked. The Armed Services Committee takes allegations of sexual assault very seriously, and it has for many years. It is a problem. It is a problem we are addressing on a regular basis. We are on it, and we are going to resolve it.

We went through a period of time in the last administration when the military was taken down in a manner that has never happened before. It was unprecedented. We actually went, in the last 5 years of the Obama administration, to cutting the military by 25 percent. It has never happened before. Now we are going through a rebuilding process. I applaud this President for all he is doing in rebuilding our military. I am proud of him, and that is where we are right now.

Through the NDAA and stringent oversight of the Department's efforts to this end, we are putting a stop to any kind of misconduct that we have been talking about. We can't stop a nomination from going forward on unproven allegations, especially ones we examined with the utmost of care and closest scrutiny and determined not to have merit.

So we are about to do this—about to get this position confirmed. It is overdue. I urge my colleagues to support this nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hyten nomination?

Mr. INHOFE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 75, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 312 Ex.]

YEAS—75

Alexander	Graham	Portman
Barrasso	Grassley	Reed
Bennet	Hassan	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Roberts
Blunt	Heinrich	Romney
Boozman	Hoeben	Rosen
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Capito	Isakson	Sasse
Carper	Johnson	Schatz
Cassidy	Jones	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Coons	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cornyn	King	Shelby
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sinema
Cotton	Leahy	Smith
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Manchin	Tester
Cruz	McConnell	Thune
Daines	McSally	Tillis
Durbin	Moran	Toomey
Enzi	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fischer	Paul	Wicker
Gardner	Perdue	Young

NAYS—22

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Peters
Blumenthal	Harris	Schumer
Brown	Hirono	Stabenow
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Udall
Cardin	Markey	Van Hollen
Casey	Menendez	Wyden
Duckworth	Merkley	
Ernst	Murray	

NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Sanders	Warren
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The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Scalia nomination?

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 313 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Alexander	Cotton	Hawley
Barrasso	Cramer	Hoeben
Blackburn	Crapo	Hyde-Smith
Blunt	Cruz	Inhofe
Boozman	Daines	Isakson
Braun	Enzi	Johnson
Burr	Ernst	Kennedy
Capito	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Gardner	Lee
Collins	Graham	McConnell
Cornyn	Grassley	McSally

Moran	Romney	Sullivan
Murkowski	Rounds	Thune
Paul	Rubio	Tillis
Perdue	Sasse	Toomey
Portman	Scott (FL)	Wicker
Risch	Scott (SC)	Young
Roberts	Shelby	

## NAYS—44

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Jones	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	Markey	Udall
Duckworth	Menendez	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Harris	Peters	

## NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Sanders	Warren
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The majority leader.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 422.

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 Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 359.

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 Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 363.

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 Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 328.

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 John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.



## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 348.

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 Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, the Permanent Subcommittee for Investigations just finished a major research project.

I happen to sit on that committee led by ROB PORTMAN. He has done a phenomenal job of trying to pull all the information together to study government shutdowns.

Government shutdowns are not new to us. We hear about them a lot lately, but in the last 40 years, we have had 21 government shutdowns—21.

We have seen this issue over and over again; that when we get to a point of contention and argument, we end up shutting the government down to be able to resolve it.

So the point of discussion is not just here in DC; it is all over the country. The question is, How does that really affect the country and how does that affect the U.S. Government?

The basic study PSI did to go back and look at this was they found that the Federal workforce in the last shutdown lost 57,000 years of productivity, if you spread out all the Federal work-

ers who were furloughed, the time they were furloughed, and the time that was lost.

The total economy lost about \$11 billion in productivity during that time period, and the Federal taxpayer lost right at \$4 billion in lost money that is just gone. The cost of shutting the government down, the cost of reopening, the cost of pay during the furlough time periods when there weren't actually people there—\$4 billion lost to the taxpayer.

Yet we will probably have another one at some point and probably have another one, and it seems they just keep coming—21 of these in the last 40 years.

There is a group of us who have continued to push this. ROB PORTMAN has done it for years, several others of us have worked on other projects to try to figure out how do we resolve this issue of government shutdowns.

MAGGIE HASSAN, a Democratic colleague from New Hampshire, and I a year ago started talking through how we could get to a bipartisan solution to end government shutdowns.

We have a very unique proposal to go with this. It is a proposal that is not trying to be novel; it is not trying to be cute. It is trying to solve the problem.

Our issue is that we have very serious differences when we get to budget areas. It is \$1 trillion in total spending that we are talking about when we do the 12 appropriations bills. It is no small argument. But we should be able to resolve these things in a way that actually works and is effective.

So here is our basic idea. The process works, supposedly, where you do a budget that determines an overarching number that everyone agrees to. This is what is called the top-line number.

Then you take that top-line number in the House and the Senate in their Appropriations Committees. It gets broken up into 12 smaller bills. Those are called the appropriations bills. Those 12 bills all have to be passed by the House, by the Senate, and then they have to conference them together and get that finished by the end of the fiscal year.

It sounds like a good theory. That was the plan, at least, that was made in 1974, when this was designed. But the plan that I just laid out has worked only four times since 1974. So if you think every year that the budget process didn't work again, you are correct. It didn't work again. It has worked only four times since 1974.

What MAGGIE HASSAN and I would like to insert into this process is the ability to have serious, hard debate on difficult financial issues where we have disagreements but contain the fight to Washington, DC, to do two things: Make sure that we get to the appropriations process, that it is done well, and to hold the Federal workers and Federal families and the rest of the country harmless as we argue through this.

Here is the simple idea: If we get to the end of the fiscal year, if we do not have any 1 of those 12 appropriations bills done—and we should have all 12 of them done. But if even one is undone when we get to the end of the fiscal year, there is a continuation of spending exactly as it was the year before. It just continues to run the same as it was the year before so that Federal agencies, Federal workers will continue to operate as they normally do. But because there is not an appropriations bill done for the next year, while Federal workers are being held harmless and agencies are being held harmless, Members of Congress and our staffs and the Office of Management and Budget of the White House would lose all travel ability. We would have no official travel ability at all. We couldn't go home and see our families, couldn't travel on codels, couldn't do other responsibilities. We would be here in Washington and be in session in the House and the Senate every day of the week, weekdays and weekends included.

It is literally the equivalent of when my brother and I would get into an argument when we were kids, which clearly didn't happen often. But when it did happen, my mom would say to my brother and me: The two of you go into one of your rooms. Work this out. When you get it worked out, you can come out.

That would basically put Washington, DC, inside the box. The rest of the country is not in it, but Washington, DC, would have to stay here, and we would have to work out our differences. When it is worked out, then we pass appropriations bills.

The other feature that is added to it is that we can't move on to other things. We couldn't get distracted and say that we are just not going to do appropriations bills and then just stay here and do other things. We would have to do appropriations bills during that time period.

This is a simple idea, though most people I have talked to have said: That is too simple. That would never work.

As I have talked to my colleagues in the House and the Senate, just about all of them have cringed when I have said that we are going to be here weekdays and weekends and keep going on one topic until we finish that one topic.

It is our constitutional responsibility to take care of the American people's tax dollars and to make sure it is done correctly. We can move on to other things when we fulfill our constitutional responsibility on that. Just about everyone I have talked to has said: That is an idea that I could vote for, that I can support.

I bring it up to this body to tell people that we are still negotiating the final language of this bill. If there is an idea that people have to say "I have one thing to ask about it," bring it. If you have one thing to suggest to change it, bring it. But in the next few



weeks, before we get to the November 21 deadline, which is the new deadline now for spending—before we get to that spot, I want this issue resolved. I want government shutdowns off the table. I never want to see on any of the news channels ever again the countdown clock to when the government shuts down. That hurts the American people; it hurts American companies; and it certainly hurts the Federal families who go on furlough during that time period.

Let's stay in the ring, boxing it out, and let's hold everyone else harmless as we go through the process.

I encourage my colleagues to bring their ideas, and let's get this resolved in the next few weeks.

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. BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this fall we celebrate the 25th anniversary of AmeriCorps. Since President Kennedy challenged Americans to serve our Nation abroad in the Peace Corps in his famous University of Michigan speech, generations of Americans have recognized that our greatest strength as a nation is our compassion. But it wasn't until AmeriCorps was founded about 30 years later, 1994, that we truly addressed the need for service here at home.

When I think about the work AmeriCorps members do, I think about the words of a speaker at a Martin Luther King breakfast in my home city of Cleveland on a cold January morning, and the speaker said: Your life expectancy is connected to your ZIP Code.

Think about that. Your life expectancy is connected to your ZIP Code. Whether you grow up in Appalachia or Ohio, Indiana, whether you grow up in a city, an inner-ring city suburb, a small city like I did in Mansfield, or a small town, your ZIP Code often determines whether you have access to quality healthcare or good education and the social support necessary to succeed. Whether it is through City Year or Senior Corps or VISTA—all parts of AmeriCorps—America works to fight that and ensure that so many Americans, regardless of their ZIP Code, have the opportunity not only to succeed but to thrive.

I have seen firsthand what a difference AmeriCorps makes in people's lives. My two daughters had amazing, life-changing experiences, teaching for a year through City Year. We all benefit when we invest in organizations that serve communities that are too often left behind and when these organizations are staffed by young Americans who care about those they serve.

In Ohio, we have a City Year in Cleveland and Columbus. I have met many of these City Year volunteers and see the work they do.

AmeriCorps in my State played a major difference in the Summer Feeding Program. Literally tens and tens of thousands of children are able to eat well in the summer because of the work that AmeriCorps does.

Since 1994, more than a million Americans have served in communities across the country, serving tens of millions of Americans. All of their work will have a lasting impact on children and families, and I can't wait to see what these good AmeriCorps members will do over the next quarter century.

#### TRIBUTE TO JENNY DONOHUE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today not very happily, if I can say, as my employee and my friend Jenny Donahue is leaving our office to take a really big job in the U.S. House of Representatives, especially at a challenging, difficult time, and she will serve there, I assume, every bit as well as she served in the U.S. Senate.

Jenny is a middle-class kid who grew up in small town Idaho. I have not hired a lot of people in my office from Idaho, but if the next person from Idaho is this good, that will be a great thing. She graduated from the University of Montana. Moving east, she went on to become a leader in the U.S. Senate. She is a leader among communications directors. She is a leader in my office, and she is a leader in this entire body. She has left an indelible mark.

Part of being a good leader is being a good mentor. She nurtures young talent. She brings out the best in the people she works with.

My wife, Connie Schultz, who is one of Jenny's greatest admirers—and there are many great admirers of Jenny—loves to say that she is one of the most fierce advocates for young women she has ever met in her life. She also says, oftentimes, that Jenny carries as she climbs. As she moves up in life and moves up into a new position, you can bet that so many people are going to benefit from her leadership and her mentorship.

She has earned my wife's respect. That speaks such volumes about our friend Jenny. She has earned the respect of many Ohio reporters. She understands how important their work is to Ohio communities and to our democracy.

She respects journalism, understanding that journalism is about comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable. She knows that without journalism—good journalism—you can't have good democracy.

She has been with me through some of the biggest moments over the past 4 years as a friend, as an adviser, and challenging me sometimes and telling me when I am wrong oftentimes but always being there in the right ways.

She has been part of the dignity of work rollout. She was part of our trip to the border to bear witness to the hu-

manitarian crisis in part caused by the President of the United States. She was part of the historic 2016 Democratic National Convention.

She helped put my vision of dignity of work on the road earlier this year, including a trip to Selma, AL. Jenny has such courage of her convictions. She is not afraid to tell me when I am wrong. She is not afraid to challenge others, always coming from a place of integrity and honesty—always.

She never does anything halfway. When she says she will do something, when she sets her mind to doing something, she does it, and she does it fully. She does it well. She does it better than pretty much anyone else could.

The day after the 2016 election, my staff was pretty stunned that a human being like Donald Trump would be in the White House; that someone with his lack of character, with his inability to tell the truth, with his treatment of women, would be President of the United States. We were all pretty stunned.

I gathered the staff in my office and told them our jobs would become that much more important. Jenny took on this charge. Jenny, who was already good before the 2016 election, took on this charge of how our work mattered, how I was one of the only selected officials in Ohio who would challenge the President's dishonesty, who would challenge the President's illegal behavior, and who would challenge the President's mean-spiritedness at the border, on the overtime rule, cutting food stamps—all the things this billionaire has done. Jenny knew how important that was. She took on this charge with a sense of responsibility and a purpose that made me proud, just like I know her parents and her grandparents are.

As she moves on to her next job in the House of Representatives, a leader in the House, as she has been in the Senate, she moves on to continue fighting for justice and the dignity of work in her new role.

Jenny, Godspeed.

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. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO GENERAL JOHN KELLY, GENERAL JAMES MATTIS, AND GENERAL JOSEPH DUNFORD

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, this afternoon I would like to honor and recognize the important service of three men, three Marine generals who have served their country in uniform and who have served their country in the civilian world as well, who have served with honor and dignity in ways that I think deserve recognition on the floor of the U.S. Senate. They have done this service in a manner that is befitting of marines, with dignity, class, and honor. I am talking about

former Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, former Secretary of Homeland Security and the President's Chief of Staff at the White House, Gen. John Kelly, and, lastly, I would like to recognize Gen. Joe Dunford, who, on Monday, will be stepping down as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I intend to be there to honor him and to witness another remarkable transition of authority and power when U.S. Army General Milley takes over in what is the most important position for a military officer in the United States of America.

It will be the end of an era, a remarkable era, for the Marine Corps—the smallest of the military services, where these three Marine generals—Kelly, Mattis, and Dunford—served with distinction, not only in the Corps as four star generals but at the highest levels of government at a critical time in our country's history.

It is a remarkable story. It is a story of service, sacrifice, and friendship. These extraordinary men rose through the levels of command together and the ranks of the Marine Corps together. They served together all over the world, including in combat in places like Fallujah, Al Kut, and Baghdad. They fought together, and they sacrificed together for our great Nation as Marine Corps officers. They then went on to serve in other ways.

The three of them have spent their whole lives in service to our country, and they have left an indelible mark, certainly, on the Marine Corps but, I believe, other institutions.

Between the three of them, they have 130 years of Active-Duty military service to America—130 years. Think about that: 130 years of Active military service to the United States of America and the Marine Corps.

They have given their all for us in a way that I think makes most Americans proud, emphasizing the ethos of the Marine Corps, which is honor, courage, and commitment, and I know they have inspired countless numbers of young men and young women across the globe in the Marines and beyond.

I am going to talk a little bit about them today.

Gen. John Kelly is a straight-talking, blunt, and fierce warrior. Before he was 16, he hitchhiked to the west coast and rode the rails back. He is then said to have joined the Merchant Marine for a year, where he is quoted as saying: "My first time overseas was taking 10,000 tons of beer to Vietnam."

In 1970, he enlisted in the Marines, where he found purpose and found a home.

Gen. Jim Mattis is a warrior, scholar, appreciator of mavericks, known for the reading lists he expects his marines to follow, who as a teenager was "a mediocre student with a partying attitude"—an attitude that landed him in jail a few times. But learning called, and then the marines called, teaching him and others how to "think like men of action, and to act like men of

thought." He is a legend in the Marine Corps. His motto in Iraq, when he led the forces there, was: "No Better Friend, No Worse Enemy than a U.S. Marine." He is the first and only marine to ever be Secretary of Defense.

Then there is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Joe Dunford, who has had the Marine Corps flowing through his veins his whole life. His father served as a marine in Korea, and three of his uncles were marines in World War II. General Dunford had no doubt that he would continue that tradition.

While earning a degree from Saint Michael's College in Vermont, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant. During his career, from infantry commander to Commandant of the Marine Corps and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he has been known for inspiring respect in combat and on the field of battle and in the corridors of Washington.

I had a brief opportunity to meet General Dunford a few times as a marine when I was in Afghanistan and he was the ISAF commander. The respect that not only marines and American servicemembers but all the allied forces there had for him was very, very apparent.

All three, as I mentioned, served in Iraq. In 2003, General Kelly was promoted to brigadier general and was the first known promotion of a Marine Corps colonel to brigadier general in an active combat zone since Chesty Puller in January of 1951. General Dunford, serving under General Mattis during the invasion, earned his own nickname of "Fighting Joe," which continued to serve him well in Washington.

So as you just saw from my colleague, the Senator from Ohio—there has been much talk today on the floor of the Senate from both sides of the aisle about character, integrity, patriotism, or, unfortunately, the lack thereof in Washington, DC, in the House and the Senate, throwing bombs at each other. But I think sometimes it is important to come down and talk about the other things—character, honor, integrity, service—because we have a lot of that as well. These three men have served our country with great distinction. They have all been succeeded by strong leaders who I am sure will carry out a similar tradition of service and dignity.

Last year, I had the great honor of being promoted to colonel in the Marine Corps Reserves. I love being in this job. It is a huge privilege to serve the people of Alaska as a U.S. Senator. But I have no doubt that the biggest honor in my life is earning the title of U.S. marine. I knew that I joined a force for good, with cords of memory and valor that stretch back to before the founding of our country. The battles that the Corps has fought in live in the heart of every marine: Montezuma, Tripoli, Belleau Wood, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, Inchon, Khe Sanh, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The list is very long.

The greatest lesson I have learned as a marine is what true leadership looks like, and we have seen that true leadership in the trio of officers of Kelly, Mattis, and Dunford, and I have seen it in their lives after the Marine Corps in Washington, DC. Let me talk briefly about each of them.

From his early days commanding a rifle company and serving on two aircraft carriers to commanding Task Force Tripoli during the Iraq war and leading U.S. Southern Command, General Kelly exemplified the warrior ethos of the Marine Corps.

During the early days of Task Force Tripoli, then-Major General Kelly was asked about the ability of his force to handle the Iraqi military. His response was, "Hell, these are marines. Men like them held Guadalcanal and took Iwo Jima." He had confidence, and he was right.

General Kelly is a fighter, but he also understands sacrifice. He lost troops in the field, and tragically, in 2010, he lost his own son, 1st Lt. Robert Michael Kelly, when he stepped on an IED while leading a platoon in Afghanistan. General Kelly knows sacrifice. He became the highest ranking military officer to lose his son or daughter in Iraq or Afghanistan.

After he finished his military service with distinction, he took on two of the most challenging jobs here in DC: Secretary of Homeland Security and then the Chief of Staff at the White House. He didn't seek these jobs; he was asked to serve by the President, and he did. That is something unusual in a time where so many are crawling or scheming to climb up the ladder. It is refreshing to have leaders who are sought out or chosen to lead.

It should be noted that the jobs that General Kelly took on demanded a different skill set after he took off the uniform. However, on a daily basis, in these jobs, you still take incoming; it is just not with bullets and artillery. In my view, he did an outstanding job in these two very important positions at a critical time.

Then there is General Mattis, who became our Secretary of Defense. He also did not seek that job; that job sought him. I know this for a fact because, before the election, I had the privilege of sitting down with General Mattis when he was a scholar at the Hoover Institution. I talked to him about leadership and strategy. It was a big honor for me to be able to do that in October 2016.

After the election in November of 2016, when the rumors began swirling about his being the Secretary of Defense, my first phone call to the President-elect to congratulate him also mentioned how I thought it would be a great pick to pick General Mattis as Secretary of Defense.

I believe he did an excellent job. General Mattis, as the first and only marine to ever be Secretary of Defense, played a pivotal role in redefining our national security objectives and rebuilding our military. General Mattis

played a leading role in crafting the National Security Strategy with National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster in 2017 and then literally wrote almost entirely on his own the Pentagon's 2018 National Defense Strategy. Together, these two documents have shifted our Nation's strategic focus from countering violent extremism, as we needed to do after the September 11 terrorist attacks, to recognizing the return of great power competition as the leading national security challenge for the United States, with China as the pacing threat.

It is rarely recognized by the media, but these are very bipartisan documents in that Senators—Democrats and Republicans—all believe these are very, very important. They are almost universally applauded and supported in terms of American strategy for the next several decades.

General Mattis recently published a memoir, "Call Sign Chaos," that centers on leadership and the need to sharpen the mind and the body. I think this book, which I am reading right now, is a great service to our country. "You are part of the world's most feared and trusted force," he tells his marines. "Engage your brain before you engage your weapon."

Indeed, much has been written about General Mattis's keen intellect, but, as he makes clear, reading and intellectual pursuits are not an end to themselves. They are part of the mission. They are at the heart of shaping the world's most fearsome fighting force.

In his book, he says: "If you haven't read hundreds of books, learning from others who went before you, you are functionally illiterate—you can't coach and you can't lead."

