



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

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

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

No. 166

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 21, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY GOMEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

### CONSEQUENCES OF ABANDONING OUR KURDISH ALLIES

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great sadness and profound concern over President Trump's inexcusable abandonment of our Kurdish allies in Syria who sacrificed more than 11,000 of their sons and daughters in our joint fight against ISIS.

The President's impulsive and abrupt decision not only betrays our allies, but it betrays our values. It imme-

diately compromises our national security, dramatically undermines American credibility, and will have negative strategic implications for generations to come.

It is not just me saying this. These are the words of Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL: "Withdrawing U.S. forces from Syria is a grave strategic mistake. It will leave the American people and homeland less safe, embolden our enemies, and weaken important alliances."

While we should all welcome the announced 5-day pause in the Turkish assault, we should not be celebrating. Turkey has not recognized the ceasefire but, rather, just a pause in fighting. Reports from the area indicate that Turkish-affiliated forces are still attacking, and the pause is scheduled to end tomorrow. We can likely expect the carnage to then resume with a new ferocity.

Regarding the deal with Turkey, The Wall Street Journal this morning notes: "Critics have said the agreement was a wholesale concession to Ankara, giving it control of an area in Syria it has coveted for years and freeing it from U.S. sanctions in return for pausing an offensive it had no international backing for. While President Trump hailed the pact as a diplomatic victory, U.S.-allied Kurds have likened it to a surrender on their part."

Unsurprisingly, our Kurdish allies have now aligned their forces with Assad's army. Assad has, thus, instantly made significant territorial gains in just a few days, effectively controlling lands that the U.S. and allied forces have spent years seeking to defend.

So, let's review.

In the weeks following the President's decision to walk away from our allies, Turkish forces and allied fighters, many of which are Islamic extremists, have crossed the border into Syria.

U.S. forces have abandoned forward operating bases and then sent U.S. planes to destroy those bases. But before those bases could be destroyed, celebrating Russian troops posted selfies in some of these former American strongholds.

Turkey is not just targeting Kurdish forces, they are attacking entire towns, and civilians are literally being murdered in the streets.

The expansion of control by Russian and Syrian forces is not just a win for those countries in Syria but also threatens our allies in the region—in particular, Israel.

Iran's sense of emboldenment will likely lead it to expand programs to deliver advanced weapons to Hezbollah, increasing the already significant threat to Israel—only now from Syria as well as Lebanon.

As already noted, Assad has consolidated his power over virtually all of Syria at no political or military cost.

Finally, many ISIS prisoners have escaped to join the fight, and thousands more are at risk of release, giving ISIS a greater ability to reorganize.

One more thing: Today, there are reports that President Erdogan now wants Turkey to acquire nuclear weapons. The last thing this region needs is a nuclear arms race.

Here is the bottom line. Last Thursday, the American Vice President and Secretary of State stood at a podium and announced the administration's effective capitulation and surrender. Turkey will complete its ethnic cleansing, and the U.S. will lift all sanctions.

Assad has full control in Syria, under the tutelage of his Russian and Iranian masters.

Turkey, Syria, Russia, and Iran are the winners. The Kurds are, once more, on the losing end.

The United States, under President Trump, is sadly diminished—so much so that Syrians are throwing rotten food at retreating U.S. troops.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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The administration's policies are tragic for reasons beyond the human suffering it has unleashed. They weaken our national security, undermine our fight against terrorism, and diminish American credibility.

We are so much better than this.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to speak out and condemn the actions of this administration. Congress must pass sanctions on Turkey and seek to compel Erdogan to stop Turkey's assault on the Kurds. We must compel this administration to live up to our Nation's values, to stand by our allies, and to confront our enemies.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN McARTHUR

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great constituent and also a great friend. His name is John McArthur. He passed away recently at the age of 96.

John was just 21 years old in 1944 when his father died, tragically, of a heart attack, meaning John was tasked to take over the family farming and ranching business. In fact, if the name "McArthur" sounds familiar to those of us from northern California, that is because his family founded the town of McArthur, California, where he lived much of his life.