I also believe that General Mattis/Secretary Mattis did an outstanding job as Secretary of Defense. He rebuilt our military readiness, which had plummeted when defense spending was cut 25 percent from 2010 to 2015. I have walked with General Mattis/Secretary Mattis in Alaska with our military forces there, and I can tell you the troops loved him and respected him.

Finally, I want to talk about General Dunford. As I mentioned, Monday will be the last day we get to call Dunford America's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. He is the second marine to hold this highest leadership position in the armed services. Also a student of history, he is known to be fearless and an unflappable commander.

General Mattis told a great story about how when they were serving together in Iraq—Dunford and Mattis—General Mattis watched a rocket-propelled grenade fly over Dunford's humvee and blow up about 100 yards behind him. Mattis wrote: "He [Dunford] barely glanced up and then went right back to writing his orders."

In his book, General Mattis talks more about General Dunford. He said:

He had a gift of synthesis; he could coolly evaluate the larger picture. Joe reminded me of Emperor Justinian, consistently reaching

fair conclusions and able to summarize a complex situation in a few words.

It has been precisely this ability that has allowed General Dunford to so effectively navigate the tricky, political, and military worlds in both this administration and the last one. He was nominated to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs by President Obama and did such an outstanding job that President Trump renominated him.

These are the kinds of men and leaders I am talking about, and these are not easy times. Our country and our military are facing unprecedented challenges, and wise counsel from those in these positions is paramount—those who understand what it means to fight, what it means to be on the frontlines of conflict, and what it means to have the wisdom sometimes not to fight. General Dunford has provided that wisdom.

Harlan Ullman, a combat veteran and a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was recently quoted in an article about General Dunford where he said: He has been one of the best Joint Chiefs of Staff America has ever had.

According to Ullman, Dunford has been able to successfully navigate difficult times with regard to national security and challenges to our Nation in civil and military relations.

With all the other challenges this country has to face, it is important to recognize these kinds of leaders.

I also want to mention how General Dunford is known not only for his keen intellect but also for his compassion. He was known to personally write letters to the parents of his marines who were killed in action. He was the person who went to General Kelly's home to tell him that his own son had been killed in battle in Afghanistan, and later, he wore a Team Kelly shirt when he ran the Boston Marathon.

I have seen that personal compassion in my own life. It is a story I will end with with regard to all three of these men, and it involves a young lance corporal from Alaska named Grant Fraser.

Who is Grant Fraser? In high school in Anchorage, he was an actor who loved the works of Homer and Shakespeare. He was a mountain biker, a skier, a pianist, a scuba diver, a rock climber, a tennis player, a light-hearted, mischievous young man, and then he surprised family and friends when he joined the Marines. While still in college, because he wanted challenges and he knew he would thrive in the Marine Corps—and he did thrive in the Marine Corps—he planned on coming back home to work as a paramedic with the Anchorage Fire Department.

On August 3, 2005, in Anbar Province, Iraq, Grant Fraser was on a mission—Operation Quick Strike—to avenge the killing of his fellow marines when his vehicle was hit by a massive improvised explosive device. He was 22 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice.

I love our military, but sometimes it can be bureaucratic and very bone-

headed. It took 11 long years and the tenacious, beautiful spirit of Grant Fraser's mom, Sharon Long, for this young marine to get a proper burial at Arlington Cemetery.

Two days before the funeral in 2016, I was sitting next to General Dunford at a dinner. I told him about Grant's heroism and Sharon Long's heroic perseverance to get her son buried at Arlington.

On an overcast day, September 30, 2016, as friends, family, and fellow marines were gathering to put Grant Fraser to rest at Arlington National Cemetery, a marine four-star general in his dress blues appeared solemnly on the sidelines. The most important member of the U.S. military decided to move his schedule and come to the funeral of this lance corporal.

I had the opportunity to introduce him to Sharon Long. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs told me that he couldn't sleep the night before, thinking about how long it took for her to bury her son, and he felt that he just had to attend to pay his respects to this marine.

I have been to a lot of funerals in my Marine Corps career, but this was the most moving funeral I ever attended. It was moving because on that day, rank didn't matter and medals didn't matter; we were all just Americans—with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—grieving the loss of one of our own.

General Mattis wrote, "No Marine is ever alone—he carries with him the spirit passed on from generations before him. Group spirit—that electric force field of emotion—infuses and binds warriors together."

These three men—Mattis, Kelly, and Dunford—have brought that spirit, that higher calling, not just to the Marine Corps but to America and the highest levels of government, and we should all be thankful.

We in the Senate confirm these men and women on a regular basis—people willing to serve their country—but we rarely thank them on the floor. So from one U.S. Senator who has watched the careers of these remarkable three men closely and appreciates what they have done, not just in uniform but after they have taken off the uniform, I want to thank them for their honor, courage, commitment, sacrifice, and example to thousands if not millions of Americans and marines and for keeping us safe.

So to Generals Mattis, Kelly, and Dunford, thank you. Semper Fidelis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I want to start by saluting my friend, our colleague, the Senator from Alaska, for his moving and powerful statement and for his service as a marine and now a Senator from Alaska. It has been a great honor to work with him on many issues, including national security issues.

I thank you.

FUTURE ACT

Mr. President, earlier today on this Senate floor, our colleague, the junior Senator from Alabama, Mr. JONES, asked unanimous consent for the immediate passage of the FUTURE Act.

The FUTURE Act is an important bill that is essential to the success of minority-serving colleges and universities across the country, including historically Black colleges and universities.

The House bill passed within the last couple weeks. The bill number is H.R. 2486, and it is at the Senate desk, meaning we could take it up and pass it at any moment if the leader would simply allow us to vote on that measure. What it does is it extends an existing mandatory funding program that provides essential resources to these underresourced schools.

We, as the Congress, the Senate and House, Republicans and Democrats, recognize on a bipartisan basis the value of these institutions of higher learning and the importance of this mandatory funding because we enacted this program a number of years ago on a bipartisan basis. The goal was to make sure that we provided additional resources for academic pursuits, to improve management, and to ensure that they had the resources for high-demand areas of study in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math—the STEM disciplines.

In my State of Maryland, we have four terrific HBCUs: Morgan State, Bowie State, Coppin State, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. We also have a number of other schools with a high number of students receiving need-based aid, like Allegany College in Western Maryland and the College of Southern Maryland. All of these colleges and universities need the resources that are provided through the FUTURE Act.

It not only has a bipartisan heritage, but right now in the Senate, it has a bipartisan cosponsorship. In fact, Senator SCOTT is the lead Republican on this bill. It passed the House of Representatives unanimously on a voice vote.

The reason I am on the floor now and the reason the Senator from Alabama, Senator JONES, asked for unanimous consent to take this up and vote on it earlier today is because the current mandatory program expires on Monday. It expires at the end of this month. There is no reason for delaying action. It is possible that we can buy ourselves a little bit more time with respect to the funding, but there is no reason that we should put this important program at risk.

I have a number of letters. In fact, I have 43 letters from 34 schools and advocacy organizations supporting this bill. I ask unanimous consent to have some of them printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION,

September 1, 2019.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR LEADER MCCONNELL AND LEADER SCHUMER: In less than two weeks, congressional authority and vitally needed funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) Hispanic-serving Institutions (HSIs), Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), will end, unless Congress acts by September 30, 2019, to extend the authority and funding. Yesterday, the United States House of Representatives moved the Nation toward extending the funding for another two years, when it voted with bipartisan support, to pass the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act, a bipartisan measure to preserve funding for the referenced quintessential American equal educational opportunity institutions.

I am writing as President & CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO). I am writing to respectfully request and urge that you schedule for a vote the Senate companion of the House-passed FUTURE Act, introduced by Senators Tim Scott (SC) and Doug Jones (AL), and that you support this measure that has made critical investments in HBCUs and MSIs, enabling them to graduate more excellent and diverse students, disproportionate low-income, first generation and under-represented minority students, in growth and high need disciplines. With your support the Senate FUTURE Act will pass.

The FUTURE Act will be wholly paid for. It preserves and extends vital investments in institutions that collectively enroll more than 4.8 million undergraduate students in the U.S.—one-quarter of all students—and represent over 800 richly diverse American universities: 106 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), 50 Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs); 523 Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and over 200 Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), including Kentucky State University, and CUNY Medgar Evers College, CUNY York College, CUNY LaGuardia, CUNY New York City College of Technology, Metropolitan College of New York, and Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus.

As you know, HBCUs, PBIs, HSIs, TCUs, and AANAPISIs are an essential part of America's higher education system. For the past decade, Title III, Part F has played a vital role in strengthening their capacity and increasing credentialing and degree attainment, including in important STEM fields. If this critical funding stream is allowed to expire on September 30, 2019, millions of students will be left behind, in the margins of our nation, without the opportunity to earn a college degree or credential. Please do not let this happen. Title III, Part F is the lifeblood for these institutions. The most certain way, the most effective and efficient way of extending the only mandatory congressional funding for HBCUs and MSIs, is to vote for the Senate companion of the House-passed FUTURE Act, introduced by Senators Scott (SC) and Jones (AL). Please

lead the United States Senate in making this happen.

Sincerely,

LEZLI BASKERVILLE,  
President & CEO.

UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND, INC.,  
September 19, 2019.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
Chairman, Senate Health, Education, Labor,  
and Pensions (HELP) Committee,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,  
Ranking Member, Senate Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: UNCF (the United Negro College Fund, Inc.) submits this letter urging you to cosponsor, support, and pass the House-passed H.R. 2486, the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act. This bipartisan, bicameral bill passed the House Floor on September 17th by voice vote and has now been sent to the Senate for consideration.

UNCF is a non-profit organization with a mission to build a robust and nationally recognized pipeline of underrepresented students who, because of UNCF support, become highly-qualified college graduates and to ensure that our network of 37-member, private Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is a respected model of best practice in moving students to and through college.

The 101 HBCUs that exist today are valuable institutions with a large economic footprint. Despite only representing 3 percent of all two- and four-year non-profit colleges and universities, HBCUs (1) enroll 10 percent of all African American undergraduates; (2) produce 17 percent of all African American college graduates with bachelor's degrees; and (3) graduate 21 percent of all African Americans with bachelor's degrees in STEM fields. Moreover, these institutions have a strong economic impact, especially on the regions in which they are located, by creating 134,090 jobs, producing \$10.1 billion in terms of gross regional product, and having a total annual economic impact of \$14.8 billion.

Despite the large economic impact of these institutions, they continue to be underresourced and have endowments that lag behind those of non-HBCUs by at least 70 percent. Unfortunately, this is common for HBCUs and Congress has recognized this and sought out ways to find parity between HBCUs and non-HBCUs. One strategic way in attempting to help HBCUs receive adequate resources was initially through the College Cost and Reduction Act of 2007. This bill allowed for HBCUs, Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) to receive \$255 million annually in mandatory funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 and FY 2009. These mandatory funds were directed in the Higher Education Act of 1965 to be used solely for science, technology, education, and mathematics (STEM) education, among other uses largely centered around STEM. Instead of allowing this funding stream to expire, Congress continued to recognize the need of these institutions to offer quality STEM programs on their campuses and continued this funding stream in the Student Aid Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA) of 2009. SAFRA extended funding

for these institutions from FY 2009 to FY 2019 at \$255 million annually and was included in the Health Care Reconciliation Act of 2010 that ultimately passed both the House and Senate to become law. Every vote taken on the mandatory funding stream for these institutions has been bipartisan, and it is our desire to have the same outcome for H.R. 2486.

It is imperative that the Senate pass the FUTURE Act because funding for HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and other MSIs expires September 30, 2019. While we support a permanent extension of mandatory funding, H.R. 2486, due to its passage in the House of Representatives, is the surest way for these institutions to maintain funding for FY 2020 and FY 2021. We strongly believe that passing this bill now will address the immediate funding needs of our institutions and allow Congress to continue to work towards a permanent extension of this funding moving forward.

Should you have any additional questions regarding this letter, please feel free to reach out to Emmanuel Guillory, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL L. LOMAX, PH.D.  
President and CEO.

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY,  
September 25, 2019.

Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
Chairman Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Member, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR ALEXANDER: I am writing to you in my official capacity as President of Tennessee State University, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). I ask you to join in the effort calling for unanimous consent to vote to pass the Scott-Jones FUTURE Act, the Senate companion bill to the FUTURE Act that passed the House last week by unanimous consent.

I understand and appreciate the noteworthy components to the bill you are proposing, however my request is for you to consider the timing aspect which presents a challenge that threatens the Title III F provision in the Higher Education Act that will end on September 30th unless it is extended. Again, I am appreciative of the various provisions that you are proposing that will have a positive effect on HBCUs. In fact, I am personally excited that you are advancing HEA reauthorization as a priority, as well as broadening Pell eligibility. Hopefully, that proposal will be debated shortly after the immediate future of HBCUs and MSIs are secured.

My primary issue at this point is the timing of your legislation which could cause an inordinate delay that would affect Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). I am quite concerned that with only a few days remaining before Title III F ends, the only way we can ensure passage of this FUTURE Act is by a unanimous consent by the Senate.

Based on your long, illustrious and rich record of service to our state as Governor of the State of Tennessee, and to the country as Secretary of the United States Department of Education, I am sure you would agree that it is a priority to continue the Title III F funding for HBCUs, thereby providing much needed assistance to students around the

country. Many of this population are low-income, first-generation college students, all with a strong desire to be successful in college. If Title III F sunsets on September 30, 2019, it will cause irreparable harm to the very students you represent in our great State of Tennessee. I urge you to support the FUTURE Act today and engage in further discussions on other aspects of the legislation in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

DR. GLENDA GLOVER, JD, CPA  
President.

AMERICAN INDIAN HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
CONSORTIUM,  
September 19, 2019.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: On behalf of the nation's 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities, which are the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), we respectfully request that you to support swift Senate passage of the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act, H.R. 2486, as passed by the House with strong bipartisan support, while working to secure a permanent extension of Title III Part F of the Higher Education Act 1965.

Since FY2010, the Strengthening Institutions—Tribal Colleges and Universities program (HEA Title III Part F) has provided \$30 million per year to help TCUs address the higher education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students, TCUs use this funding for vitally needed student support services, faculty development, curriculum and program development to strengthen tribal nations, library services, facility modernization and construction and other important education activities. Without these funds, TCUs will be forced to reduce services, jeopardizing student completion and success, and some of our smaller institutions may face closure.

Tribal Colleges and Universities truly are developing institutions—the oldest TCU recently reached its 50th year; we are located in some of the most rural, remote, and economically challenged regions of the country; we are severely under-resourced; and yet, we are committed to affordable, high quality, place-based and culturally grounded higher education. Our ability to achieve our collective vision—strong sovereign Tribal nations through excellence in Tribal higher education—would be impossible without the Title III Part F program.

We have always supported and worked for permanent reauthorization of the Title III Part F program for Tribal Colleges and Universities, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions,

and other minority serving institutions. We are not wavering from this critical goal. However, the House-passed FUTURE Act, H.R. 2486, is the best path forward at this time. Indeed, the House-passed FUTURE Act is the only tangible strategy before us, and time is running out.

Thank you for your attention to this request and for your support of our institutions and the students we serve.

Sincerely,

CARRIE L. BILLY,  
President & CEO.  
DAVID E. YARLOTT, Jr.,  
Chair, AIHEC Board of Directors.

THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE FUND,  
September 18, 2019.

RE: Title III Part-F Funding to HBCUs and MSIs

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions.

DEAR SENATORS:

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) is incredibly pleased and grateful that the Title III, Part F funding that is currently slated to expire on September 30th has garnered considerable interest from and corresponding action this week in Congress. As you may be aware, his critical stream of funding helps eligible colleges and universities enhance their fiscal stability, improve their institutional management, and strengthen their academic programming, including, in particular, programming focused on high-demand careers, like careers in STEM fields.

As you may know, on Tuesday, September 17th, the House of Representatives passed the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act by voice vote. If passed by both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Trump, the FUTURE Act will renew Title III, Part F (a/k/a SAFRA) funding for an additional two years, and thereby preserving critical funds upon which our HBCUs and other MSIs rely to improve the lives of our students.

TMCF strongly encourages the Senate to take-up the FUTURE Act immediately and pass the bill before the opportunity slips away. While we appreciate the prospects of a longer-term or "permanent" solution to Title III, Part F, we are skeptical that such a proposal would receive the requisite approval by Congress before September 30th. Therefore, it is imperative that the Senate to act with all deliberate speed on the bipartisan and bi-cameral FUTURE Act. Following the Senate's passage of FUTURE Act, TMCF is willing to work with leaders on both sides of the aisle to develop a longer-term solution for Title III, Part F and for other HEA-related issues.

We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter, and thank you for your historic and, we anticipate, continued commitment to our Nation's HBCUs, other MSIs and our students.

Sincerely,

DR. HARRY L. WILLIAMS,  
President & CEO.

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES,  
September 19, 2019.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.  
Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Edu-  
cation, Labor and Pensions.  
Hon. CHARLES SCHUMER,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate.  
Hon. PATTY MURRAY,  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health,  
Education, Labor, and Pensions.

DEAR LEADER MCCONNELL, LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: In just 10 days, on September 30, 2019, Title III, Part F of the Higher Education Act of 1965 will expire unless the Senate acts before then to extend it. I strongly urge you and your Senate colleagues to act swiftly in passing the FUTURE Act (H.R. 2486), which was passed by the House two days ago, to ensure that critical funding is uninterrupted for the more than 4.5 million undergraduate students enrolled at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) alone. In addition, hundreds of thousands of students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) would be impacted.

The House-passed FUTURE Act represents the best path to ensure the above institutions don't lose critical funding on September 30, 2019.

HSIs, HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs are an essential part of America's higher education system and workforce development. For the past decade, Title III, Part F has played a vital role in strengthening the STEM pipeline at these institutions and increasing their capacity for credentialing and degree attainment.

The mandatory funding for Title III, Part F was initially included in the 2008 College Cost Reduction and Access Act for two years and was extended until FY 2019 in the Health Care Education and Reconciliation Act of 2010. Title III, Part F of the legislation has always had bipartisan and bicameral support because of its important role in increasing student persistence and graduation rates, particularly in STEM fields, at HSIs, HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs. Thus, it is imperative that Congress extends Title III, Part F via the FUTURE Act since it is a lifeline for these institutions.

HSIs alone account for 15 percent of all non-profit colleges and universities, and yet enroll 66 percent of all Hispanic students and nearly one-fourth of all U.S. students. Despite having access to fewer resources compared to other institutions, HSIs impressively produce 40 percent of the STEM bachelor's degrees earned by Latino students. Their future is in the balance.

As our nation becomes increasingly diverse and the number of HSIs continues to grow, Title III, Part F funding is more essential than ever to ensure that we can prepare today's students for tomorrow's jobs and reduce our nation's dependence on foreign talent.

With time running out, we appeal to you to use the power and influence of your leadership positions to pass the House-passed FUTURE Act before September 30, 2019. We look forward to continuing our shared efforts to find a permanent extension of Title III, Part F.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Alicia Diaz, HACU's Interim Chief Advocacy Officer.

We thank you in advance for your time and look forward to a timely passage of the FUTURE Act.

Sincerely,

ANTONIO R. FLORES,  
President & CEO.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I am going to read from just two of those letters that expressed the urgency of Senate action on this.

This is a letter from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, from the president and CEO, stating that the Thurgood Marshall College Fund "strongly encourages the Senate to take-up the FUTURE Act immediately and pass the bill before the opportunity slips away. While we appreciate the prospects of a longer-term or 'permanent' solution to Title III, Part F, we are skeptical that such a proposal would receive the requisite approval by Congress before September 30th."

I think we can understand their skepticism given the fact that the 30th is Monday and the Senate is going to be out this afternoon.

They go on to say:

Therefore, it is imperative that the Senate act with all deliberate speed on the bipartisan, bi-cameral FUTURE Act.

Mr. President, I have another letter from the UNCF, which is another organization dedicated to supporting these important institutions.

Quoting from the letter from their president and CEO:

It is imperative that the Senate pass the FUTURE Act because funding for HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and other [minority-serving institutions] expires September 30, 2019. While we support a permanent extension of mandatory funding, H.R. 2846, due to its passage in the House of Representatives, is the surest way for these institutions to maintain funding for FY 2020 and FY 2021. We strongly believe that passing this bill now will address the immediate funding needs of our institutions.