In the years since, John has helped establish many important staples of his community, including the McArthur Volunteer Fire Department, the McArthur Firemen's Carnival, the Fall River-Big Valley Cattlemen's Association, and the Junior Livestock Sale. He and Shirley were very involved in the fair each year and the events that went on there.

John actually introduced new crops to the Fall River Valley by providing the first 10 acres for growing strawberries in McArthur. Lassen Canyon Nursery, among others, remains a thriving business operation more than 60 years later.

John and his business partners also tried their hand at planting and growing potatoes. I am a rice grower in real life, so we had a little bit of a rivalry for the starches that go on your plate and a little fun with that.

While they were successful, they ran into trouble when it actually came to harvesting the crop. Through that failed endeavor, he established that the land was right for growing potatoes and was soon able to lease it to successful potato growers for many years thereafter.

On a personal level, John and his wife, Shirley, were known for their welcoming nature. Their home was always open, hosting friends and neighbors for cocktail hours or just hanging out at the McArthur residence overlooking the valley. They have an amaz-

ing view off their back deck, looking over the valley there.

The events became so frequent that John and Shirley thought that maybe it would be better to cut down on the Old Crow a little bit and slip some iced tea in there. But John and Shirley, they are those type of people. People just wanted to be around them.

On my trips up to the McArthur area, whether it was for the fair or just passing through, I frequently liked to stop in and visit with them. John always had a smile, a laugh, a good story, and a very welcoming nature about him. It is one of the fortunate parts of being able to serve in an elected capacity these years I have at the State level and now here in the Congress.

His life spanned nearly a century. He outlived most of his childhood friends, but his personality, coupled with his generosity, kindness, and involvement in his community, ensured that he had no shortage of new friends.

During his time on this Earth, he has been a witness to a lot of change. He watched as California's population grew from 4 million to over 40 million today. He was always fighting for agriculture, adding to our water supply, and sticking up for rural values.

Ask anyone in McArthur, John was clearly a pillar of the community that bears his last name. He helped to establish it early on and continued to help grow it through the years until his last days.

As a friend, I will miss him. I know he is sorely missed up there. Blessings to Shirley and blessings to all of the McArthur family in that great community, one that I am always proud to represent and very happy when I get a chance to visit and hang out with folks.

Indeed, he is a pillar, and they don't make them like John McArthur anymore. Let's hope his legacy helps spawn new generations of people with that same attitude, that same strength, that same can-do that has made America strong, made his community strong, and made the fiber of northern California the great place it is.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

At the beginning of a new workweek, we ask Your blessing on the Members of this people's House.

May they be led by Your spirit in the discernment they undertake amid the pressures of contentious deliberations.

All through the week, may they do their best to find solutions to pressing issues facing our Nation. Please hasten the day when justice and love shall dwell in the hearts of all peoples and rule the affairs of the nations of Earth.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. COHEN 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.

#### EMOLUMENTS CLAUSE IS NOT PHONY

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today, President Trump held a press conference and referred to the Emoluments Clause in the Constitution as the "phony Emoluments Clause."

I take an oath to support the Constitution, as does he, as do all 435 of us. I am also the chairman of the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee.

I take umbrage at his remarks. The Emoluments Clause was first put in the Articles of Confederation, and before that, 100 years earlier, the Dutch put it in their documents to protect from foreign influence.

It was said at the Constitutional Convention that a violation of the Emoluments Clause could result in impeachment.

No wonder President Trump thinks it is phony.

There is nothing phony about the Emoluments Clause, the impeachment clause, Article I, Congress' powers, or separation of the three branches of government.

Madam Speaker, I respect the Constitution, and I wish the President would as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

### USMCA IS A WIN FOR ALL AMERICANS

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

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, this month marks 1 year since the Trump administration negotiated the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

USMCA is undoubtedly a win for Missourians and for all Americans. The agreement will bring 176,000 new jobs and will spur \$63 billion in new economic activity.

Benefits of USMCA will be felt across diverse industries, including many of our manufacturing industries, agriculture, and small businesses, while also supporting technology and innovation.

But month after month, this Congress has been subject to missed opportunities for our producers and consumers as we have been refused the chance to vote on the USMCA. This needs to change.