This is a bill that has broad support. This is a bill where—the program expires on Monday, just a few days from now. There is really no excuse for not taking this up and voting on it now. I hope, since that is obviously not going to happen—my colleague tried to get unanimous consent earlier today to take up and vote on this bill—I hope we will move with all deliberate speed as soon as the Senate reconvenes so that we can get this important work done.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

THE WORKING CLASS IN AMERICA

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, earlier this week, the Missouri Department of Health issued a new report that shows that life expectancy actually declined in the State of Missouri last year. Worse than that, the report shows that life expectancy has been falling in my State for almost a decade. Death rates for Missourians between 15 and 34 years old rose by almost 30 percent between 2012 and 2018. The death rate for Missourians who are between 25 and 34 is at its highest levels since the 1950s. We know what is causing it. It is an epi-

demic of drug overdoses and suicides, along with a spike in crime, in our cities.

Here are the facts. Opioid-related deaths in Missouri have more than doubled in the last decade. The number of suicides is up by over 50 percent, and there is no end in sight. And it is not just Missouri. New data shows that deaths from suicides and drug overdoses are exploding nationwide. Suicides in this country haven't been so common since 1938. Alcohol-related deaths haven't been so high since the 1910s. Meanwhile, the surge in deaths from drug overdoses in this country is completely unprecedented.

These numbers are tragic, but they are more than that—they are the signs of a crisis. We are witnessing the slow-motion collapse of the working class in America.

All Americans suffer from the depths of despair, but we know from the evidence that it is working people and working families who are hit the hardest. So now the working middle of this Nation is facing a struggle to survive. You don't have to look far to see it.

I have seen it in the small towns of my State, in the places where TV cameras never go, where town squares sit half empty, where businesses stand shuttered, where you can buy fentanyl with the snap of a finger on any street corner.

I have seen it in country places where meth is so common, they tell me that dealers hang bags of drugs from tree branches for their buyers to retrieve—a literal landscape of despair and addiction.

I have seen it in the faces of young farmers who put a crop in and pray for rain and pray for Sun and pray for fair prices and then wonder if generations of family farming are going to end with them.

I have seen it from young mothers raising kids alone, working a job and trying to go to school at night, trying to shield their children from drugs and from the pathologies online.

I have heard it in the words of young men who graduated high school only to find no jobs, no place to learn a trade, and no hope for anything that is better.

This is the struggle of working life today. In my State, it is a struggle shared by White and Black alike, by everybody of every race, because of the breakdown of family and neighborhood, the loss of good work, and the epidemic of addictive drugs, which don't know racial boundaries.

This is a struggle we are in together. It is a struggle that brings us together. It is a struggle for the things we love together—for home, family, and country—and the future of this country will be defined by how we meet this challenge.

You can see all of this if you will look. The problem is this town will not look. This town is obsessed with partisan theatrics. This town is obsessed with money and influence and status. This town wants to keep its own good



times going. The political elite here live in a world where the struggle of working Americans is just a human interest story that you read about right along with the gossip page.

But it is time for this town to take some responsibility. It is time for the governing class to admit that the policies it has pursued for decades on trade, on immigration, and on finance have helped to drive working people to this crisis. And it is time to acknowledge that a crisis for working America is a crisis for all of America. It is not enough for wealthy people in Silicon Valley to do well. By the way, those people don't need any more advocates in this city. They have lots of them already. It is working people who need advocates here, and it is working families who need a voice.

You know, working folks don't ask for much. They work hard. They love their families, they love God, they love the place where they live, and they want the opportunity to build a home there and a way of life that is prosperous and that is secure and that is meaningful and that they can pass on to their children. That is not too much to ask. In the America of the 21st century, that is not too much to expect. It is not too much to stand for and to fight for because it is the working people of this country who built this Nation. They are the ones who keep it going now, and they are the ones where this country's strength is found. It is the working people of this country—their future and their families—who are going to define the future of our country.

I would just say that this is what we should be debating. This challenge is what we should be confronting. This crisis is what we should be looking to and addressing because this is what is going to define our time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I have to admit that I haven't had a heck of a lot of sleep the last few nights, and I don't think anyone has. If anyone has rested well the last few nights, it is because they are either not paying attention or they are here for the wrong reason.

We are in some troubled times. Events of the past 2 weeks have been nothing short of stunning. They have been stunning in the speed in which they have unfolded. They have been stunning and disturbing in the allegations that have been made regarding the conduct of the President of the United States. These are allegations that go to the heart of national security and allegations that go to the heart of whether or not the President is upholding his oath to the Constitution of the United States or abusing the power of the Presidency.

We have to remember in this body, and we have to remind our colleagues, we have to remind the media, and we have to remind the public that we are

just now beginning this process. The facts have not come out. We are just now beginning to see facts and determining what happened over the course of this past summer—where things were, what happened, what was said, and who said it. We have to determine the allegations and whether or not they have merit based on the facts that come out, not just reports in the media or even the allegations in a complaint. I am a lawyer. Allegations in a complaint are just simply allegations made, but they have to be proven.

The reason I rise today is that already we are seeing this becoming political. People are going to their political corners. The partisan tribalism is taking over already, and that is unfortunate. It is a sad commentary when a process that is so rooted in the Constitution of the United States—something so fundamental to our democracy—is almost immediately cast in political terms. My colleague and friend, Senator SASSE from Nebraska, used the term “partisan tribalism” in today's world that is “insta-certain.” No matter what you see, no matter what you read, it doesn't matter because you are going to take a side, and when we take sides, the American public immediately take sides and no one listens to the facts.

We are called as Senators, we are called as Members of the House, and we are called as Members of this body to a much higher duty than that—a much higher duty. Our duty is to carefully analyze and review the facts—facts, not mere allegations; facts, not reports or leaks; facts, not what some political talking head on the television says their opinion might be. Our duty is so much higher than that.

We have seen already some of what appear to be very disturbing facts. We have seen a summary of a telephone call between the President of the United States and the President of Ukraine. Ukraine is a country dependent on countries like the United States. The balance of power between the United States and Ukraine is not balanced at all. We have so much more power, and in the summary of that call, the President of the United States noted that to the President of Ukraine. He said, essentially: You are dependent on us. No one else helps you, but you can count on the United States of America. And, by the way, I need a favor. I need you to do me a personal political favor.

In that conversation, he talked about not only having his personal lawyer but also utilizing the Attorney General of the United States to help benefit them politically. Those are initially the facts, and they are very disturbing. For anyone to say that they are not is shirking their responsibility to their constituents, to the public, to the Constitution, and to the very oath that we took when we came into this body.

But again, it is but one piece of a puzzle. We have now also seen the contents of the so-called whistleblower

complaint. “Whistleblower” is a term of art. A whistleblower is just simply somebody who has come forward, but they are given the name whistleblower because they are given legal protections. These people who come forward are concerned citizens of the United States. It is a concerned citizen of the United States who saw something happening that disturbed him so much that he felt compelled to bring it to someone's attention. They are documented fairly well, but again, these facts have not come out. They are just statements in an allegation in a complaint that have to be determined.

I have been asked over and over by the media in the last 2 days: Do you support the House doing this? Do you support impeachment? Do you support this or that?

My comment is always the same: I want to know the facts. It doesn't matter to me what the House of Representatives, in their prerogative, calls their processes. I want to know the facts. The American people deserve to know the facts. This body deserves to know the facts, whether or not anything comes over from the House of Representatives. We deserve to know whether or not the President is abusing his office. We deserve to know whether or not he is placing our national security at risk because, remember, Ukraine is under threat from Russia every day. Every day they are looking over their shoulder. Every day they are looking over their shoulder. That puts us at risk, as well. We have to make sure that we are deliberate, that we move forward with a process that is deliberate. We owe it to the American people to be deliberate, to be somber, to be making sure that we know the facts before we make our judgments.

It doesn't matter what side of the aisle you are on. This is not a Republican process. This is not a Democratic process. And for God's sake, it is not a socialist agenda. That is about the dumbest thing that I have heard people say over the last two days. Good Lord, we are talking about a process that is rooted in the Constitution of the United States. It is rooted in the Constitution of the United States for a purpose—part of the checks and balances that seem to be going out the window these days in our society and in our government and here in Washington, DC. This is an American agenda to make sure that we know the facts and that we understand those facts so people who are around here watching this today know and can be secure in the fact that their Congress is doing their job, that the President is doing his job, that the courts are doing their job.

This is not the time to circle the wagons around the President, but, likewise, it is not the time to make a judgment already that this President should be removed from office or even for articles of impeachment voted on by the House. This is not the time to do that. We are beginning a process



that we have to take our time on. I say that knowing that when we say “take our time,” we just need to be deliberate, but we need to move. This is not something that needs to drag on. This is not something through which the American public needs to be dragged over the course of too long a period of time. This can be determined.

If you look at that whistleblower complaint that was filed, this is something that should easily be able to be done in a relatively short period of time if the administration will cooperate and if we get that instead of the stonewalling that we have seen in the past.

Cooperate with us. Do your job. Do your duty and let us do ours. That is all that we ask. That is all that anybody should ever ask of anyone in this body or anyone in the House of Representatives. Let us do our job.

We are about to leave this place for a couple of weeks. The House is leaving, though they may still do a little work. We are going to be leaving for 2 weeks. We are going back home to our States. We are going to be talking to the media. We are going to be talking to constituents. I guarantee you that when I go back to Alabama, a lot of people will have already made up their minds. When I go to a townhall or whatever, they will have made up their minds without any facts. They make up their mind based on the media.

My friends in the media need to pay attention too. Don't ask me whether or not this is going to affect my election in 2020. Don't ask me if it is going to affect Joe Biden or Donald Trump, or ask me if it is going to affect the Presidential race. Ask me about what is going to happen to the Constitution and what is going to happen to the rule of law. Let's talk about the seriousness of what we have and not the politics of it, for goodness' sake.

But every time I turn around, when I walk out of these doors, the first thing they are going to ask me is this: How do you think this is going to affect your race?

That is not my job. That is not my oath. That is not my duty. If we put our fingers to the political winds with everything we do in this body, we may as well not be here. We should not be able to live with ourselves. Unfortunately, I think so many people do that. I am hoping that in this day, in this time, in these troubled waters we are about to embark on, people will see that higher calling and that they will once again return to that time and that place when this Senate was a deliberative body and not a knee-jerk reaction to a particular program or nomination or whatever that comes before it. We will return to the days of yesterday where we actually deliberate and we talk amongst ourselves and we have a civil discussion about the important issues that we are faced with. I remember those days. I was here. I was sitting back there as a Senate staffer, watching those great debates and watching

people change their minds on the floor of the Senate because of the debate that someone gave and someone persuaded him. We don't have those any more. Look around right now. We are all gone, except those people around here listening to me, and I have staff here. But we don't have those debates any more. We don't have those deliberations any more. We are going to have to now. We are going to have to because the Republic depends on it. The fate of this country will depend on it. We are so divided in this country right now. We are living in what Arthur Brooks has called that “culture of contempt,” where we don't necessarily just disagree with each other. We hold each other in contempt if we disagree with each other.

We have to change that, folks. We have to get back. We have to change that. We have to make sure people understand their roles and their duties. We have to make sure that for this country to progress and for this country to survive, we have to work together.

We have to be one America. We can't be so divided. That is exactly what our enemies have been trying to do to us for centuries. For two centuries or more, they have wanted to divide us, and they came close during the Civil War. They are going to come close now if we are not careful. If we don't stop folks on both sides of the aisle from continuing to pull us into our corners but rather start pulling people back to where we can have these discussions, we will be in trouble.

As we go forward and as we go into this recess, I hope all of my colleagues will remember their oaths. I hope people will remember what they said when they stood right over there and the Vice President of the United States asked them to raise their right hands and say: “I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.”

We took an oath to support the Constitution. We didn't take an oath to support the President of the United States. We didn't take an oath to support the Republican Party. We didn't take an oath to support the Democratic Party. We took an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. That is an important part that our Framers put in the Constitution, “foreign and domestic.”

We said we would take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. We cannot evade. We took an oath not to evade while we were here—that is not what we do—and to well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which we entered.

Our duties to this office are to be fair, to be impartial, and to be deliberative, not political. Our duties to this office are to our constituents and to do the very best we can to make sure we analyze whatever is in front of

us because history will judge us. It will determine whether or not we acted with courage and conviction or whether we just simply tested the political winds as some people are already doing.

Often in my talks around the country and in some even here, I like to quote one of my favorite characters from literature, Atticus Finch. Atticus Finch gave an impassioned closing argument to a jury he knew was not likely to give him the verdict he sought. He laid out a case in defense of Tom Robinson, a Black man who was accused of raping a White woman. In that defense, he went through the facts. Everybody who has ever read the book and everybody who has ever watched the movie knows Tom Robinson was innocent, but Atticus Finch knew that the likelihood of the jury's finding that man innocent was slim and none.

At the end of that closing argument, he talked about the solemn duty, the solemn obligation, that the jurors had to the system. He talked about the justice system and the courts and the jurors being the great levelers of society, where the pauper and the rich man were the same in the eyes of the law. He talked about the duty they had to fairly and impartially judge the facts.

Just before he sat down—and you could see it and feel it, and if you were to read the book, you could feel that Atticus knew what was going to happen—he looked that jury in the eye and said: “[Gentlemen], in the name of God, do your duty.”

Ladies and gentlemen and colleagues, in the name of God, we have to do our duty. We have to do our duty. We have to make sure we fulfill our oaths and not be concerned about how many votes it might get us or how many votes we might lose. Whether we know the outcome or not, whether we get pressure from Assad or not, whether or not there are millions of dollars spent on TV and in radio so as to tell us to vote a certain way, we have to fulfill that solemn obligation. In the name of God, we should do our duty and nothing less.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 446, 447, 448, and 449.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of 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; Fernando L. G. Sablan, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Muldrow, Baughman, Pettingill, and Sablan nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 423.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ryan McCarthy, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Army.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the McCarthy nomination.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McCarthy nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 398, 442, 443, 444, 445, 455, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Lana J. Marks, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of South Africa; John Leslie Carwile, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Latvia; Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Vanuatu; Anthony F. Godfrey, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Serbia; Herro Mustafa, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Bulgaria; Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation (New Position).

#### FOREIGN SERVICE

PN786 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (12) beginning Melissa McInnis, and ending Marixell Garcia, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2019.

PN787-2 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Courtney L. Lacroix, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2019.

PN1001 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (204) beginning George Habib Abi-Nader, and ending Alexis Lyn Zintak, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1002 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Cynthia K. Duerr, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1003 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (6) beginning Jessica Abenstein, and ending David Waldron, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1004 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (95) beginning Kendra Michelle Arbaiz-Sundal, and ending Jacqueline Leann Ward, which nominations were received by the Sen-

ate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marks, Carwile, McKee, Godfrey, Mustafa, Boehler, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 424 through 440 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations, considered and confirmed, are as follows:

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Sims, II

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Curtis A. Buzzard

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 9435:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Linell A. Letendre

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment 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 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. James H. Dickinson

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the

grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Ricky L. Waddell

The following named officer for appointment 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 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Jason T. Evans

The following named officer for appointment as The Surgeon General, United States Army, and for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 7036:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Raymond S. Dingle

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. Daryl L. Caudle

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Glen D. VanHerck

IN THE ARMY

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Arthur J. Logan

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. Anthony J. Cotton

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. Colin J. Kilrain

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Brig. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Michael A. Minihan

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position

of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Scott A. Kindsvater

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. David M. Kriete

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. Stuart B. Munsch

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN938 AIR FORCE nomination of Christopher J. Wood, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN939 AIR FORCE nomination of Christian S. Forrer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN940 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning SHEVA T. NICKRAVESH, and ending ANGELA M. THORNTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN941 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael W. Luoma, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN978 AIR FORCE nominations (32) beginning DAVID P. ABBOTT, and ending JUSTIN L. WOLTHUIZEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN979 AIR FORCE nominations (83) beginning CHRISTIAN R. ACEVEDO, and ending ZACHARY T. WEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN980 AIR FORCE nominations (2351) beginning NEILS J. ABDERHALDEN, and ending BRAD D. ZWAWA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN981 AIR FORCE nominations (20) beginning MICHAEL AARON BURNAT, and ending DYLAN B. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN982 AIR FORCE nominations (1245) beginning CHRISTOPHER M. ABBOTT, and ending MATHEW ZULAUF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN983 AIR FORCE nomination of Aaron J. Beebe, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN984 AIR FORCE nomination of Craig M. Nordgren, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN985 AIR FORCE nomination of Richard A. Palmer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN986 AIR FORCE nominations (24) beginning LISA M. ANGOTTI, and ending DUNCAN K. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN987 AIR FORCE nomination of Rondre F. Baluyot, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1008 AIR FORCE nomination of Peter J. Ahn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1009 AIR FORCE nomination of Anthony S. Gamboa, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1010 AIR FORCE nominations (13) beginning ANTHONY C. BIVINS, II, and ending STACEY J. WADSLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1066 AIR FORCE nomination of Andrew Kim, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1067 AIR FORCE nomination of Catherine A. Lane, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

ARMY

PN670 ARMY nomination of Gabriel A. Miritello; which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 29, 2019.

PN671 ARMY nomination of Nathan B. Gadberry, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 29, 2019.

PN843 ARMY nominations (8) beginning SEAN C. HEIDGERKEN, and ending CLINT E. TRACY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN844 ARMY nominations (106) beginning JESSE ABREU, and ending D006471, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN845 ARMY nominations (132) beginning RICHARD R. ABELKIS, and ending G010532, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN846–1 ARMY nominations (163) beginning VINCENT A. AMERENA, and ending D014896, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN942 ARMY nomination of Camie R. Levin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN943 ARMY nomination of Steve A. Albritton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN944 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GARY M. CLARK, and ending STEPHANIE E. STEWART, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN945 ARMY nomination of Christopher D. Barrett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN946 ARMY nomination of Ralphine R. Walton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN947 ARMY nomination of Matthew R. Campbell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN948 ARMY nomination of John C. Ross, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN949 ARMY nomination of Robert T. Buckley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN950 ARMY nomination of Damien McGuigan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN988 ARMY nominations (12) beginning KATHLEEN M. ADAMSON, and ending JULIAN L. PADGETT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN989 ARMY nomination of Eraj V. Tennekoon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN990 ARMY nomination of Heung R. Noh, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN991 ARMY nomination of Cesar C. Correarivera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN992 ARMY nomination of George J. Smolinski, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN993 ARMY nomination of Michael J. McNaught, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN994 ARMY nominations (12) beginning KENNETH T. BAILLIE, and ending KENNETH J. WEISHAAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN995 ARMY nomination of Dexter D. Williams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1011 ARMY nominations (70) beginning BENJAMIN AHN, and ending VIVIAN K. YANQUOIWEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1012 ARMY nomination of Spencer W. Robinson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1013 ARMY nomination of Robert B. Lackey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1014 ARMY nomination of Krista M. Klein, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1015 ARMY nominations (2) beginning DENIS J. MCDONNELL, and ending JEFFREY C. NICHOLS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1017 ARMY nominations (10) beginning CHOWDRY M. BASHIR, and ending RICHARD M. SLUSHER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1018 ARMY nominations (10) beginning APOLLA A. BENITO, and ending MICHAEL E. TERRY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1019 ARMY nominations (8) beginning THOMAS W. BINGAMON, and ending TRAVIS J. WEISZHAAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1020 ARMY nominations (14) beginning TONYA L. EHLERT, and ending ARVE A. WIKSTROM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1021 ARMY nominations (4) beginning BRIAN S. HATLER, and ending WILLIAM B. WALKER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1022 ARMY nominations (6) beginning ROBERT G. BONIFACIO, and ending MICHAEL T. SIMPSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1023 ARMY nominations (7) beginning BARBARA S. ANTUS, and ending JEAN V.

MOVINGCOLLINS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1024 ARMY nominations (7) beginning JOYCE C. ANACKER, and ending BYRON J. THOMPSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1025 ARMY nominations (4) beginning BRUCE J. BRITSON, and ending THOMAS W. HRABAL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1026 ARMY nomination of Jason A. Foreman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1027 ARMY nomination of Alexandra E. Weiskopf, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1028 ARMY nominations (23) beginning TRACY A. BALL, and ending DONNA E. WARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1029 ARMY nominations (2) beginning LAUREL A. KAPPEDAL, and ending RHONDA B. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1030 ARMY nominations (6) beginning ANNA L. ALDANA, and ending JOSEPH S. SEILER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1031 ARMY nominations (53) beginning KARL ANDERSON, and ending CLAUDE R. WORKMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1068 ARMY nominations (23) beginning NICHOLAS D. BARRINGER, and ending D012819, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1069 ARMY nominations (18) beginning ERIN E. BALL, and ending D012821, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1070 ARMY nominations (97) beginning LOVIE L. ABRAHAM, and ending D014502, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1071 ARMY nominations (94) beginning MARLENE ARIASREYNOSO, and ending KEVIN M. ZEEB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1072 ARMY nominations (30) beginning BRITTANY B. BEAVIS, and ending RAYMOND K. WONG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1073 ARMY nominations (106) beginning RAYMOND J. AKERMAN, JR., and ending D012876, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1074 ARMY nominations (187) beginning SARAH H. AFRIECQ, and ending D014706, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1075 ARMY nominations (141) beginning BRENDA J. ADAMS, and ending SHINGO J. YAMADA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1076 ARMY nomination of Slava Shapiro, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1077 ARMY nomination of Rachel M. Romaine, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1078 ARMY nomination of Kristy M. Chester, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1079 ARMY nomination of Kevin D. Dalling, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1080 ARMY nomination of Jay G. Sullivan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1081 ARMY nominations (19) beginning BRIAN S. BORAKOVE, and ending COLBY B. WYATT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1082 ARMY nomination of Javier Trevino, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1083 ARMY nomination of Brendan B. Reina, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1084 ARMY nomination of Benjamin A. Greif, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1085 ARMY nomination of Slade A. McPherson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN883 MARINE CORPS nomination of Jeffery G. Pioszak, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 18, 2019.

PN961 MARINE CORPS nominations (10) beginning JOHN D. BARNES, and ending KRISTIN M. TORTORICI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN997 MARINE CORPS nomination of Daniel E. Callaway, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1032 MARINE CORPS nomination of Nathan P. Dmochowski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

#### IN THE NAVY

PN549 NAVY nomination of Traci J. McKinnon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 26, 2019.

PN951 NAVY nomination of Anthony M. Hruba, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN952 NAVY nomination of Salahhudin A. Adenkhalif, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN953 NAVY nomination of Bradley D. Coletti, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN954 NAVY nomination of Timothy K. Lynch, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN955 NAVY nomination of Dion M. Adams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN956 NAVY nomination of Christopher C. Cady, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN957 NAVY nomination of Andrew C. Mueller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN958 NAVY nomination of Tyrone K. Potter, which was received by the Senate and

appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN959 NAVY nomination of Francis C. Dailig, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN960 NAVY nominations (2) beginning DAVID H. CRAIG, III, and ending BYRON B. HOLLOWAY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN996 NAVY nominations (49) beginning JAMES M. ALLEN, JR., and ending JONATHAN R. WHEELER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1086 NAVY nominations (23) beginning EDUARDO B. AMORA, and ending GREGORY S. WOODARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1087 NAVY nominations (93) beginning JANPAUL P. AMPOSTA, and ending LIN L. ZHENG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1088 NAVY nominations (98) beginning ASHLEY A. ACLESE, and ending GISSELLE I. ZELSDORF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1089 NAVY nominations (40) beginning RACHAEL E. BAKER, and ending SARA J. WOOTEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1090 NAVY nominations (111) beginning ALEXANDER ALBA, and ending MYRA S. WEARING, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1091 NAVY nominations (61) beginning HOLLY K. AGUIGAM, and ending ALLISON D. WEINBERG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1092 NAVY nominations (243) beginning TIMOTHY J. ALGIERS, and ending ANGELA ZAH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1093 NAVY nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW W. CATANESE, and ending GRANT C. GLOVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1094 NAVY nominations (38) beginning RAMON ACOSTA, and ending SEN F. YU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1095 NAVY nominations (3) beginning JONATHAN T. DUENAS, and ending JAMES H. PHAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1096 NAVY nomination of Joshua K. Witt, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1097 NAVY nomination of Stephen A. Jessogne, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1098 NAVY nomination of Vanna J. Rocchi, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate 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 MARCELLA RYAN LEBEAU

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it is always a privilege to honor the men and women of America's Greatest Generation. They brought peace to the world and defended the freedoms we all enjoy every day, and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

Today, I wish to recognize one of these heroic Americans from my home State of South Dakota. Marcella Ryan LeBeau volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II—WWII—providing care to wounded soldiers across Europe. Next month, Marcella will enjoy her 100th birthday at a celebration with family and friends, and I wish to add my voice to the chorus of those praising her lifetime of achievement and dedication to public service.

Marcella has dedicated her life to serving others. She completed a diploma in nursing at St. Mary's Hospital in Pierre, SD, in 1942 and served in the Army Nurse Corps as a first lieutenant in WWII, taking her from the United States to Wales, England, France, and Belgium. While serving in the Army from 1942 to 1946, Marcella cared for countless wounded soldiers, including D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge.

In 2004, on the 60th anniversary of D-Day, Marcella was among 100 WWII American veterans awarded France's highest civilian award, the French Legion of Honor, at the French Embassy in Washington, DC.

Following her service in the Army, Marcella worked for the Indian Health Service—IHS—in Eagle Butte for 31 years. She would eventually become the Eagle Butte IHS Hospital's director of nursing. In addition to her work at the IHS Hospital, she served 4 years on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council while raising eight children with her husband, Gilbert.

After retiring from the IHS, Marcella opened a quilting shop with her granddaughter. They make a variety of quilts, with the main feature being the star quilt used by the Lakota people for honoring and naming ceremonies, memorials, and various life achievements.

In 2016, Marcella was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame, and she received the Women in History award from the Spirit of the Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also received an honorary doctorate of public service from South Dakota State University in 2018.

With her lifesaving work in the Army and a longtime commitment to South Dakota, Marcella has made a lasting

impression on the lives of many, and on behalf of all of them, I would like to wish her a happy birthday and thank her for her remarkable service to the United States.

### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ADA S. MCKINLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, as World War I came to a close in 1919, Ada Sophia McKinley founded a Chicago South Side settlement house for returning war veterans and anyone else in need of training, food, shelter, and recreation. As century later, the Ada S. McKinley Community Services serves more than 7,000 people annually at 70 locations in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

McKinley was born 3 years after the Civil War in Galveston, TX. During World War I, she moved to Chicago with her husband and son. She was a schoolteacher and a community activist. McKinley began volunteering as an official hostess of the War Camp Club on South Wabash Avenue, helping war servicemen and their families. The club used recreational and civic activities to help soldiers make the transition back. It was a precursor to the therapies we use today for posttraumatic stress disorder treatments.

The War Recreation Board cut funding to the War Camp Club when the war ended, but the Douglas/South Side community still needed help, and the Great Migration had accelerated people moving to Chicago with very little resources. McKinley continued helping people, eventually founding what became the South Side Settlement House in an old, three-story mansion at 32nd and Wabash Avenue in 1919.

At the South Side Settlement House, people could get a meal, some cash, and take classes in sewing, cooking, arts, and crafts, ceramics, and storytelling. There was a summer camp, a library, and even friendship clubs for lonely seniors.

McKinley never collected a salary for her work. She established a board of directors, implemented childcare, job training, employment referral, and educational systems for all ages.

After the 1919 Chicago race riots, McKinley marched with legendary colleagues Jane Addams, Harriet Vittum, and Mary McDowell. McKinley worked with the Chicago Commission on Race Relations to help restore order and relief to people.

On August 24, 1952, McKinley helped lay the cornerstone for a new headquarters for her organization at 100 E. 34th Street. Hours later, she suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and passed away.

Her legacy lives on in the work of her agency. Today, children can attend quality education services at the Ada S. McKinley Community Services locations. People can get help for their lives with mentoring programs, financial aid counseling, and a host of other programs. Their motto is "Empower. Educate. Employ." Today, we honor a

century of their good work doing just that.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bill for the Department of State and Foreign Operations was reported unanimously by the committee earlier today. There is a great deal in the bill that the American people can feel good about, as the summaries released by both the majority and minority indicate. However, as is always the case with bipartisan legislation, there are also things that I wish were not in the bill, and there are things missing from the bill that I wish had been included. I want to speak about one of those.

I deeply regret that the bill does not even mention the words “climate change.” That is remarkable, or perhaps a better word is “appalling,” when one considers the existential threat that climate change poses for every living thing on Earth. If Democrats were in the majority, funding for programs to combat global warming and adapt to climate change would be a priority in the bill. Instead, it is completely missing.

An example is the Green Climate Fund, GCF, which was created in 2010 with the active participation of the United States. Its mission is to respond to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development. The GCF was established to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries and to help vulnerable societies adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. The United States contributed a total of \$1 billion in the first 2 years of operation of the GCF.

Then President Trump was elected. Even though, according to press reports, the Trump Organization had previously cited climate change in its application for a permit to build a barrier to protect a Trump golf course from the rising sea level and increasingly powerful storms, he continues to publicly refuse to recognize climate change as a serious threat. Despite that hypocrisy and overwhelming scientific recognition of the impact of burning fossil fuels on the Earth’s climate, the Trump White House withdrew from the Paris climate agreement and opposed further U.S. funding for the GCF. Republican majorities in the Congress fell into line, and in the past two appropriations bills, there has been no funding for a U.S. contribution to the GCF.

The next replenishment for the GCF is scheduled for 2020. Since there are no funds in the bill just reported by the Appropriations Committee for a U.S. contribution to the GCF, absent an about-face by the White House, the United States will not make a replenishment pledge. It will be left to other countries to ensure that the GCF continues to operate. Once again, U.S.

leadership to address what many believe to be the most ominous threat facing the world is nowhere to be seen.

Despite that inexcusable failure by the White House and the Republican leadership in Congress, it is important to emphasize that overwhelmingly the American people recognize the threat that climate change poses and they want strong action to address it. They see what is happening here and around the world, as extreme climatic events—hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, droughts, and forest fires, coupled with crop failures, displacement of people whose homes and livelihoods are destroyed, and unprecedented migration flows—become more and more frequent and destructive. They rightly fear that if we fail to act, not long from now, these types of disasters will be exponentially worse, and they worry about the chaos this would cause for their children and grandchildren.

I mention this because I am confident that as soon as we have a President who puts the lives of future generations above the profits and campaign contributions of the fossil fuel companies, the United States will once again become a leader against climate change and a leading contributor to the GCF. Other countries should understand this. Despite President Trump and his cheerleaders in Congress, the United States has not turned its back on the threat of climate change, nor have we abandoned the GCF. Presidents come and go, and while U.S. support for diplomacy and programs to combat climate change is currently suspended, the American people, and especially the younger generation, will make sure that suspension is only temporary.

#### ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF JAMAL KHASHOGGI

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today we remember and remind the world that nearly 1 year has passed since the premeditated murder of Jamal Khashoggi by the Saudi Government.

That horrific crime, carried out so brazenly as if it were just a routine job, exposed the true character of the Saudi Government not only as it pertains to Mr. Khashoggi but to the ruthless treatment of critics of the Saudi royal family more broadly.

While the Crown Prince systematically orders the execution of his opponents, he has so far escaped punishment for the murder of Mr. Khashoggi and for the lies about that crime.

Multiple Saudi officials, including the Foreign Minister, Minister of Interior, and others—all members of the royal family—flagrantly and shamelessly lied to the world, repeatedly changing their story.

The Crown Prince called Khashoggi a “dangerous jihadist.” That too was a lie.

The Saudis, who have refused to turn over Mr. Khashoggi’s remains, insist that the men who were arrested are the

only ones involved in the murder. No one who knows anything about the Saudi royal family, which is the Saudi Government, believes that.

Despite all the incriminating evidence and all the lies, the White House continues to ignore its own intelligence experts and the U.N. Special Rapporteur, relying instead on the Saudi royal family to investigate itself. What a sham.

This crime reminds us that journalists the world over who shine a spotlight on corrupt, repressive governments risk their lives and the safety of their families. They are threatened and killed for nothing more than doing their job.

Today we are also concerned about the fate of hundreds of courageous pro-democracy activists who have recently been arrested for protesting against corruption and repression in Egypt. Journalists, members of opposition political parties, and civil society activists in Egypt are routinely persecuted, denied due process, and subjected to prolonged physical and psychological abuse.

If the Saudi royal family can escape punishment for the premeditated murder of a Washington Post journalist, what does that say to journalists everywhere? What does it say about our own government, if we accept that?

I want to remind the Saudi Government, the White House, and the State Department that we do not—and we will not—accept that. Jamal Khashoggi was murdered, and there is no reasonable doubt about who is culpable. Justice will be done—no matter how long it takes.

#### CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL JOHN E. HYTEN

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, earlier today, this body confirmed Gen. John Hyten as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The vote was 75 to 22. It should have been 100 to 0.

General Hyten has weathered a storm of malicious attacks on his character—attacks that have been elevated by credulous pundits and politicians, even as they have been debunked again and again by independent investigations.

Today, General Hyten got his due, and Joint Chiefs gained a great leader—all because he refused to back down and because a majority of this body was willing to follow the facts where they lead.

General Hyten has devoted his life to public service. He attended Harvard University on an ROTC scholarship and spent the next three decades mastering warfare in a new domain: space. Today, he is an undisputed expert in space technology and operations, having served in senior positions at Strategic Command, Central Command, Air Force Space Command, and the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base.

Gen. Hyten’s expertise and leadership will only grow more valuable in the



years ahead, as the United States competes with China for dominance in space and cyberspace.

Unfortunately, we haven't spent the past few months discussing General Hyten's qualifications for the job or the strategic challenges we face as a nation. Instead, Gen. Hyten's nomination was marred by false accusations of misconduct by a subordinate. This accuser has a long and disturbing history of responding to professional setbacks with serious accusations against her superiors. These accusations—all of them, against General Hyten and others in her chain of command—have been dismissed by competent, independent military investigations. Multiple inspectors general have now looked into these claims. Countless manhours have been devoted to uncovering the truth. And the truth is that General Hyten is innocent.

Today the Senate said "enough" to the malicious claims against him.

Ensuring justice for General Hyten meant nothing more and nothing less than following the facts where they lead. When we follow the facts, it sends a clear message to our men and women in uniform that they will be treated fairly by the armed service, not railroaded by a media mob or hung out to dry by their chain of command.

For victims of sexual assault and harassment, following the facts will ensure that justice is done. It will mean the same for victims of false claims like General Hyten.

I know of few leaders who take sexual misconduct more seriously than my colleague, Senator MARTHA MCSALLY—herself a victim of sexual assault. It speaks volumes about this case, as well as her own courage, that Senator MCSALLY has stood up for a good man in the face of truly reprehensible attacks. I will close with her words. "[T]he full truth was revealed in this process," she said. "The truth is that General Hyten is innocent of these charges." Indeed he is. So today he has been confirmed as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs, with our full confidence that he will continue to serve with the courage and brilliance that have so far distinguished his career.

#### U.S. SENATE DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE REGULATIONS

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, in accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Rules and Administration and pursuant to Public Law 115-364, on September 25, 2019, the Committee adopted the U.S. Senate Disabled Veteran Leave Regulations.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### U.S. SENATE DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE REGULATIONS

ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

#### § 1301 Purpose and authority.

These regulations implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329, which establishes a leave category, to

be known as "disabled veteran leave," for an eligible employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more. Such an employee is entitled to this leave for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability. Disabled veteran leave must be used during the 12-month period beginning on the first day of employment. The Committee's authority to promulgate these regulations is found in section 1(b) of Public Law 115-364.

#### § 1302 Applicability.

These regulations apply to a Senate employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more, subject to the conditions specified in these regulations. These regulations apply only to a Senate employee who is hired on or after November 5, 2016.

#### § 1303 Definitions.

In these regulations:

"12-month eligibility period" means the continuous 12-month period that begins on the first day of employment.

"Agency" means an agency of the Federal Government. In the case of an agency in the Executive branch, it means an Executive agency as defined in 5 U.S.C. § 105.

"Employee" has the meaning given that term in 5 U.S.C. § 6329(d).

"Employing office" has the meaning given that term in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9).

"Employment" means service as an employee during which the employee is covered by a leave system or leave policy under which leave is charged for periods of absence. This excludes service in a position in which the employee is not covered by 5 U.S.C. § 6329 due to application of another statutory authority.

"First day of employment" means the first day of service that qualifies as employment that occurs on the later of—

(1) The earliest date an employee is hired after the effective date of the employee's qualifying service-connected disability, as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration; or

(2) The effective date of the employee's qualifying service-connected disability, as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration.

"Health care provider" has the meaning given that term in 5 C.F.R. § 630.1202.

"Hired" means the action of—

(1) Receiving an initial appointment to a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329;

(2) Receiving a qualifying reappointment to a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329; or

(3) Returning to duty status in a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329, when such return immediately followed a break in civilian duty (with the employee in continuous civilian leave status) to perform military service.

"Medical certificate" means a written statement signed by a health care provider certifying to the treatment of a veteran's qualifying service-connected disability.

"Medical treatment" means any activity carried out or prescribed by a health care provider to treat a veteran's qualifying service-connected disability.

"Military service" means "active military, naval, or air service" as that term is defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24).

"Qualifying reappointment" means an appointment of a former employee of the Federal Government following a break in employment of at least 90 calendar days.

"Qualifying service-connected disability" means a veteran's service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more by the Veterans Benefits Administration, including a combined degree of disability of 30 percent or more that reflects the combined effect of multiple individual disabilities, which resulted in the award of disability compensation under title 38, United States Code. A temporary disability rating under 38 U.S.C. § 1156 is considered a valid rating in applying this definition for as long as it is in effect.

"Senate employee" means an employee occupying a position of employment the pay for which is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate and who is covered by the leave policies of the employee's Senate employing office.

"Senate employing office" means the personal office of a Senator, a committee of the Senate, and any other office headed by a person with the final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment of a Senate employee.

"Service-connected" has the meaning given such term in 38 U.S.C. § 101(16).

"Sick leave" means any paid leave offered by a Senate employing office that can be used by an employee to continue pay during periods of absence caused by the employee's medical illness or injury or the employee's medical appointments.

"Veteran" has the meaning given such term in 38 U.S.C. 101(2).

"Veterans Benefits Administration" means the Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### § 1304 Eligibility.

(a) A Senate employee who is a veteran with a qualifying service-connected disability is entitled to disabled veteran leave under these regulations, which will be available for use during the 12-month eligibility period beginning on the first day of employment. For each employee, including a Senate employee, there is a single first day of employment.

(b) To be eligible for disabled veteran leave, a Senate employee must provide to the Senate employing office documentation from the Veterans Benefits Administration certifying that the Senate employee has a qualifying service-connected disability. The documentation should be provided to the Senate employing office—

(1) Upon the first day of employment, if the Senate employee has already received such certifying documentation; or

(2) For a Senate employee who has not yet received such certifying documentation from the Veterans Benefit Administration, as soon as practicable after the Senate employee receives the certifying documentation.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this section, a Senate employee may submit certifying documentation at a later time, including after a period of absence for medical treatment, as described in § 1306(c). The 12-month eligibility period is fixed based on the first day of employment and is not affected by the timing of when certifying documentation is provided.

(d) If a Senate employee's service-connected disability rating is decreased or discontinued during the 12-month eligibility period such that the Senate employee no longer has a qualifying service-connected disability—

(1) The Senate employee must notify the Senate employing office of the effective date of the change in the disability rating; and



(2) The Senate employee is no longer eligible for disabled veteran leave as of the effective date of the rating change.

§1305 Crediting disabled veteran leave.

(a) Upon receipt of the certifying documentation under §1304, a Senate employing office must credit 104 hours of disabled veteran leave to a full-time, non-temporary Senate employee or a proportionally equivalent amount for a part-time Senate employee, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) The proportional equivalent of 104 hours for a full-time Senate employee is determined for part-time Senate employees as follows: the 104 hours is prorated based on the number of hours in the part-time schedule (as established for leave charging purposes) relative to a full-time schedule (e.g., 52 hours for a half-time schedule).

(c) When a Senate employee is converted to a different schedule for leave purposes, the Senate employee's balance of unused disabled veteran leave must be converted to the proper number of hours based on the proportion of hours in the new schedule compared to the former schedule. For short-term or temporary employees, hours must be annualized in determining the proportion.

(d)(1) A Senate employee who was previously employed by an agency or employing office whose employees were not subject to 5 U.S.C. §6329 must certify, at the time the Senate employee is hired by a Senate employing office, whether or not that former agency or employing office provided entitlement to an equivalent disabled veteran leave benefit to be used in connection with the medical treatment of a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more. The Senate employee must certify the date he or she commenced the period of eligibility to use disabled veteran leave in the former agency or employing office.

(2) If 12 months have elapsed since the commencing date referenced in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the Senate employee will be considered to have received the full amount of an equivalent benefit and no benefit may be provided under these regulations.

(3) If the Senate employee is still within the 12-month period that began on the commencing date referenced in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the Senate employee must certify the number of hours of disabled veteran leave used at the former agency or employing office. The gaining Senate employing office must offset the number of hours of disabled veteran leave to be credited to the Senate employee by the number of such hours used by the Senate employee at the former agency or employing office, while making no offset under paragraph (d) of this section. If the Senate employee had a different type of work schedule at the former agency or employing office, the hours used at the former agency or employing office must be converted before applying the offset, consistent with §1305(c).