Instead of House leaders squandering precious legislative time bringing up impeachment inquiries, they should be bringing up USMCA for a vote.

Let us hope that we get this opportunity soon. That would be a positive win for all Americans.

### BRING USMCA TO A VOTE

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

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I look forward to welcoming Vice President MIKE PENCE to Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, on Wednesday.

Agriculture and manufacturing are vital to Wisconsin and our Nation. However, unfair trade practices are hindering our manufacturers' ability to create jobs.

USMCA is an important and improved trade deal between Canada, Mexico, and the United States. That is why passing USMCA is important.

USMCA helps small family farms. USMCA supports American workers. USMCA is a win for Wisconsin.

Vice President MIKE PENCE and I will be in Pleasant Prairie to push USMCA across the finish line. The Trump administration has done a great job negotiating this trade deal. It is now up to Congress to pass USMCA. Let's get this done.

Madam Speaker, bring USMCA to a vote. Wisconsin workers and farmers are depending on it.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF IAN COCHRAN

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, on October 3, Ian Alan Cochran, a talented young man from Brandon, Mississippi,

joined our Heavenly Father after a courageous fight with a rare form of brain cancer.

Ian graduated as an A student from Brandon High School in 2018, where he also excelled in extracurricular activities. He was a member of the tech club, served as president of the chess club, and was a talented soccer player.

Ian was well liked for his humor, talent, and high-spirited attitude. Everyone who knew Ian remembers his light-hearted and friendly approach to life.

As members of their Brandon Baptist Church family, my family and I joined Ian's parents, Joel and Kim; his sisters, Hope and Kayla; his grandparents; and his extended family and friends in remembering and celebrating his life and the positive mark he left on all of us who knew him.

Madam Speaker, I now ask this body to join me in a moment of silence to remember Ian Cochran and to thank our Heavenly Father for the joy of Ian's life.

### ALLOW ALL MEMBERS ACCESS TO IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the failure of House Democrats to run a fair and transparent process, ostensibly toward an impeachment.

We have yet to hold a vote on whether or not to actually open up a true impeachment inquiry. Instead, Democratic leaders have simply decided it for themselves. That goes against all precedent established in this Chamber and under the Constitution.

Last week, I attempted to attend one of their closed-door impeachment hearings, or to simply view testimony transcripts, but was promptly asked to leave.

This is exactly what a partisan, secretive, and unfair process looks like. Why would Members not have access to an unclassified hearing and not be able to view materials that should be public, as they normally would? What is there to hide?

Last week, the Republican whip, STEVE SCALISE, filed a rule change to allow all Members of Congress access to documents related to this impeachment show and the documents associated with it.

I am fully supportive of this rule change. We will vote on this measure soon, and now my colleagues from the other side of the aisle must show the American people whether or not they support giving them the transparency they deserve in this process.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro

tempore RASKIN on Friday, October 18, 2019:

S. 1196, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 21, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 21, 2019, at 10:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2258.

That the Senate passed S. 2635.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1396.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 18, 2019.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 1(k) of House Resolution 895, One Hundred Tenth Congress, and section 104(c) of House Resolution 6, One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, I transmit to you notification that the following individuals each have signed an agreement not to be a candidate for the office of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress for purposes of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 until at least 3 years after they are no longer a member of the board or staff of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

David Skaggs; Allison Hayward; Belinda Pinckney; Karan English; James Eagen; Michael Barnes; Paul Vinovich; Lynn Westmoreland; Omar Ashmawy; Jeffrey Brown; William Cable; Annie Cho; Helen Eisner; Mary Flanagan; Samuel McHale; Gabrielle Piper; Sean Quinn; Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman; Paul Solis.

Copies of the signed agreements will be retained by the Office of the Clerk as part of the records of the House.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1529

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 3 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

#### SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4406) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4406

*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 "Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019".

##### SEC. 2. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 49 as section 50; and

(2) by inserting after section 48 the following new section:

##### "SEC. 49. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

"(a) EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator shall only deliver entrepreneurial development services, entrepreneurial education, and support for the development and maintenance of the Regional Innovation Clusters Program (or similar business training services) through a program authorized under—

"(A) section 7(j), 7(m), 8(a), 8(b)(1), 21, 22, 29, or 32 of this Act; or

"(B) sections 358 or 389 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

"(2) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to services provided to assist small business concerns owned by an Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 8(a)(13)).