§1306 Requesting and using disabled veteran leave.

(a) A Senate employee may use disabled veteran leave only for the medical treatment of a qualifying service-connected disability. The medical treatment may include a period of rest, but only if such period of rest is specifically ordered by the health care provider as part of a prescribed course of treatment for the qualifying service-connected disability.

(b)(1) A Senate employee must submit a request—written, oral, or electronic, as required by the Senate employing office—to use disabled veteran leave. The request must include a personal self-certification by the Senate employee that the requested leave will be (or was) used for purposes of being furnished medical treatment for a qualifying service-connected disability. The request must also include the specific days and hours

of absence required for the treatment. The request must be submitted within such time limits as the Senate employing office may require.

(2) A Senate employee must submit the request for approval to use disabled veteran leave in advance of the need for leave unless the need for leave is critical and not foreseeable—e.g., due to a medical emergency or the unexpected availability of an appointment for surgery or other critical treatment. The Senate employee must provide notice within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the circumstances involved. If the Senate employing office determines that the need for leave is critical and not foreseeable and that the Senate employee is unable to provide advance notice of the need for leave, the leave may not be delayed or denied.

(c)(1) When a Senate employee did not provide the Senate employing office with certification of a qualifying service-connected disability before having a period of absence for treatment of such disability, the Senate employee is entitled to substitute approved disabled veteran leave retroactively for such period of absence (excluding periods of suspension, but including leave at Senate minimum pay, sick leave, annual leave, compensatory time off, or other paid time off) in the 12-month eligibility period. Such retroactive substitution cancels the use of the original leave or paid time off and requires appropriate adjustments. In the case of retroactive substitution for a period when a Senate employee used advanced annual leave or advanced sick leave, the adjustment is a liquidation of the leave indebtedness covered by the substitution.

(2) A Senate employing office may require a Senate employee to submit the medical certification described in §1307(a) before approving such retroactive substitution.

§1307 Medical certification.

(a) In addition to the Senate employee's self-certification required under §1306(b)(1), a Senate employing office may additionally require that the use of disabled veteran leave be supported by a signed written medical certification issued by a health care provider.

(b) When a Senate employing office requires a signed written medical certification by a health care provider, the Senate employing office may specify that the certification include—

(1) A statement by the health care provider that the medical treatment is for one or more service-connected disabilities of the Senate employee that resulted in 30 percent or more disability rating;

(2) The date or dates of treatment or, if the treatment extends over several days, the beginning and ending dates of the treatment;

(3) If the leave was not requested in advance, a statement that the treatment required was of an urgent nature or there were other circumstances that made advanced scheduling not possible; and

(4) Any additional information that is essential to verify the Senate employee's eligibility.

(c)(1) A Senate employee must provide any required written medical certification no later than 15 calendar days after the date the Senate employing office requests such medical certification, except as otherwise allowed under paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(2) If the Senate employing office determines it is not practicable under the particular circumstances for the Senate employee to provide the requested medical certification within 15 calendar days after the date requested by the Senate employing office despite the Senate employee's diligent, good faith efforts, the Senate employee must provide the medical certification within a reasonable period of time under the circumstances involved, but in no case later than 60 calendar days after the date the Sen-

ate employing office requests such documentation.

(3) A Senate employee who does not provide the required evidence or medical certification within the specified time period is not entitled to use disabled veteran leave, and the Senate employing office may, as appropriate and consistent with applicable laws and regulations, elect to either—

(i) Charge the absence against available forms of paid time off, such as sick leave or annual leave, or reduce the Senate employee's salary to an amount not less than the Senate minimum annual rate of pay for the period of absence; or

(ii) Allow the Senate employee to request that the absence be charged against the Senate employee's sick leave, annual leave, or other available forms of paid time off.

§1308 Disabled veteran leave forfeiture, transfer, reinstatement.

(a) Disabled veteran leave not used during the 12-month eligibility period may not be carried over to subsequent years and must be forfeited.

(b) If a change in the Senate employee's disability rating during the 12-month eligibility period causes the Senate employee to no longer have a qualifying service-connected disability (as described in §1304(d)), any unused disabled veteran leave to the Senate employee's credit as of the effective date of the rating change must be forfeited.

(c) When a Senate employee with a positive disabled veteran leave balance transfers from the payroll of one Senate employing office to the payroll of another Senate employing office during the 12-month eligibility period, the Senate employing office from which the Senate employee departs must certify the number of unused disabled veteran leave hours available for credit by the gaining Senate employing office. The losing Senate employing office must also certify the expiration date of the Senate employee's 12-month eligibility period to the gaining Senate employing office. Any unused disabled veteran leave will be forfeited at the end of that eligibility period. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "transfers" shall have such meaning as is ascribed to it by the Secretary of the Senate.

(d)(1) A Senate employee with a balance of unused disabled veteran leave who ceases employment with a Senate employing office during the employee's 12-month eligibility period, and later recommences employment covered by 5 U.S.C. §6329 with a Senate employing office within that same eligibility period, is entitled to a recredit of the unused balance.

(2) When a Senate employee has a break in employment as described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, the losing Senate employing office must certify the number of unused disabled veteran leave hours available for recredit by the gaining Senate employing office. The losing Senate employing office must also certify the expiration date of the employee's 12-month eligibility period. Any unused disabled veteran leave must be forfeited at the end of that eligibility period.

(3) In the absence of the certification described in paragraph (d)(2) of this section, the recredit of disabled veteran leave may also be supported by written documentation available to the gaining Senate employing office in its official personnel records concerning the employee, copies of contemporaneous earnings and leave statement(s) provided by the Senate employee, or copies of other contemporaneous written documentation acceptable to the gaining Senate employing office.

(e) A Senate employee may not receive a lump-sum payment for any unused disabled veteran leave under any circumstance.

**BUDGET ENFORCEMENT LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020**

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, 115th Congress, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates and levels in the budget resolution for legislation related to the extension of certain healthcare policies. This adjustment authority, which was updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, is contingent on the legislation not increasing the deficit over either the period of fiscal years 2020–2024 or the period of fiscal years 2020–2029.

I find that H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, meets the conditions of deficit neutrality found in section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71. This determination has been made by looking at the deficit effects of the revenue and direct spending provisions of both Division A and Division B of H.R. 4378. Accordingly, I am revising the allocations

to the Committee on Finance and the budgetary aggregates to account for the direct spending and revenue effects of the bill. Further, I am temporarily adjusting the Senate’s PAYGO scorecard to reflect the \$667 million deficit increase in Fiscal Year 2020 and deficit decreases of \$477 million and \$1 million over the 5- and 10-year periods, respectively. In recognition of the instruction to exclude the budgetary effects of division B from the PAYGO scorecard in title VII, the table accompanying this statement reflects only the prorated revenue effects of division A, which are not covered by the exception and whose adjustments will remain for PAYGO scorecard purposes.

Section 124 of division A provides for additional budgetary resources for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative and designates those resources as being for overseas contingency operations/global war on terrorism, OCO, pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. This designation makes this spending qualify for a discretionary cap adjustment under current statute. This provision has no effect on budget authority but

would increase outlays by \$128 million in Fiscal Year 2020. Therefore, I am revising the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations and further modifying the spending aggregate for Fiscal Year 2020 to accommodate these outlays.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

**BUDGET AGGREGATES—BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS**

(Pursuant to Sections 311 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

	\$ in millions	2020
Current Aggregates:		
Spending:		
Budget Authority .....		3,703,553
Outlays .....		3,680,696
Adjustments*:		
Spending:		
Budget Authority .....		693
Outlays .....		795
Revised Aggregates:		
Spending:		
Budget Authority .....		3,704,246
Outlays .....		3,681,491

**BUDGET AGGREGATE—REVENUES**

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

	\$ in millions	2020	2020–2024	2020–2029
Current Aggregates:				
Revenue .....		2,740,538	15,073,859	34,847,317
Adjustments:				
Revenue .....		*	*	*
Revised Aggregates:				
Revenue .....		2,740,538	15,073,859	34,847,317

\* Denotes budgetary effects between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.

**REVISION TO ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

(Pursuant to Section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

	\$ in millions	2020	2020–2024	2020–2029
Current Allocation:				
Budget Authority .....		2,624,780	15,076,375	35,392,167
Outlays .....		2,607,237	15,014,396	35,317,440
Adjustments:				
Budget Authority .....		693	–477	–1
Outlays .....		667	–477	–1
Revised Allocation:				
Budget Authority .....		2,625,473	15,075,898	35,392,166
Outlays .....		2,607,904	15,013,919	35,317,439

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE**

(Pursuant to Section 4106 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

	\$ in millions	Balances
Starting Balance:		
Fiscal Year 2019 .....		0
Fiscal Year 2020 .....		0
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 .....		0
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 .....		0
Adjustments:		
Fiscal Year 2019 .....		0
Fiscal Year 2020 .....		*
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 .....		*
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 .....		*
Revised Balance:		
Fiscal Year 2019 .....		0
Fiscal Year 2020 .....		*
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 .....		*
Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 .....		*

\* Denotes budgetary effects between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.

Memorandum: For consideration of H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, in the Senate, the Chairman’s reserve fund adjustment covers the total deficit effects stemming from direct spending outlays and revenue changes in both Division A and Division B. This table reflects the final PAYGO recording of deficit effects from the measure consistent with exclusions in Title VII of Division B.

**REVISION TO SPENDING ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020**

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

	\$ in millions	2020
Current Allocation:		
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority .....		666,500
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority .....		621,508
General Purpose Outlays .....		1,364,251

REVISION TO SPENDING ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

\$ in millions

2020

Memorandum: Detail of Adjustments Made Above						
	Regular	OCO	Program Integrity	Disaster Relief	Emergency	Total
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
General Purpose Outlays .....	0	128	0	0	0	128
<b>Revised Allocation:</b>						
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority .....						666,500
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority .....						621,508
General Purpose Outlays .....						1,364,379

REMEMBERING MARY GAUTREAUX

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart today that I honor the incredible life of Mary Gautreaux, an Oregonian who never stopped fighting to make our State and our world a better place for all. Throughout her decades-long career working with my colleague Senator WYDEN as a fellow, a field representative, and as deputy State director, she was deeply committed to not only preserving Oregon's natural treasures but making sure Oregonians in every corner of our State had the opportunity to experience them.

Her love for helping others was only paralleled by her passion for Oregon's incredible public lands, which was a cornerstone of her life even long before she joined Senator WYDEN's team. Previously, she fought wildfires and maintained our forests—strenuous, courageous work that is critical to keeping our communities safe. When she transitioned to Senator WYDEN's office, her hard work continued and culminated in countless accomplishments that will shape the lives of Oregonians for generations to come.

On behalf of all Oregonians, I thank her for her generous spirit and her unwavering dedication to serving the people of Oregon. Her contributions will be felt for generations to come, and she will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS GASPAR

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I wish to bid a fond farewell and recognize the excellent service of my longtime foreign affairs and defense policy adviser, Christopher Gaspar.

Over the past 6 years, Chris has brought expertise, insight, and sage advice across a wide range of defense policy, defense appropriations, and foreign affairs matters that have benefited me directly and, through his service, the Nation.

I have valued Chris's counsel on contentious issues to include Iran's nuclear program and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to address it; the Israel-Palestinian conflict; U.S.-China relations; human rights issues in Saudi Arabia, Burma, and Tibet; national security space launch; deteriorating conditions in Central American

countries; oversight of the U.S. nuclear arsenal; and U.S. counterterrorism efforts across the globe.

The people of California largely don't know his name, but have benefited from his dedicated work on numerous National Defense Authorization Acts and Defense Appropriations Acts. He has helped enact numerous provisions into law for the betterment of the State, including securing seven C-130 tankers for California to fight wildfires, making California's the largest wildfire aerial fleet in the country. He has worked with our counties and cities to allow underutilized National Guard facilities to be used to combat California's homelessness crisis. This year, he led a comprehensive effort to investigate and draft reforms to address shameful, substandard contract military housing to meet the needs of our servicemembers and their families a provision that I hope will soon be enacted in this year's defense bill.

Chris has been by my side for numerous sensitive meetings with foreign leaders, ambassadors, military commanders, corporate chiefs, and local officials, and he has always exhibited a level of professionalism, dedication, and empathy that I deeply admire and appreciate.

He has also helped California constituents facing issues abroad, served as a valued mentor to junior staff, dedicated himself to liaison relationships with the House of Representatives on coffee meetings, proven himself to be an integral member of my appropriations team, and was always ready with a quip—sometimes humorous—to help lighten the mood.

Chris is moving on to the private sector—hopefully temporarily—and will spend some much deserved down-time with his new wife. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors, and my staff and I will deeply miss him.

Thank you

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG BECKER

• Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Craig Becker, who, after 42 years in the health care system, including 26 years leading the Tennessee Hospital Association, is retiring this month. Considering how the

health care system has changed in those four decades, I can imagine Craig has many stories he could tell of what can happen when people seek to help others as our healthcare professionals do.

For those of us from Tennessee, we know Craig is an advocate for hospitals, providing an articulate explanation on issues ranging from Medicare hospital wage disparities to leveling the playing field for Tennessee on Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payment issues, to seeking solutions for rural communities in maintaining a medical presence.

Craig's dedication has never been about just his job or solely about his service to those working in health care. Several years ago, when was asked in an interview, "what has been your worst decision," he answered, "dropping out of the Boy Scouts before obtaining his Eagle rank." Craig has more than made up for that—for 25 years, he has served as the Assistant Scout Master of Troup 1 in Brentwood Tennessee. Craig has spent dozens of weekends through those two and a half decades hiking and camping with the Boy Scouts of central Tennessee including camping in both Tennessee State and our nation's National Parks. He has participated in jamborees as far away as the World Jamboree in Chile several years ago. Among his many awards, he is a 'Life Scout' which is a badge given for those who can help point Scouts the right way in life "as truly as does a compass in the field."

I was a Boy Scout, and know the lessons one can learn about the great American outdoors, serving your community, and lifelong friendships. It makes sense to me that someone so involved in scouting, has dedicated his professional life to improving Tennessee and our nation's healthcare system.

While Craig may be retiring from his day job with THA, we are thankful he plans to continue to serve the Boy Scouts and his community.

I congratulate Craig on a lifetime of service, and wish all the best in retirement to him, his wife Angie—a retired nurse practitioner—and their two sons.●

TRIBUTE TO "MISS ROXIE" GIBSON

• Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the well-deserved retirement of Nashville, Tennessee's own Roxie Gibson.

Roxie, or, "Miss Roxie," as we all know her, dedicated her professional life to the service and support of her church, community, and the children who fill the halls each weekday at Oak Hill School in Nashville.

In a time when acts of kindness are more often than not eclipsed by the

drama and bustle of everyday life, Miss Roxie taught generations of students—and their parents and neighbors, too—to value curiosity and a loving spirit and to never take friendship for granted. Her smiling face will be missed around the halls of Oak Hill School.

She is truly irreplaceable.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in wishing Miss Roxie a happy and fulfilling retirement.●

#### REMEMBERING MILO J. SHULT

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Milo J. Shult, whose steady hand led the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture for 18 years. Milo passed away on July 19, 2019.

Dr. Milo Shult was originally from Keokuk, IA, and after graduating with his Ph.D. from Iowa State University, started his career in agriculture for the Texas A&M University System. In 1992, he became the University of Arkansas System's vice president for agriculture, a position he held for 18 years. Throughout his tenure, Milo transformed the Division of Agriculture to enhance its research and extension capabilities to become one of the finest in the Nation.

Throughout his 38-year career in public agricultural research and extension, Milo was a dedicated advocate for agriculture. He served on several local, State and national committees, including the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching, CARET; Arkansas Agriculture Board; as chairman of the board for the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics, NAREEE; and chair of the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. In 2011, Milo was inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame.

The impact of his career and leadership are once again being acknowledged as the division is commemorating Milo's years of service by renaming the Arkansas Agricultural Research & Extension Center in his honor. Starting on its 100th anniversary, "The Farm," as it is known in Fayetteville, will now be called the Milo J. Shult Agricultural Research & Extension Center.

Milo Shult left a mark on the University of Arkansas System and our State's agriculture community that no one will soon forget. I am proud that this is one more piece of Milo's legacy that will live on at the Division of Agriculture, and I hope that future leaders will follow his remarkable example.●

#### RECOGNIZING WIMMER'S DIAMONDS

● Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the legacy of Wimmer's Diamonds, which this month is celebrating a century of doing business in Fargo.

Throughout these years, this fourth-generation jewelry store has been a mainstay in downtown Fargo. It has grown along with the city, adding a second location at West Acres Mall in 1985.

The business began as the Fargo Jewelry Manufacturing Company, founded by Fred Wimmer, a Hungarian immigrant who arrived in New York City in 1907. He began working in America at Tiffany & Co. as an engraver. He moved West 3 years later, continuing his work in Minneapolis and Owatonna, Minnesota, for 6 more years before arriving in Fargo in 1919.

In the years since, the Wimmer family has designed, sold, and serviced diamonds to customers throughout the region. The responsibility for keeping the business going has been passed on from Fred to his son, Art, then to grandson Andy, and on to the current generation of owners, Brad Wimmer and his son, Aaron.

Likewise, Wimmer's Diamonds has been a destination for generations of customers, who have looked to it as a trusted partner when occasions call for a gift of diamonds and fine jewelry.

In a time when there are fewer family-owned businesses, Wimmer's has been successful by adapting to the changes of retail management and customer preferences. It has been long established as a valued member of the community, giving back over the years in every way possible.

I congratulate the entire Wimmer family for a century of business in Fargo. Wimmer's Diamonds is testament to the importance of small businesses in communities of all sizes across the Nation and the impact entrepreneurs have on our American economy.

You have enhanced the quality of life we treasure in North Dakota and have set a very high bar for being a dedicated community partner. Thank you for all you have done to enhance the happy occasions in the lives of your customers, and I hope you will remain part of our celebrations for many years to come.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE HARDIN MARCHING BAND

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing the Hardin High School Marching Band for being selected to represent Montana at the 2020 Independence Day Parade in Washington, DC.

Countless hours of practice, dedication, and hard work earned these young musicians this prestigious honor, and I am proud they are representing the Treasure State on the national stage.

While making their way to Washington, DC, these students will have the opportunity to travel on a 10-day journey across the country before reaching the Nation's Capital. They will get to experience some of America's national attractions like Mount Rushmore, Wrigley Stadium, and the

National Football Hall of Fame. The memories these young leaders will make on this trip will last them a lifetime.

It is my honor to recognize the Hardin High School Marching Band. Their talent and musical ability is a testament to the quality of the music education programs we have in Big Sky Country. I know that they will make all of Montana proud.●

#### REMEMBERING BOB ANDERSON

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today, along with Senator TINA SMITH of Minnesota, I rise to acknowledge the passing of a longtime advocate, mayor, and friend, International Falls Mayor Bob Anderson, who died unexpectedly on September 20, 2019. Described by those who knew him as the "voice and face of International Falls," Bob spent five decades in public service to the hometown and community he loved.

A lifelong resident of International Falls and graduate of Rainy River Community College, Bob spent 51 years working for the local Boise paper mill, including 25 as the public affairs manager for the Boise Cascade Corporation.

Bob was passionate about his community, and his love was reflected in his years of dedication to the airport, hospital, Highway 53 Task Force, the county, anything and everything connected to his beloved International Falls. He truly left his mark on his beloved hometown from his seats on the city council, the chamber of commerce, and as its devoted mayor—serving first from 1968 to 1986 and then elected again in 2013. And he still wasn't done; he had made clear that he was fully intending to seek another term next year.

Bob was also dedicated to improving communities across Minnesota through decades of service on numerous statewide committees and advocacy organizations, including as a president of the League of Minnesota Cities, as a member of the Minnesota Forestry Association, and as chairman of our Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.

He also chaired the International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission for over 30 years, helping to secure Federal grant money for the airport that serves as a major corridor between the "icebox of the Nation" and those who flock to the area to hunt, fish, and enjoy the beauty of northern Minnesota. Earlier this year and in large part due to Bob's efforts, the International Falls Airport opened a brand new terminal.

The airport was just one of the many legacies Bob leaves behind. In the words of Representative Rob Ecklund of International Falls, "You can't go anywhere in northern Minnesota without seeing his fingerprint on it, from airports to roads. He left a tremendous lasting imprint."

We are thankful we were able to work with Bob on so many of these projects—from economic development initiatives to youth programs—and will

always remember him as a tireless champion for small towns and the outdoors.

In his final state of the city address, delivered just weeks ago, Bob summed up progress in his community, saying "There is a lot of sunshine and a few dark clouds, but overall it's positive." We hope during this time of loss for both our State and Bob's family, his wife Carol, three children, and five grandchildren will take solace in remembering all the sunshine Bob blessed us with.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. JASPER LICALZI

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize an Idaho educator who has committed himself with distinction to mentoring some of my State's brightest students. Since 1993, Dr. Jasper LiCalzi has been a member of the College of Idaho faculty, most recently as the chair of the Department of Political Economy. There he offers courses on national government institutions, State and local politics, and public policy issues such as healthcare, the environment, and macroeconomics.

Dr. LiCalzi's research at the College of Idaho has concentrated on interest groups in Idaho and the Idaho State Legislature. He recently completed a book, "Idaho Politics and Government: Culture Clash and Conflicting Values in the Gem State". The book examines governmental and political institutions in Idaho through the prism of political culture.

Dr. LiCalzi is also the political analyst for KIVI Channel Six in Boise, ID, and is frequently featured as an expert on political economy by radio and newspapers both locally and nationally. He is also a member of the advisory board for the Idaho Center for Fiscal Policy.

As Governor and U.S. Senator, I have had the pleasure of hiring many students of Dr. LiCalzi's as staff members, from interns to the highest leadership positions. His dedication and quality of education was apparent in each and every one of them.

After a generation of educating Idaho's brightest, he has announced his much deserved retirement. Beyond the classroom, Dr. LiCalzi has set the bar for what a college mentor should be. It is not unusual to find him outside the classroom most nights advising student groups, cheering for the "Yotes" and contributing to the community of Caldwell, ID.

Finally, Mr. President, those of us in this business know you cannot do it without support and great advice, and the best advice comes from your wife. I would be remiss not to pay tribute today to Dr. LiCalzi's wife, Deborah. At every turn, she has been standing next to Dr. LiCalzi, many times cheering louder than he. Their decades of marriage and commitment to each other exceed even the high accomplishments Dr. LiCalzi has made at the College of Idaho.

The College of Idaho and the State of Idaho have been made a better place due to the career and commitment of Dr. and Mrs. LiCalzi.●

#### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION PIPES & DRUMS

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of the New Hampshire congressional delegation, Senator Maggie Hassan and Representatives Ann McLane Kuster and Chris Pappas, to salute the New Hampshire Police Association Pipes and Drums on its 25th anniversary. For a quarter century, NHPA Pipes and Drums have brought their distinct sound to memorial services and community events in the Granite State and across the country. They honor their brothers and sisters in uniform with each performance.

The beginnings of NHPA Pipes and Drums are rooted in tragedy. In October of 1994, Sergeant James Noyes of the New Hampshire State Police SWAT Team responded to a barricaded subject in Gilford, NH. Trained in hostage negotiations, he was trying to dissuade a clearly distraught man from harming himself when the man suddenly opened fire. Sergeant Noyes was struck by a bullet under his arm and succumbed to his injury, leaving behind a wife, daughter, and two sons.

At his funeral days later, his fellow troopers and law enforcement officers listened to the Boston Police Gaelic Column pay tribute to Sergeant Noyes. Their bagpipes and drums gave expression to their shared grief. A few officers quickly initiated a search for anyone interested in a New Hampshire-based police pipes and drum band. Several individuals from various departments answered the call, and they held their first practice 2 months later. After 2 years of trainings and rehearsals, the New Hampshire Police Association Pipes and Drums gave its maiden performance at the New Hampshire Police Memorial in Concord.

The band's current roster has honed a difficult craft, and their performances give special meaning to both somber police memorials as well as more cheerful community events. They are frequent marchers in Forth of July and holiday parades around the region. They are mainstays at the New Hampshire Highland Games. They bring their talents to send-offs for Honor Flights, which flies veterans to Washington, DC, at no cost to see war memorials. They have played at Fenway Park, as well as in the Nation's Capital during National Police Week, and at our annual Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, they play a crucial role in our efforts to honor officers who go above and beyond the call of duty.

On behalf of the people of New Hampshire, we ask our colleagues and all Americans to join us in congratulating NHPA Pipes and Drums on 25 years of service and wishing its pipers and drummers all the best in the coming years.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:14 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1595. An act to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2203. An act to increase transparency, accountability, and community engagement within the Department of Homeland Security, provide independent oversight of border security activities, improve training for agents and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1595. An act to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2203. An act to increase transparency, accountability, and community engagement within the Department of Homeland Security, provide independent oversight of border security activities, improve training for agents and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2593. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2020" (Rept. No. 116-122).

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

S. 2580. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-123).

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2581. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-124).

By Mrs. CAPITO, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2582. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-125).



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

S. 2583. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-126).

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

S. 2584. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-127).

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 384. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-128).

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 183. A resolution reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 236. A resolution reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms.

S. Res. 277. A resolution remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attacks.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments and with a preamble:

S. Res. 318. A resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1590. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1678. A bill to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 1838. A bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 2297. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2372. A bill to enhance global engagement to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.

#### 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 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2550. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 2551. A bill to establish the Tariff Rebate Program to disburse revenues from tariffs back to the American people; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2552. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2553. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strike the provision of the American Opportunity Tax Credit that denies the credit to students with felony drug convictions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2554. A bill to require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct research on mass violence; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2555. A bill to designate the New River Gorge National River in the State of West Virginia as the "New River Gorge National Park and Preserve", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. KING):

S. 2556. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

S. 2557. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the financial aid process for students, to provide continued support for minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 2558. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain grants to assist nursing homes for veterans located on tribal lands; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 2559. A bill to establish certain requirements for institutions that participate in the Federal Direct loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2560. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2561. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2562. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit the importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2563. A bill to improve laws relating to money laundering, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2564. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to benefits for survivors of deceased graduates of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2565. A bill to establish a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2566. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2567. A bill to provide rental assistance to low-income tenants of certain multifamily rural housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2568. A bill to reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2569. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a pilot program instituting a clinical observation program for pre-med students preparing to attend medical school; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 2570. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond in recognition of his service to the United States as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2571. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a business credit

for gain from the sale of real property for use as a manufactured home community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 2572. A bill to limit the collection of annual premiums under the FHA program for mortgage insurance for single family housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2573. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the knowing possession of a pill press mold with intent to manufacture in violation of such Act a counterfeit substance in schedule I or II in a capsule, tablet, and other form intended for distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARDNER:

S. 2574. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 2575. A bill to prohibit recipients of disaster recovery relief assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development from penalizing applicants that declined assistance from the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2576. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish a discretionary spending limit for infrastructure spending; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2577. A bill to require data brokers to establish procedures to ensure the accuracy of collected personal information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2578. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2579. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2580. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, 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 Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S. 2581. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 2582. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 2583. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 2584. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, 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 Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 2585. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act and Public Health Service Act to improve the reporting of abortion data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mr. JONES):

S. 2586. A bill to improve maternal health care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2587. A bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2588. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and update the credit for nonbusiness energy property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2589. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the limitation on downward attribution of stock ownership in applying the constructive ownership rules to controlled foreign corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 2590. A bill to protect the dignity of fetal remains, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2591. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2592. A bill to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 2593. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; read the first time.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2594. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify certain requirements with respect to service and retirement for the purposes of veterans' preference for Federal hiring; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KAINE):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 343. A resolution congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 344. A resolution expressing support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 345. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month to raise awareness about, and enhance the state of, cybersecurity in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 346. A resolution designating October 8, 2019, as "National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL,



Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 347. A resolution designating October 2, 2019, as “Energy Efficiency Day” in celebration of the economic and environmental benefits that have been driven by private sector innovation and Federal energy efficiency policies; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 348. A resolution proclaiming the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “National Clean Energy Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 349. A resolution supporting the designation of September 20, 2019, as “National Concussion Awareness Day”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 350. A resolution designating September 2019 as “National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month”; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 351. A resolution designating the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as “National Community Policing Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 352. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. Res. 353. A resolution recognizing September 24, 2019, as “National Voter Registration Day”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Res. 354. A resolution designating September 2019 as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month”; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 355. A resolution designating the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 356. A resolution designating September 4, 2019, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day”, and raising awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 357. A resolution celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. Con. Res. 26. A concurrent resolution calling for an end to the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill 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.

S. 149

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 149, a bill to establish a Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Council.

S. 363

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 363, a bill to establish an Inter-country Adoption Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve home health payment reforms under the Medicare program.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for a new rule regarding the application of the Act to marihuana, and for other purposes.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 655, a bill to impose additional restrictions on tobacco flavors for use in e-cigarettes.

S. 743

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from

South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) 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. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 800, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 877

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

At the request of Mr. CARPER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

S. 978

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the work opportunity credit.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) 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. 1067

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1067, a bill to provide for research to better understand the causes and consequences of sexual harassment affecting individuals in the scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematics workforce and to examine policies to reduce the prevalence and negative impact of such harassment, and for other purposes.

S. 1465

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1465, a bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to allow the Secretary of Health and Human

Services to award competitive grants to enhance collaboration between State child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to decriminalize marijuana, and for other purposes.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1590, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1678

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1678, a bill to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 1820

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1820, a bill to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform antidoping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority.

S. 1840

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to establish certain requirements for the small refineries exemption of the renewable fuels provisions under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance to eligible entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans at risk of suicide and veteran families through the award of grants to such entities, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for summer food service program delivery.

S. 2042

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were

added as cosponsors of S. 2042, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

S. 2062

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2062, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for the 2026 World Cup unless the United States Soccer Federation provides equitable pay to the members of the United States Women's National Team and the United States Men's National Team.

S. 2107

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 2107, a bill to increase the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists and support staff in the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 2137

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2137, a bill to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

S. 2227

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2227, a bill to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2238

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2254

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2254, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish a Pension Rehabilitation Administra-

tion within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multiemployer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2330

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2330, a bill to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 2353

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2353, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter dollars in commemoration of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2434

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 2477

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2477, a bill to establish a National Commission on Fibrotic Diseases.

S. 2478

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2478, a bill to designate the Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide temporary protected status under such section to eligible nationals of the Bahamas.

S. 2479

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2479, a bill to provide clarification regarding the common or

usual name for bison and compliance with section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2480

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2480, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to reauthorize the payment in lieu of taxes program through fiscal year 2029.

S. 2519

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 2548

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2548, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 2549

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2549, a bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in the loan programs of the Small Business Administration.

S.J. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 16, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President of the United States.

S. RES. 98

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Senators of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, supra.

S. RES. 341

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 341, a resolution designating September 2019 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month".

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2566. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. 2566

*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 "Prohibiting Punishment of Acquitted Conduct Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. ACQUITTED CONDUCT AT SENTENCING.

(a) USE OF INFORMATION FOR SENTENCING.—(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting " , except that a court of the United States shall not consider, except for purposes of mitigating a sentence, acquitted conduct under this section" before the period at the end.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply only to a judgment entered on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3673 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "As" and inserting the following:

"(a) As"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) As used in this chapter, the term 'acquitted conduct' means—

"(1) an act—

"(A) for which a person was criminally charged and adjudicated not guilty after trial in a Federal, State, or Tribal court; or

"(B) in the case of a juvenile, that was charged and for which the juvenile was found not responsible after a juvenile adjudication hearing; or

"(2) any act underlying a criminal charge or juvenile information dismissed—

"(A) in a Federal court upon a motion for acquittal under rule 29 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure; or

"(B) in a State or Tribal court upon a motion for acquittal or an analogous motion under the applicable State or Tribal rule of criminal procedure.".

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2579. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and

development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM BOOSTER ACT OF 2019

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, studies show that women and underrepresented minorities face substantial barriers to completing educational opportunities and pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Congress and the Federal government should be doing more to help women and underrepresented minorities succeed in these areas, which will strengthen our economy and communities in the long-term.

For these reasons, I come to the floor today to reintroduce the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019 and the Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act of 2019, two important bills that would help to broaden participation in STEM and strengthen our nation's STEM pipeline for women and minorities.

Recent trends indicate that we are not keeping pace with training the scientists and engineers we will need for the 21st century careers of the future. Unfortunately, women and minorities too often "leak" out of the STEM pipeline before completing degrees in these critical fields. In order for the United States to remain competitive in our increasingly global economy, we need to make sure opportunities are available for everyone because only when everyone succeeds can we all succeed.

As members of Congress, we have a responsibility to ensure that our country remains competitive and provides opportunities for all Americans. We have an important role to play in breaking down barriers for women and minorities in STEM and must work to ensure that Federal government agencies, Federal laboratories, institutions of higher education, State and local governments, industry, and nonprofit stakeholders are working collaboratively to support these efforts.

The STEM Opportunities Act represents a comprehensive approach to improving the severe shortage and lack of diversity in our Nation's STEM pipeline by addressing factors that limit the progression of women and minorities in research environments and implementing research-based practices to improve the recruitment and retention of faculty and students. Specifically, the bill would provide for guidance, data collection, and grants for women and minorities in STEM at institutions of higher education and at federal science agencies to improve access and reduce cultural and institutional barriers that limit diversity in STEM research and careers.

The Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act represents a more targeted approach to strengthening the STEM pipeline, by providing for training, outreach, mentoring, and other resources

for women and minorities in STEM. Specifically, the bill would require the National Science Foundation to award competitive grants to promote activities such as online workshops, mentoring programs, internship opportunities, outreach efforts, and other designed to increase recruitment and retention of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM. It is through these purposeful efforts that we, as a nation, can foster a stronger, more expansive, and diverse STEM workforce that will help us remain a competitive force around the world.

As we work to build and maintain our STEM workforce, it is important for us to promote opportunities for women and minorities that encourage participation so that we engage our entire talent pool and ensure that our nation's future economic and national security are secure.

We have made important strides to provide opportunities for women and minorities in our country, but more work remains and we should continue our efforts by considering and passing these bills. I thank my colleagues for joining me in reintroducing the bills, and encourage others to join us as we work to strengthen the STEM pipeline for everyone in the United States.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KAINE):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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. J. RES. 56

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability" (84 Fed. Reg. 49788 (September 23, 2019)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.*

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 343—CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLES OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VELVET REVOLUTION, THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, AND THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 343

Whereas, on January 8, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson, in the "Fourteen Points" address to a joint session of Congress, called for the free "autonomous development" of the peoples of Austria-Hungary;

Whereas the Fourteen Points address became the basis for the founding of an independent Czech-Slovak nation-state;

Whereas, on September 3, 1918, the United States recognized the Czecho-Slovak National Council in Paris as a de facto government at war with the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires;

Whereas, on October 14, 1918, the Czecho-Slovak National Council formed a provisional government, which declared independence from Austria-Hungary on October 18, 1918;

Whereas the peoples of the present day Czech Republic and the peoples of the present day Slovak Republic proclaimed independence on October 28, 1918, and October 30, 1918, respectively, forming the common state of the Republic of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on November 12, 1918, the United States and Czechoslovakia established formal diplomatic relations;

Whereas the United States never recognized—

(1) the annexation of the Czech Sudetenland by Nazi Germany in October 1938;

(2) the subsequent establishment of a German protectorate over Bohemia and Moravia; or

(3) the creation of the German puppet Slovak State in March 1939;

Whereas the Slovak and Czech resistance movements against the Nazi occupation, with the support of the Czechoslovak government-in-exile, launched the Slovak National Uprising in August 1944 and the Prague uprising in May 1945, accelerating the collapse of the Third Reich and demonstrating the courage, patriotism, and freedom-loving spirit of the Czech and Slovak peoples;

Whereas, in February 1948, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia seized power from the democratically elected government of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on August 20, 1968, 20 Soviet and Warsaw Pact military divisions invaded Czechoslovakia in order to crush the "Prague Spring", a period of greater political and economic liberty that followed the appointment of Alexander Dubcek as First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party;

Whereas, in the nonviolent Velvet Revolution of November 1989, the peoples of Czechoslovakia overthrew 40 years of totalitarian communist rule;

Whereas, after the Velvet Revolution, the peoples of Czechoslovakia established vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political systems based on freedom of speech, a free press, free and fair elections, the rule of law, and individual rights, values embodied by Vaclav Havel, the first president of Czechoslovakia after the fall of communism in that country;

Whereas, on January 1, 1993, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic were formally created as independent nation-states after a peaceful dissolution of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on March 12, 1999, and March 29, 2004, respectively, and have made significant contributions to the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization around the world; and

Whereas the peoples of the United States, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic have forged a special relationship based on mutual respect, close cooperation, and the shared values of democracy, the rule of law, economic liberty, and individual rights and responsibility: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) commends the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic for their considerable achievements in building free, democratic, and prosperous societies over the past 30 years since the fall of communist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia;

(2) congratulates the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on—

(A) the 26th anniversary of the formation of each country; and

(B) the 101st anniversary of the independence of Czechoslovakia;

(3) expresses profound gratitude for the sacrifices made by the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic in support of the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Afghanistan and elsewhere;

(4) reaffirms the strong historical and cultural ties that bind the people of the Czech Republic, the people of the Slovak Republic, and the people of the United States together; and

(5) expresses the continued commitment of the United States to a free, peaceful, and prosperous Europe.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 344—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A CREDIBLE, INCLUSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN AFGHANISTAN ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 344

Whereas Afghanistan will hold a presidential election on September 28, 2019, in which the citizens of Afghanistan will have an opportunity to participate;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Population Fund, 63.7 percent of the people of Afghanistan are under 25 years of age, reflecting the need for a fully functioning and transparent government to administer and provide services to the youth of Afghanistan, who are facing significant challenges related to health, education, and employment;

Whereas, in the last parliamentary election in 2018, more than 3,000,000 people in Afghanistan exercised the democratic right to

choose the individuals who would represent the people of Afghanistan in parliament;

Whereas Afghanistan has made significant progress on human rights, including the rights of women and minorities, which are enshrined in the constitution of Afghanistan and further protected by the participation of the people of Afghanistan in democratic elections;

Whereas free and fair elections are a fundamental part of a strong democracy and allow the citizens of a country to exercise full civil, political, and human rights;

Whereas a credible electoral process is necessary for citizens of a country to trust in the democratic institutions and political leaders of that country;

Whereas elections should serve as peaceful processes through which the will of the voters is expressed and political power is transferred or reaffirmed;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan will go to the polls to exercise their democratic right to vote amid heightened threats and attacks by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban has targeted campaign rallies, candidates, and election events, resulting in 48 deaths on September 17, 2019, alone;

Whereas, since 2001, the United States has invested significantly in efforts to bring security and stability to the region, accounting for more than \$800,000,000,000 in efforts that include—

(1) helping to rebuild Afghanistan, including efforts to rebuild and reform the institutions of Afghanistan; and

(2) helping to defend the rights of the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States have been deployed to Afghanistan, of which—

(1) more than 20,500 have been wounded; and

(2) more than 2,400 have died while serving;

Whereas the international community has also made critical investments in democratic processes and institutions in Afghanistan;

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as “NATO”) invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty for the first time in history in the wake of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas, since the date on which NATO invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty, the longest and most challenging mission of NATO has been in commanding the International Security Assistance Force mandated by the United Nations—

(1) beginning in August 2003 and ending in December 2014; and

(2) which, at its largest, comprised more than 130,000 troops from 50 NATO allies and partner countries;

Whereas, in January 2015, NATO launched the Resolute Support Mission, which comprises approximately 17,000 troops from 39 NATO allies and partner countries as of September 2019;

Whereas the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces will have responsibility for providing security for the presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

Whereas, despite threats from the Taliban, people across Afghanistan are risking their lives to support, administer, and secure democratic election operations, including—

(1) 13,000 women and men who are serving as independent election observers;

(2) 50,000 citizens of Afghanistan who have signed up to be poll watchers from the political parties; and

(3) more than 200 members of the independent media who have been accredited to cover and report on the campaigns and election processes; and

Whereas a democratically elected and legitimate government that reflects the will of the people of Afghanistan is in the security interests of Afghanistan and the allies of Afghanistan, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

(2) commends the people of Afghanistan for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections;

(3) condemns all threats against the administration of free and fair democratic elections, including all acts of terrorism designed to depress turnout and intimidate voters; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Government to peace and stability in furtherance of a democratic Afghanistan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 345—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT, AND ENHANCE THE STATE OF, CYBERSECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 345

Whereas internet-based devices are present in every aspect of life for many people in the United States, with constant connection providing opportunities for innovation and modernization;

Whereas a connected society is subject to cybersecurity threats that can compromise even the most personal and sensitive information;

Whereas malware is any malicious software that can be used to compromise the integrity of an electronic device, including the various types of software that give cybercriminals unique methods to monitor and control online activity or steal personal information or other sensitive data, such as—