"(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning on the first December 1 after the date of the enactment of this section, the Administrator shall annually submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the following:

"(1) All entrepreneurial development activities undertaken during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report through a program described in subsection (a), including—

"(A) a description and operating details for each program and the activities performed under each program;

"(B) operating circulars, manuals, and standard operating procedures for each program;

"(C) a description of the process used to award grants under such programs;

"(D) a list of all recipients of awards under a program described in subsection (a), contractors, and vendors (including organization name and location) and the amount of awards provided during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report for such programs and activities performed under such programs;

"(E) the total amount of funding obligated for such programs and activities for the fiscal year preceding the date of the report; and

"(F) the names and titles of the individuals responsible for such programs.

"(2) For entrepreneurial development activities undertaken during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report through the Small Business Development Center Program (in this section referred to as the 'Program')—

"(A) the number of individuals counseled or trained through the Program;

"(B) the total number of hours of counseling and training services provided through the Program;

"(C) the demographics of participants in the Program, which shall include the gender, race, and age of each such participant;

"(D) the number of participants in the Program who are veterans;

"(E) the number of new businesses started by participants in the Program;

"(F) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs supported, created, or retained with assistance from small business development centers;

"(G) the amount of capital secured by participants in the Program, including through loans and equity investment;

"(H) the number of participants in the Program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under the loan programs of the Administration;

"(I) an estimate of gross receipts, including (to the extent practicable) a description of any change in revenue, of small business concerns assisted through the Program;

"(J) the number of referrals to other resources and programs of the Administration;

"(K) the results of satisfaction surveys of participants in the Program, including a summary of any comments received from such participants; and

"(L) any recommendations by the Administrator to improve the delivery of services by the Program."

##### SEC. 3. MARKETING OF SERVICES.

Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(o) NO PROHIBITION OF MARKETING OF SERVICES.—An applicant receiving a grant under this section may market and advertise the services of such applicant to individuals and small business concerns."

##### SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION BY THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ASSOCIATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "as provided in this section and" and inserting "as provided in this section,"; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: "; and (iv) governing data col-

lection activities related to applicants receiving grants under this section".

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(p) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—The Administrator shall annually submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on any data collection activities related to the Small Business Development Center Program."

##### (c) WORKING GROUP TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND STUDY.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall establish a group to be known as the "Data Collection Working Group" consisting of entrepreneurial development grant recipients, the associations and organizations representing such recipients, and officials from the Small Business Administration, to carry out a study to determine the best methods for conducting data collection activities and create or revise existing systems dedicated to data collection.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Data Collection Working Group shall issue a report to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate containing the findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1), including—

(A) recommendations for revising existing data collection practices for the Small Business Development Center Program; and

(B) a proposed plan for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to implement such recommendations.

##### SEC. 5. FEES FROM PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COSPONSORSHIPS.

Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) FEES FROM PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COSPONSORSHIPS.—A small business development center that participates in a private partnership or cosponsorship, in which the Administrator or designee of the Administrator also participates, may collect fees or other income related to the operation of such private partnership or cosponsorship."

##### SEC. 6. EQUITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.

Subclause (I) of section 21(a)(4)(C)(v) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)(I)) is amended to read as follows:

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available in any fiscal year to carry out this section, not more than \$600,000 may be used by the Administration to pay expenses enumerated in subparagraphs (B) through (D) of section 20(a)(1)."

##### SEC. 7. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS.

Section 21(a)(7)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "or telephone number" and inserting ", telephone number, or email address"; and

(2) by inserting ", or the nature or content of such assistance, to any State, local, or Federal agency, or to any third party" after "receiving assistance under this section".