- (1) adware;
- (2) botnets;
- (3) ransomware;
- (4) rootkits;
- (5) spyware;
- (6) Trojans;
- (7) viruses; and
- (8) worms;

Whereas an insider threat occurs when a current or former employee, contractor, or business partner who has or previously had authorized access to the network, system, or data of an organization intentionally misuses that access in a manner that constitutes a cybercrime;

Whereas 28 percent of electronic crime events are known to be caused by insider threats;

Whereas public Wi-Fi hotspots can be convenient, but are not always secure, and may expose anyone connected to the network to a malicious cyberattack;

Whereas there are more than 10,000,000 attempted cyberattacks reported to the Pentagon each day;

Whereas everyone can take simple steps to minimize the chance of a cybercrime, including—

- (1) setting strong passwords;
- (2) installing updates;
- (3) understanding privacy settings; and
- (4) thinking critically and carefully about online offers;

Whereas National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort between government and industry—

(1) to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity;

(2) to provide education to public and private sector partners through events and initiatives;

(3) to ensure that public and private sector partners, and all people of the United States, have the tools and resources needed to be safer and more secure online; and

(4) to increase the resilience of the United States in the event of a cyber incident;

Whereas, in 2019, National Cybersecurity Awareness Month will emphasize personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and in the workplace, focusing on key areas such as—

- (1) citizen privacy;
- (2) consumer devices; and
- (3) e-commerce security;

Whereas the theme of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019 is “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”;

Whereas there are approximately 310,000 unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that there will be 1,800,000 unfilled cybersecurity positions globally by 2022; and

Whereas the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security works with public sector, private sector, and government partners—

- (1) to share information;
- (2) to build greater trust; and
- (3) to lead the national effort to protect and enhance the resilience of the physical and cyber infrastructure of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month;

(2) commits to continuing to work with Federal agencies, businesses, educational institutions, and other organizations to enhance the state of cybersecurity in the United States; and

(3) recognizes October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019, with the theme “Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.”, as an opportunity—

(A) to provide education to the people of the United States about cybersecurity; and

(B) to help all people of the United States be safer, more secure, and more aware while online and using connected devices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 346—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2019, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 346

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide business and energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can completely replicate the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are being deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year; and

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates October 8, 2019, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 347—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2, 2019, AS “ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY” IN CELEBRATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY PRIVATE SECTOR INNOVATION AND FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 347

Whereas October has been designated as “National Energy Awareness Month”;

Whereas improvements in energy efficiency technologies and practices, along

with policies of the United States enacted since the 1970s, have resulted in energy savings of more than 60,000,000,000,000 British thermal units and energy cost avoidance of more than \$800,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas energy efficiency has enjoyed bipartisan support in Congress and in administrations of both parties for more than 40 years;

Whereas bipartisan legislation enacted since the 1970s to advance Federal energy efficiency policies includes—

(1) the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.);

(2) the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-12; 101 Stat. 103);

(3) the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13201 et seq.);

(4) the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801 et seq.);

(5) the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17001 et seq.); and

(6) the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-11; 129 Stat. 182);

Whereas energy efficiency has long been supported by a diverse coalition of businesses (including manufacturers, utilities, energy service companies, and technology firms), public-interest organizations, environmental and conservation groups, and State and local governments;

Whereas, since 1980, the United States has more than doubled its energy productivity, realizing twice the economic output per unit of energy consumed;

Whereas about 2,325,000 individuals in the United States are currently employed across the energy efficiency sector, as the United States has doubled its energy productivity and business and industry have become more innovative and competitive in global markets;

Whereas the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy is the principal Federal agency responsible for renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency efforts;

Whereas cutting energy waste saves the consumers of the United States billions of dollars on utility bills annually; and

Whereas energy efficiency policies, financing innovations, and public-private partnerships have contributed to a reduction in energy intensity in Federal facilities by nearly 50 percent since the mid-1970s, which results in direct savings to United States taxpayers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2, 2019, as “Energy Efficiency Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe Energy Efficiency Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 348—PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, AS “NATIONAL CLEAN ENERGY WEEK”**

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 348

Whereas, across the United States, clean and readily abundant forms of energy are powering more homes and businesses than ever before;

Whereas clean energy generation is readily available from zero- and low-emissions sources;

Whereas the clean energy sector is a growing part of the economy and has been a key driver of economic growth in the United States in recent years;

Whereas technological innovation can further reduce costs and increase deployment of clean energy sources;

Whereas the “2019 U.S. Energy and Employment Report” found that—

(1) energy and energy efficiency sectors employ approximately 6,700,000 people; and

(2) the number of jobs in those sectors grew by more than 2 percent from 2017 to 2018;

Whereas the scaling of clean energy is essential to reducing harmful pollution;

Whereas clean energy jobs are inherently local, contribute to the growth of local economies, and cannot be outsourced due to the on-site nature of construction, installation, and maintenance; and

Whereas innovative clean energy solutions and clean energy jobs are part of the energy future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) proclaims the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as “National Clean Energy Week”;;

(2) encourages individuals and organizations across the United States to support commonsense solutions that address the economic, environmental, and energy needs of the United States in the 21st century;

(3) encourages the Federal Government, States, municipalities, and individuals to invest in clean, low-emitting energy technologies; and

(4) recognizes the role of entrepreneurs and small businesses in ensuring the energy leadership of the United States in the global marketplace and supporting low-cost, clean, and reliable energy in the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 349—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2019, AS “NATIONAL CONCUSSION AWARENESS DAY”**

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 349

Whereas mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern for children, teens, and adults;

Whereas, according to information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) there are as many as 1,600,000 to 3,800,000 sports-related concussions annually;

(2) as many as 5,300,000 individuals live with a disability because of a traumatic brain injury (TBI);

(3) from 2001 to 2012, the rate of emergency department visits for sports- and recreation-related injuries involving a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury, alone or in combination with other injuries, more than doubled among children 19 years of age or younger, and, in 2012, an estimated 329,290 children were treated in the United States for sports- and recreation-related injuries that included a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury; and

(4) current data sources may only capture 1 out of every 9 concussions across the United States;

Whereas the seriousness of concussions should not be minimized in athletics, and return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols can help ensure recovery;



Whereas concussions can affect physical, mental, and social health, and a greater awareness and understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions is critical to improved outcomes; and

Whereas the Senate can raise awareness about concussions among the medical community and the public: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 20, 2019, as “National Concussion Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern;

(3) commends the organizations and individuals that raise awareness about mild traumatic brain injury;

(4) encourages Federal, State, and local policymakers to work together—

(A) to raise awareness about the effects of concussions; and

(B) to improve the understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions; and

(5) encourages further research and prevention efforts to ensure that fewer individuals experience the most adverse effects of mild traumatic brain injury.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 350—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”**

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 350

Whereas each year more than 15,000 children under the age of 19 in the United States, and more than 300,000 children globally, are diagnosed with cancer;

Whereas every year more than 1,700 children under the age of 19 in the United States lose their lives to cancer;

Whereas childhood cancer is the leading cause of death from disease and the second overall leading cause of death for children in the United States;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for children with cancer has increased from 58 percent in the mid-1970s to 84 percent in 2019, representing significant improvement from previous decades; and

Whereas cancer occurs regularly and randomly and spares no racial or ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019, as “National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) requests that the Federal Government, States, localities, and nonprofit organizations observe the month with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing public knowledge of the risks of cancer; and

(3) recognizes the human toll of cancer and pledges to make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 351—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29 THROUGH OCTOBER 5, 2019, AS “NATIONAL COMMUNITY POLICING WEEK”**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 351

Whereas police officers are indispensable members of the community who put their lives on the line to protect others;

Whereas promoting strong relationships founded in trust and mutual respect between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve helps ensure the safe and effective execution of the law;

Whereas law enforcement officers and communities that work together to address public safety concerns can create lasting solutions to difficult challenges;

Whereas a long-term commitment to community policing is necessary to eliminate the underlying causes of crime;

Whereas the advancement of community policing should be supported to ensure that State and local law enforcement agencies have necessary resources; and

Whereas community policing has been recognized as an important tool for improving the relationship between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as “National Community Policing Week”;

(2) supports community policing and encourages the people of the United States, law enforcement agencies, and elected officials to identify ways in which communities can improve public safety, strengthen relationships, and build trust.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 352—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 352

Whereas, from September 15, 2019, through October 15, 2019, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates the Hispanic population living in the 50 States at more than 59,000,000 people, plus an additional 3,300,000 living in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, making Hispanic Americans 18 percent of the total population of the United States and the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the United States;

Whereas, in 2017, there were close to 1,000,000 or more Latino residents in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and in each of the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington;

Whereas, between July 1, 2008, and July 1, 2018, Latinos grew the population of the United States by approximately 1,200,000 individuals, accounting for more than ½ of the total population growth during that period;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is projected to grow to 107,000,000 people by 2065, at which point the Latino population will comprise more than 24 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is currently the third largest population of Latinos worldwide, exceeding the size of the population in every Latin American and Caribbean country except Mexico and Brazil;

Whereas, in 2018, there were more than 18,701,184 Latino children under 18 years of age in the United States, which represents approximately ⅓ of the total Latino population in the United States;

Whereas, from 1996 to 2016, the number of Hispanic students enrolled in schools, colleges, and universities in the United States doubled from 8,800,000 to 17,900,000, and Hispanics now make up 22.7 percent of all people enrolled in school in the United States;

Whereas more than 1 in 4 public school students in the United States are Latino, and the share of Latino students is expected to rise to nearly 30 percent by 2027;

Whereas 19 percent of all college students are Latino, making Latinos the second largest racial or ethnic minority group enrolled in higher education in the United States, including 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas a record 12,700,000 Latinos voted in the 2016 Presidential election, representing a record 9.2 percent of the electorate in the United States;

Whereas the number of eligible Latino voters is expected to rise to 40,000,000 by 2030, accounting for 40 percent of the growth in the eligible electorate in the United States by 2032;

Whereas each year approximately 800,000 Latino citizens reach 18 years of age and become eligible to vote, a number that could grow to 1,000,000 per year, potentially adding 18,000,000 new Latino voters by 2032;

Whereas, in 2018, the annual purchasing power of Hispanic Americans was an estimated \$1,700,000,000, which is an amount greater than the economy of all except 17 countries in the world;

Whereas there are more than 4,370,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and contributing more than \$1,700,000,000 in revenue to the economy of the United States;

Whereas Hispanic-owned businesses represent the fastest growing segment of small businesses in the United States, with Latino-owned businesses growing at more than 15 times the national rate;

Whereas, as of August 2018, more than 28,000,000 Latino workers represented 17 percent of the total civilian labor force of the United States, and, as a result of Latinos experiencing the fastest population growth of all race and ethnicity groups in the United States, the rate of Latino participation in the labor force is expected to grow to 20 percent by 2024, accounting for ⅓ of the total labor force;

Whereas, with 66.1 percent of Latinos participating in the labor force, Latinos have the highest rate of participation in the labor force of any racial or ethnic group, resulting in an expansion of the Latino labor force at a rate that is 3 times as fast as the rest of the population;

Whereas, as of 2017, there were approximately 326,800 Latino elementary and middle

school teachers, 77,033 Latino chief executives of businesses, 54,576 Latino lawyers, 73,372 Latino physicians and surgeons, and 15,895 Latino psychologists, who contribute to the United States through their professions;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have fought bravely in every war in the history of the United States;

Whereas, as of 2019, there are more than 200,000 Hispanic members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty and approximately 1,200,000 Hispanic veterans of the Armed Forces, including 136,000 Latinas;

Whereas, as of 2018, more than 399,000 Hispanics have served in post-September 11, 2001, overseas contingency operations, and Hispanics represent 12.1 percent of the total number of veterans who have served in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan since September 11, 2001;

Whereas, as of August 2019, at least 688 fatalities in Iraq and Afghanistan were members of the Armed Forces who were Hispanic;

Whereas an estimated 200,000 Hispanics were mobilized for World War I, and approximately 500,000 Hispanics served in World War II;

Whereas more than 80,000 Hispanics served in the Vietnam war, representing 5.5 percent of individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States in the conflict, even though Hispanics comprised only 4.5 percent of the population of the United States during the Vietnam war;

Whereas approximately 148,000 Hispanic soldiers served in the Korean war, including the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, known as the “Borinqueneers”, the only active duty, segregated Latino military unit in the history of the United States;

Whereas 60 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of the Government of the United States, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court of the United States, 4 seats in the Senate, and 36 seats in the House of Representatives; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2019, through October 15, 2019;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritages of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that celebrate the contributions of Latinos to the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 353—RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 24, 2019, AS “NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY”**

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO)

submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 353

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes September 24, 2019, as “National Voter Registration Day”; and

(2) encourages each voting-eligible citizen of the United States—

(A) to register to vote;

(B) to verify with the appropriate State or local election official that the name, address, and other personal information on record is current; and

(C) to go to the polls on election day and vote if the voting-eligible citizen would like to do so.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 354—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH”**

Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 354

Whereas saccular, fusiform, and dissecting aneurysms are bulging, weakened areas in the wall of an artery in the brain;

Whereas an estimated 1 out of every 50 individuals in the United States has a brain aneurysm;

Whereas brain aneurysms are most likely to occur in individuals between the ages of 35 and 60;

Whereas there are typically no warning signs before the occurrence of a brain aneurysm;

Whereas brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in women than in men by a 3 to 2 ratio;

Whereas young and middle-aged African Americans have a higher risk of brain aneurysm rupture compared to young and middle-aged Caucasians in the United States;

Whereas the combined lost wages of survivors of a brain aneurysm rupture and their caretakers for 1 year is an estimated \$149,936,118;

Whereas various risk factors can contribute to the formation of a brain aneurysm, including smoking, hypertension, and a family history of brain aneurysms;

Whereas an unruptured brain aneurysm can lead to double vision, vision loss, loss of sensation, weakness, loss of balance, incoordination, and speech problems;

Whereas a brain aneurysm is often discovered when it ruptures and causes a subarachnoid hemorrhage;

Whereas a subarachnoid hemorrhage can lead to brain damage, hydrocephalus, stroke, and death;

Whereas, each year, more than 30,000 individuals in the United States suffer from ruptured brain aneurysms, approximately 50 percent of whom die as a result;

Whereas, annually, between 3,000 and 4,500 individuals in the United States with ruptured brain aneurysms die before reaching the hospital;

Whereas a number of advancements have been made in recent years regarding the detection of brain aneurysms, including the computerized tomography scan, the magnetic resonance imaging test, and the cerebral arteriogram;

Whereas early detection of brain aneurysms can save lives;

Whereas, as of 2019, various research studies are being conducted in the United States in order to better understand, prevent, and treat brain aneurysms;

Whereas the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, a nonprofit organization, remains a globally

recognized leader for brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy, and research funding; and

Whereas the month of September is an appropriate month to designate as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month”; and

(2) continues to support research to prevent, detect, and treat brain aneurysms.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 355—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH 28, 2019, AS “NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK”**

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 355

Whereas the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development reports that approximately 36,000,000 adults in the United States lack the basic literacy and numeracy necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the economy and position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of the parents of a child and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in the education of a child is a key predictor of the success of a child, and the level of parental involvement in the education of a child increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in the education of their children and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and the success of children in the classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges faced by the people of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English-language skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers the lives of the older people and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills, and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure that each individual in the United States has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist individuals in need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls on public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 356—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 4, 2019, AS “NATIONAL POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS DAY”, AND RAISING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE**

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 356

Whereas designating September 4, 2019, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day” will raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease, one of the most prevalent genetic kidney disorders, which affects approximately 500,000 people in the United States;

Whereas National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day will help to foster an understanding of the impact polycystic kidney disease has on individuals and their families;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease is a progressive, genetic disorder of the kidneys that causes damage to the kidneys and the cardiovascular, endocrine, hepatic, and gastrointestinal organ systems;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease affects the health and finances of people of all ages, and equally affects people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and sexes;

Whereas, of the people diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease, approximately 10 percent have no family history of the disease, with the disease developing as a spontaneous mutation;

Whereas there are very few treatments and no cure for polycystic kidney disease, which is one of the 4 leading causes of kidney failure in the United States;

Whereas 50 percent of individuals with polycystic kidney disease experience kidney failure at an average age of 57;

Whereas friends, loved ones, spouses, and caregivers of individuals with polycystic kid-

ney disease can assist with the challenges created by polycystic kidney disease, including by helping such individuals maintain a healthy lifestyle and make regular visits to their health care providers;

Whereas the severity of the symptoms of polycystic kidney disease and limited public awareness of the disease may cause individuals to forego regular visits to their physicians or avoid following the health recommendations of their doctors, which experts suggest could help prevent further complications should kidney failure occur;

Whereas people who have chronic, life-threatening diseases like polycystic kidney disease may experience depression;

Whereas the PKD Foundation and its more than 50 volunteer chapters around the United States are dedicated to—

(1) conducting research to find treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease;

(2) fostering public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) educating individuals and their families about the disease to improve their treatment and care; and

(4) providing support, including by sponsoring the annual “Walk for PKD” to raise funds for polycystic kidney disease research, education, advocacy, and awareness; and

Whereas the PKD Foundation is partnering on September 4, 2019, with sister organizations in Canada, Australia, and other countries to increase international awareness of polycystic kidney disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 4, 2019, as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to find a cure for polycystic kidney disease; and

(4) encourages all people in the United States and interested groups to support National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day through appropriate ceremonies and activities to promote public awareness of polycystic kidney disease and to foster an understanding of the impact of the disease on individuals and their families.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 357—CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAHATMA GANDHI**

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 357

Whereas Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, in the modern-day state of Gujarat, India, and October 2, 2019, represents the 150th anniversary of his birth;

Whereas, following his admission as a lawyer to the bar in England, Mohandas Gandhi moved to South Africa, where he experienced state-sanctioned racial discrimination firsthand;

Whereas that experience motivated Mohandas Gandhi to develop and teach the concept of “satyagraha,” meaning “truth-force,” which involves using methods of non-violent dissent such as civil disobedience in the face of injustice;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi would spend nearly 20 years in South Africa using the

principles of satyagraha to speak out and organize against the injustices of racial segregation;

Whereas, in 1919, several years after his return to India, Mohandas Gandhi called for a campaign of satyagraha in response to British authorities issuing the Rowlatt Acts;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi began a decades-long movement of nonviolent dissent to gain self-rule for India, including campaigns to boycott British goods and develop the economic independence of India;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi persisted in his advocacy for self-rule for India despite multiple arrests;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi advocated for the rights of the lowest classes in India, whom he renamed the “Harijans,” or “children of God,” and thereby spurred reforms that improved the legal status of those individuals;

Whereas the vision of Mohandas Gandhi for India was of a secular and pluralistic home for people of different religions and backgrounds;

Whereas the followers of Mohandas Gandhi named him “Mahatma,” meaning “great soul” in Sanskrit;

Whereas the nonviolent dissent movement started by Mahatma Gandhi resulted in India gaining its independence from the British Empire;

Whereas the principles of satyagraha inspired civil rights leaders and movements around the world, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the United States;

Whereas Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said that the philosophy of nonviolent dissent of Mahatma Gandhi is “the only morally and practically sound method open to oppressed people in their struggle for freedom”;

Whereas the teachings and work of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., continue to inspire countless people worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi;

(2) honors the accomplishments of Mahatma Gandhi and the impact of his philosophy of satyagraha, including its influence on civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and on the civil rights movement in the United States;

(3) recognizes that the principles of non-violent dissent in the face of injustice remain relevant and necessary today; and

(4) continues to champion the principles of peaceful protest and nonviolent dissent advanced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 26—CALLING FOR AN END TO THE CONSUMPTION AND TRADE OF DOG AND CAT MEAT**

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 26

Whereas a bipartisan domestic prohibition on the consumption or trade of dog and cat meat was included in section 12515 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2160), which was signed into law by the President on December 20, 2018;

Whereas the consumption of dog meat has occurred throughout the world, primarily in Asia;

Whereas established markets for dog meat still exist as of September 2019;

Whereas Humane Society International, Animals Asia Foundation, and others estimate that 30,000,000 dogs and 10,000,000 cats

die annually worldwide as a result of the dog and cat meat trade;

Whereas, due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels produce tender meat and increase supposed health benefits, dogs killed for their meat may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering through hanging and bludgeoning;

Whereas there have been reports that dogs and cats farmed for their meat experience abuse, poor living conditions, and cruel slaughtering techniques;

Whereas, during transport to slaughterhouses, many dogs and cats die or suffer illness or injury as a result of being crammed into small cages on the back of vehicles for days or weeks without food or water;

Whereas the extreme suffering of dogs and cats at slaughterhouses and on transportation trucks would breach anti-cruelty laws in the United States, such as—

(1) the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.); and

(2) Public Law 85-765 (commonly known as the “Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958”) (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.);

Whereas many government officials, civil society advocates, and activists are working to end the trade of dog and cat meat on anti-cruelty and public health grounds, and the governments of Singapore, Taiwan, and Hong Kong have passed laws banning the slaughter of dogs for meat consumption;

Whereas the World Health Organization has linked the dog meat industry to outbreaks of trichinellosis, cholera, and rabies among humans;

Whereas the people involved in the dog meat industry are at an increased health risk for zoonotic diseases, such as rabies, which can transfer from dogs to humans through infectious material such as saliva;

Whereas the spread of disease in the dog meat industry may be exacerbated by the unsanitary conditions of slaughter and the sale of dog meat at open-air markets and restaurants; and

Whereas the World Health Organization and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control have acknowledged the link between the spread of rabies and the dog meat trade, which involves the movement of large numbers of dogs of unknown disease status across vast distances: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) calls for an end to the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat on anti-cruelty and public health grounds;

(2) urges all nations with a dog or cat meat trade to adopt and enforce laws banning the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat; and

(3) affirms the commitment of the United States to advancing the causes of animal protection and animal welfare domestically and around the world.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 943. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 944. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 943. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ PROHIBITION ON EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES PROVIDING FINANCING FOR STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES.

Section 2(b) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(14) PROHIBITION ON FINANCING FOR STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES.—The Bank may not guarantee, insure, or extend (or participate in the extension of) credit in connection with the export of any good or service to an entity owned or controlled by the government of a foreign country.”.

SA 944. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Building Blocks of STEM Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Science Foundation is a large investor in STEM education and plays a key role in setting research and policy agendas.

(2) While studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on, the majority of current research focuses on increasing STEM opportunities for middle school-aged children and older.

(3) Women remain widely underrepresented in the STEM workforce, and this disparity extends down through all levels of education.

#### SEC. 3. SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY STEM EDUCATION RESEARCH.

In awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK-12 program, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider the age distribution of a STEM education research and development project to improve the focus of research and development on elementary and prekindergarten education.

#### SEC. 4. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN STEM EDUCATION.

Section 305(d) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s-5(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) RESEARCH.—As a component of improving participation of women in STEM fields, research funded by a grant under this subsection may include research on—

“(A) the role of teacher training and professional development, including effective incentive structures to encourage teachers to participate in such training and professional development, in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

“(B) the role of teachers in shaping perceptions of STEM in female students in prekindergarten through elementary school and discouraging such students from participating in STEM activities;

“(C) the role of other facets of the learning environment on the willingness of female

students in prekindergarten through elementary school to participate in STEM activities, including learning materials and textbooks, seating arrangements, use of media and technology, classroom culture, and composition of students during group work;

“(D) the role of parents and other caregivers in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

“(E) the types of STEM activities that encourage greater participation by female students in prekindergarten through elementary school;

“(F) the role of mentorship and best practices in finding and utilizing mentors; and

“(G) the role of informal and after-school STEM learning opportunities on the perception of and participation in STEM activities of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school.”.

#### SEC. 5. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.

Section 310(b) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s-7(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) USES OF FUNDS.—The tools and models described in paragraph (2)(C) may include—

“(A) offering training and professional development programs, including summer or academic year institutes or workshops, designed to strengthen the capabilities of prekindergarten and elementary school teachers and to familiarize such teachers with the role of bias against female students in the classroom;

“(B) offering innovative pre-service and in-service programs that instruct teachers on female-inclusive practices for teaching computing concepts;

“(C) developing distance learning programs for teachers or students, including developing curricular materials, play-based computing activities, and other resources for the in-service professional development of teachers that are made available to teachers through the Internet;

“(D) developing or adapting prekindergarten and elementary school computer science curricular materials that incorporate contemporary research on the science of learning, particularly with respect to female inclusion;

“(E) developing and offering female-inclusive computer science enrichment programs for students, including after-school and summer programs;

“(F) providing mentors for female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to support such students in participating in computer science activities;

“(G) engaging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school, and their guardians (if such communication takes place on school premises during otherwise-scheduled conferences or formal conversations between teachers and guardians) about—

“(i) the difficulties faced by female students with regard to maintaining an interest in participating in computer science activities; and

“(ii) the potential positive career benefits of engaging in such activities;

“(H) acquainting female students in prekindergarten through elementary school with careers in computer science and encouraging such students to consider careers in the computer science field; and

“(I) developing tools to evaluate activities conducted under this subsection, including reports for evaluating the effectiveness of activities under this section.”.

## DISCHARGE PETITION—S.J. RES. 53

[September 26, 2019]

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 53, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Repeal of the Clean Power Plan; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Electric Utility Generating Units; Revisions to Emission Guidelines Implementing Regulations,” and further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Calendar of Business under General Orders.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Cardin, Maggie Hassan, Martin Heinrich, Brian Schatz, Mark R. Warner, Christopher Coons, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert Menendez, Mazie Hirono, Angus King, Jr., Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Dianne Feinstein, Sherrod Brown, Amy Klobuchar, Chris Van Hollen, Patty Murray, Ron Wyden, Edward Markey, Tammy Baldwin, Tammy Duckworth, Jacky Rosen, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard J. Durbin, Debbie Stabenow, Tom Udall, Charles Schumer, Tina Smith, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal.

## 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 10:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 11 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

## RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Senate passed S.J. Res. 54, as follows:

## S.J. RES. 54

Whereas Congress has the sole power to declare war under article I, section 8, clause 11 of the United States Constitution;

Whereas Congress has not declared war with respect to, or provided a specific statutory authorization for, the conflict between military forces led by Saudi Arabia, including forces from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Senegal, and Sudan (the Saudi-led coalition), against the Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah, in the Republic of Yemen;

Whereas, since March 2015, members of the United States Armed Forces have been introduced into hostilities between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis, including providing to the Saudi-led coalition aerial targeting assistance, intelligence sharing, and mid-flight aerial refueling;

Whereas the United States has established a Joint Combined Planning Cell with Saudi Arabia, in which members of the United States Armed Forces assist in aerial targeting and help to coordinate military and intelligence activities;

Whereas, in December 2017, Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis stated, “We have gone in to be very—to be helpful where we can in identifying how you do target analysis and how you make certain you hit the right thing.”;

Whereas the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis constitutes, within the meaning of section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1543(a)), either hostilities or a situation where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances into which United States Armed Forces have been introduced;

Whereas section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)) states that “at any time that United States Armed Forces are engaged in hostilities outside the territory of the United States, its possessions and territories without a declaration of war or specific statutory authorization, such forces shall be removed by the President if the Congress so directs”;

Whereas section 8(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(c)) defines the introduction of United States Armed Forces to include “the assignment of members of such armed forces to command, coordinate, participate in the movement of, or accompany the regular or irregular military forces of any foreign country or government when such military forces are engaged, or there exists an imminent threat that such forces will become engaged, in hostilities,” and activities that the United States is conducting in support of the Saudi-led coalition, including aerial refueling and targeting assistance, fall within this definition;

Whereas section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or bill to require the removal of United States Armed Forces engaged in hostilities without a declaration of war or specific statutory authorization shall be considered in accordance with the expedited procedures of section 601(b) of the International Security and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-329; 90 Stat. 765); and

Whereas no specific statutory authorization for the use of United States Armed Forces with respect to the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis in Yemen has been enacted, and no provision of law explicitly authorizes the provision of targeting assistance or of midair refueling services to warplanes of Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates that are engaged in such conflict: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM HOSTILITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN THAT HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS.

Pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a) and in accordance with the provisions of section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-329; 90 Stat. 765), Congress hereby directs the President to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in or affecting the Republic of Yemen, except United States Armed Forces engaged in operations directed at al Qaeda or associated forces, by not later than the date that is 30 days after the date of the adoption of this joint resolution (unless the President requests and Congress authorizes a later date), and unless and until a declaration of war or specific authorization for such use of United States Armed Forces has been enacted. For purposes of this resolution, in this section, the term “hostilities” includes in-flight refueling of non-United States aircraft conducting missions as part of the ongoing civil war in Yemen.

## SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING CONTINUED MILITARY OPERATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ISRAEL.

Nothing in this joint resolution shall be construed to influence or disrupt any military operations and cooperation with Israel.

## SEC. 3. REPORT ON RISKS POSED BY CEASING SAUDI ARABIA SUPPORT OPERATIONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit to Congress a report assessing the risks posed to United States citizens and the civilian population of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the risk of regional humanitarian crises if the United States were to cease support operations with respect to the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis in Yemen.

## SEC. 4. REPORT ON INCREASED RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS TO UNITED STATES FORCES ABROAD, ALLIES, AND THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES IF SAUDI ARABIA CEASES YEMEN-RELATED INTELLIGENCE SHARING WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit to Congress a report assessing the increased risk of terrorist attacks on United States Armed Forces abroad, allies, and to the continental United States if the Government of Saudi Arabia were to cease Yemen-related intelligence sharing with the United States.

## DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS NATIONAL DEMOCRACY MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 252 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 252) designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 252) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 19, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 346, S. Res. 347, S. Res. 348, and S. Res. 349.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, were printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 350, S. Res. 351, S. Res. 352, S. Res. 353, S. Res. 354, and S. Res. 355.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles, where applicable, be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 350, S. Res. 351, S. Res. 352) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolution (S. Res. 353) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolutions (S. Res. 354 and S. Res. 355) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

#### BUILDING BLOCKS OF STEM ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 180, S. 737.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 737) to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the Rosen-  
Capito substitute be agreed to, and the bill, as amended, be read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 944) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Building Blocks of STEM Act".

##### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Science Foundation is a large investor in STEM education and plays a key role in setting research and policy agendas.

(2) While studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on, the majority of current research focuses on increasing STEM opportunities for middle school-aged children and older.

(3) Women remain widely underrepresented in the STEM workforce, and this disparity extends down through all levels of education.

##### SEC. 3. SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY STEM EDUCATION RESEARCH.

In awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK-12 program, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider the age distribution of a STEM education research and development project to improve the focus of research and development on elementary and prekindergarten education.

##### SEC. 4. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.

Section 305(d) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s-5(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) RESEARCH.—As a component of improving participation of women in STEM fields, research funded by a grant under this subsection may include research on—

"(A) the role of teacher training and professional development, including effective incentive structures to encourage teachers to participate in such training and professional development, in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

"(B) the role of teachers in shaping perceptions of STEM in female students in pre-

kindergarten through elementary school and discouraging such students from participating in STEM activities;

"(C) the role of other facets of the learning environment on the willingness of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to participate in STEM activities, including learning materials and textbooks, seating arrangements, use of media and technology, classroom culture, and composition of students during group work;

"(D) the role of parents and other caregivers in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

"(E) the types of STEM activities that encourage greater participation by female students in prekindergarten through elementary school;

"(F) the role of mentorship and best practices in finding and utilizing mentors; and

"(G) the role of informal and after-school STEM learning opportunities on the perception of and participation in STEM activities of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school."

##### SEC. 5. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.

Section 310(b) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s-7(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) USES OF FUNDS.—The tools and models described in paragraph (2)(C) may include—

"(A) offering training and professional development programs, including summer or academic year institutes or workshops, designed to strengthen the capabilities of prekindergarten and elementary school teachers and to familiarize such teachers with the role of bias against female students in the classroom;

"(B) offering innovative pre-service and in-service programs that instruct teachers on female-inclusive practices for teaching computing concepts;

"(C) developing distance learning programs for teachers or students, including developing curricular materials, play-based computing activities, and other resources for the in-service professional development of teachers that are made available to teachers through the Internet;

"(D) developing or adapting prekindergarten and elementary school computer science curricular materials that incorporate contemporary research on the science of learning, particularly with respect to female inclusion;

"(E) developing and offering female-inclusive computer science enrichment programs for students, including after-school and summer programs;

"(F) providing mentors for female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to support such students in participating in computer science activities;

"(G) engaging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school, and their guardians (if such communication takes place on school premises during otherwise-scheduled conferences or formal conversations between teachers and guardians) about—

"(i) the difficulties faced by female students with regard to maintaining an interest in participating in computer science activities; and

"(ii) the potential positive career benefits of engaging in such activities;

"(H) acquainting female students in prekindergarten through elementary school with careers in computer science and encouraging such students to consider careers in the computer science field; and



“(I) developing tools to evaluate activities conducted under this subsection, including reports for evaluating the effectiveness of activities under this section.”.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 737), as amended, was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2593

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2593) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. McCONNELL. I now ask for its second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its next reading on the second legislative day.

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on September 26 and 27.

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

#### APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, THROUGH TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the

Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, September 27, at 11:40 a.m.; Tuesday, October 1, at 12 noon; Friday, October 4, at 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 8, at 12 noon; and Friday, October 11, at 2:15 p.m.

I further ask unanimous consent that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, October 11, it next convene at 3 p.m., Tuesday, October 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Barrett nomination; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 15.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11:40 A.M. TOMORROW

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 4:49 p.m., adjourned until Friday, September 27, 2019, at 11:40 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 26, 2019:

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LANA J. MARKS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 154 AND 601:

##### To be general

GEN. JOHN E. HYTEN

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RYAN MCCARTHY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.

##### IN THE ARMY

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

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DOUGLAS A. SIMS II

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

##### To be brigadier general

COL. CURTIS A. BUZZARD

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 9435:

##### To be brigadier general

COL. LINELL A. LETENDRE

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT 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 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JAMES H. DICKINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. RICKY L. WADDELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT 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 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JASON T. EVANS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE SURGEON GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY, AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 7036:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. RAYMOND S. DINGLE

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. DARYL L. CAUDLE

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. GLEN D. VANHERCK

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ARTHUR J. LOGAN

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. ANTHONY J. COTTON

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. COLIN J. KILRAIN

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY D. HAUGH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL A. MINIHAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. SCOTT A. KINDSVATER

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

VICE ADM. DAVID M. KRIETE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

VICE ADM. STUART B. MUNSCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN LESLIE CARWILE, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA.

ERIN ELIZABETH MCKEE, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS AND AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU.

ANTHONY F. GODFREY, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA.

HERRO MUSTAFA, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

W. STEPHEN MULDRON, 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.

FERNANDO L. G. SABLAN, OF GUAM, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF GUAM AND CONCURRENTLY UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EUGENE SCALIA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION

ADAM SETH BOEHLER, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER J. WOOD, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTIAN S. FORRER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SHEVA T. NICKRAVESH AND ENDING WITH ANGELA M. THORNTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL W. LUOMA, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID P. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN L. WOLTHUIZEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTIAN R. ACEVEDO AND ENDING WITH ZACHARY T. WEST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NEILS J. ABDERHALDEN AND ENDING WITH BRAD D. ZWAVA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL AARON BURNAT AND ENDING WITH DYLAN B. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER M. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH MATHEW ZULAU, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF AARON J. BEEBE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CRAIG M. NORDGREN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF RICHARD A. PALMER, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LISA M. ANGOTTI AND ENDING WITH DUNCAN K. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND AP-

PEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF RONDRE F. BALUYOT, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF PETER J. AHN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ANTHONY S. GAMBOA, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY C. BIVINS II AND ENDING WITH STACEY J. WADSLY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ANDREW KIM, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CATHERINE A. LANE, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF GABRIEL A. MIRITELLO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF NATHAN B. GADBERRY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SEAN C. HEDGERKEN AND ENDING WITH CLINT E. TRACY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSE ABREU AND ENDING WITH D006471, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD R. ABELEIS AND ENDING WITH G010532, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT A. AMERENA AND ENDING WITH D014896, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CAMIE R. LEVIN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STEVE A. ALBRITTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GARY M. CLARK AND ENDING WITH STEPHANIE E. STEWART, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER D. BARRETT, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RALPHINE R. WALTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MATTHEW R. CAMPBELL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN C. ROSS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT T. BUCKLEY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAMIEN MCGUIGAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KATHLEEN M. ADAMSON AND ENDING WITH JULIAN L. PADGETT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERAJ V. TENNEKOO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF HEUNG R. NOH, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CESAR C. CORREARIVERA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GEORGE J. SMOLINSKI III, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. MCNAUGHT, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENNETH T. BALLIE AND ENDING WITH KENNETH J. WEISHAAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DEXTER D. WILLIAMS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BENJAMIN AHN AND ENDING WITH VIVIAN K. YANQUOIWEST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SPENCER W. ROBINSON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT B. LACKEY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KRISTA M. KLEIN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DENIS J. MCDONNELL AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY C. NICHOLS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHOWDRY M. BAKHIR AND ENDING WITH RICHARD M. SLUSHER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH APOLLA A. BENITO AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL E. TERRY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS W. BINGAMON AND ENDING WITH TRAVIS J. WEISZHAAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TONYA L. EHLERT AND ENDING WITH ARVE A. WIKSTROM, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN S. HATLER AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM B. WALKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT G. BONIFACIO AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL T. SIMPSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BARBARA S. ANTUS AND ENDING WITH JEAN V. MOVINGCOLLINS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOYCE C. ANACKER AND ENDING WITH BYRON J. THOMPSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRUCE J. BRITSON AND ENDING WITH THOMAS W. HRABAL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JASON A. FOREMAN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ALEXANDRA E. WEISKOPF, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRACY A. BALL AND ENDING WITH DONNA E. WARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LAUREL A. KAPPEDAL AND ENDING WITH RHONDA B. WHITE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANNA L. ALDANA AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH S. SEILER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KARL ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH CLAUDE R. WORKMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NICHOLAS D. BARRINGER AND ENDING WITH D012819, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIN E. BALL AND ENDING WITH D012821, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LOVIE L. ABRAHAM AND ENDING WITH D014502, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARLENE ARIASREYNOSO AND ENDING WITH KEVIN M. ZEEB, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRITTANY B. BEAVIS AND ENDING WITH RAYMOND K. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAYMOND J. AKERMAN, JR. AND ENDING WITH D012876, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SARAH H. AFRIECQ AND ENDING WITH D014706, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRENDA J. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH SHINGO J. YAMADA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SLAVA SHAPIRO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RACHEL M. ROMAINE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KRISTY M. CHESTER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KEVIN D. DALLING, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAY G. SULLIVAN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN S. BORAKOVE AND ENDING WITH COLBY B. WYATT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAVIER TREVINO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRENDAN B. REINA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN A. GREIF, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SLADE A. MCPHERSON, TO BE COLONEL.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JEFFERY G. PIOSZAK, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN D. BARNES AND ENDING WITH KRISTIN M. TORFORICI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF DANIEL E. CALLAWAY, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF NATHAN P. DMOCHOWSKI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

#### IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF TRACI J. MCKINNON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANTHONY M. HRUBY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF SALAHHUDIN A. ADENKHALIF, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRADLEY D. COLETTI, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY K. LYNCH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF DION M. ADAMS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER C. CADY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANDREW C. MUELLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TYRONE K. POTTER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF FRANCIS C. DAILIG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID H. CRAIG III AND ENDING WITH BYRON B. HOLLOWAY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES M. ALLEN, JR. AND ENDING WITH JONATHAN R. WHEELER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDUARDO B. AMORA AND ENDING WITH GREGORY S. WOODARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND AP-

PEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JANPAUL P. AMPOSTA AND ENDING WITH LIN L. ZHENG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ASHLEY A. ACLESE AND ENDING WITH GISSELLE I. ZELSDORF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RACHAEL E. BAKER AND ENDING WITH SARA J. WOOTEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALEXANDER ALBA AND ENDING WITH MYRA S. WEARING, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HOLLY K. AGUGAM AND ENDING WITH ALLISON D. WEINBERG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY J. ALGIERS AND ENDING WITH ANGELA ZAH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW W. CATANESE AND ENDING WITH GRANT C. GLOVER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAMON ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH SEN F. YU, WHICH NOMINATIONS

WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONATHAN T. DUENAS AND ENDING WITH JAMES H. PHAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOSHUA K. WITT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF STEPHEN A. JESSOGNE, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF VANNA J. ROCCHI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

#### FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MELISSA MCINNIS AND ENDING WITH MARIXELL GARCIA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 21, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF COURTNEY L. LACROIX.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GEORGE HABIB ABI-NADER AND ENDING WITH ALEXIS LYN ZINTAK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF CYNTHIA K. DUERR.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSICA ABENSTEIN AND ENDING WITH DAVID WALDRON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENDRA MICHELLE ARBAIZA-SUNDAL AND ENDING WITH JACQUELINE LEANN WARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.