##### SEC. 8. LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended by section 4, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking “any women’s business center operating pursuant to section 29,”;

(B) by striking “or a women’s business center operating pursuant to section 29,”; and

(C) by striking “and women’s business centers operating pursuant to section 29,”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(q) LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS.—Except for not-for-profit institutions of higher education, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may not award a grant or contract to, or enter into a cooperative agreement with, an entity under this section unless that entity—

“(1) received a grant or contract from, or entered into a cooperative agreement with, the Administrator under this section before the date of the enactment of this subsection; and

“(2) seeks to renew such a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement after such date.”.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments made by this section may not be construed as prohibiting a women’s business center (as described under section 29 of the Small Business Act) from receiving a subgrant from an entity receiving a grant under section 21 of the Small Business Act.

#### SEC. 9. MANAGEMENT OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)), as amended by section 4, is further amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “upon, with full participation of both parties,” and inserting “upon with the full participation of all parties (including the association authorized in subparagraph (A)), and carried out”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and develop” and inserting “and negotiate the development of”;

(3) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking “Whereas”;

(B) by inserting “Program” after “Center”;

(C) by striking “National” and inserting “national”;

(D) by moving such subparagraph two ems to the left.

#### SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 21(a)(4)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)) is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “subparagraph” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “subparagraph \$175,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023.”; and

(2) in clause (viii), by striking “shall reserve not less than \$1,000,000” and inserting “shall reserve not more than \$2,000,000”.

#### SEC. 11. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, as always, before we address the many benefits of the bill, I just want to thank the ranking member and his staff for all of their collaboration and hard work to bring this bipartisan package of bills to the floor. Our committee prides itself on our ability to put the noise aside and get meaningful work accomplished.

These bills are especially critical because they strengthen the entrepreneurial network of small businesses contributing to our country every day. It is once again a reminder of the importance of working across the aisle and getting things done for America’s 30 million small businesses.

H.R. 4406 bolsters the Small Business Development Center, or SBDC, Network, which is the Small Business Administration’s largest entrepreneurial resource partner.

The network delivers free face-to-face counseling and at-cost training in all aspects of business management to new and existing small firms. The services include, but are in no way limited to, assisting small businesses with developing a business plan, accessing capital, marketing, regulatory compliance, technology development, and international trade.

The benefits of the program are tangible to businessowners and the Federal taxpayer. For every Federal dollar spent on SBDCs, \$2 is returned to the U.S. Treasury, nearly \$3 to the States, and approximately \$48 in new capital is generated.

Unfortunately, over the years, Congress has asked them to take on additional responsibilities, ranging from cybersecurity to export promotion. Increasing the authorization level to \$175 million each year, just as this bill does, will allow the program to grow and reach more American entrepreneurs.

H.R. 4406 also requires regular reporting to Congress on new metrics to help us better assess the program and how improvements can be made in the future.

Starting a business is not for the faint of heart, and strengthening the network will enable SBDCs to continue providing the in-depth business training for aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GOLDEN and Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN for leading this effort to improve the program, measure its success, and increase awareness of the SBDC program and its many valuable services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bipartisan piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, before I speak on the bill, I would like to thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for working with us in such a bipartisan manner. It is surely refreshing in this age of intense partisanship to work together the way that we do, and have for many years now, to improve the programs offered by the SBA. So I want to thank the chairwoman again for her leadership on the committee.

The Small Business Development Center program, or SBDC, is the largest of the SBA’s entrepreneurial development programs, with locations in all 50 States and also in all four territories.

In fiscal year 2019, more than 250,000 clients received low-cost training, and nearly 200,000 clients received no-cost business consulting.

H.R. 4406, this bill, includes several updates based on feedback from H.R. 1702, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of last year, 2018, which passed the House in May of 2018.

Over 99 percent of all businesses in our Nation are small, and those businesses employ nearly 60 million Americans. The U.S. economy depends on the success of small businesses. Providing support to entrepreneurs and small business owners must be a priority for this Congress. SBDCs offer that support. They offer minimal or no-cost business counseling and training to would-be entrepreneurs and existing small business owners, alike.

The support offered at these centers ranges from creating the business plans to commercial promotion and branding and navigating the international trade market. The importance of the assistance offered SBDCs cannot really be overstated.

It is not just the single entrepreneur who benefits; our Nation benefits as well. For every Federal dollar appropriated in the SBDC program, \$43.50 in new capital is generated. The legislation we are considering today will only serve to increase the positive impact of SBDCs to our entrepreneurs and national economy.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) and the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) for their hard work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN), the sponsor of the bill and chair of the Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure.

Mr. GOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for yielding me the time.

Since coming to Congress 10 months ago, I have been focused on protecting

jobs in the State of Maine, and that means helping small businesses succeed.

Thousands of small businesses in my State have launched or grown with help from small business development centers, or, as you heard them referred to, SBDCs.

Just last year, SBDCs served over 1,500 small businesses in my State, helped to start 136 new businesses, and worked to protect or create more than 800 jobs. Here are just a few of the small businesses that I have heard from directly in my district about this program:

SBDCs helped The Maine Meal in Skowhegan purchase a building in order to launch their new business;

The Milk House in Monmouth received the accounting and tax advice that they needed to help grow their business from an SBDC adviser, an important farming and dairy industry right there;

SBDCs helped Lost Valley Ski Area in Auburn, just across the river from my hometown, to develop a business plan so that they could secure the financing they needed to acquire and continue the Lost Valley Ski Area, which is very important to our community, particularly during the winter months.

I have visited each of these businesses and seen their work firsthand. These are just a few of the thousands of SBDC success stories in the State of Maine.

Given that small business development centers are the largest resource partner to SBA, it is particularly important for Congress to keep the program up to date and performing at a high level for small businesses throughout the country.

In Maine, the State's lead SBDC runs 11 outreach locations in my congressional district alone, in partnership with regional economic development entities, enabling small businesses in Maine's rural communities to access valuable assistance.

While the centers have had many successes, we have also learned lessons about ways to improve the programs in the year since it was last reauthorized. That is why I am excited to lead this bill, alongside Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN, to reauthorize the program. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank her for her support of the bill. It has been a pleasure to work with her.

The Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019 will make a number of positive changes to improve oversight, better enable SBDCs to partner with other organizations, bolster the center accreditation process, and improve the voice of SBDCs in setting the program's direction.

I am particularly glad that the bill will help broaden rural small business access to this assistance by clarifying that centers are allowed to market and advertise their services. Rural access to SBA resources is key for States like

Maine and many rural communities all over the country.

Finally, the bill will reauthorize appropriations at the level of \$175 million for fiscal years 2020 through 2023, reaffirming Congress' commitment to the program.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the chairwoman and the ranking member and, in particular, their staffs for forging a bipartisan path forward on the reauthorization of this program.

I would also like to thank Vice Ranking Member RADEWAGEN for coleading this bill with me, as well as Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK for joining me as cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill to keep the SBDC program up to date for the good of America's small businesses.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. We have no further Members to speak on the bill, and I will be very brief.

The SBDC program positively affects hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs each year and offers a significant return on investment for American taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good, bipartisan bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

America's 30 million small businesses account for more than 56 million jobs and create two out of three private-sector jobs in the United States. The SBA offers a wide range of free or low-cost counseling and training services through its entrepreneurial ecosystem to help entrepreneurs launch and grow their businesses.

H.R. 4406 makes a number of improvements to the SBDC program. It will enable more collaboration between the centers and SBA, improve the ability of this committee to oversee its performance, while also clarifying other rules, such as confidentiality requirements.

Most importantly, this legislation is a much-needed reauthorization of the program for 4 years at greater authorization levels.

It is time for Congress to prove its commitment to entrepreneurs all over the country by strengthening one of the greatest resources, the SBA SBDC program. It is a commonsense move and one supported by the Association of Small Business Development Centers.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the ranking member for his support, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4406, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

## WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4405) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4405

*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 "Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019".

### SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.

Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended to read as follows:

#### "SEC. 29. WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Assistant Administrator' means the Assistant Administrator of the Office of Women's Business Ownership established under subsection (k).

"(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means—

"(A) an organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code;

"(B) a State, regional, or local economic development organization, so long as the organization certifies that grant funds received under this section will not be commingled with other funds;

"(C) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), unless such institution is currently receiving a grant under section 21;

"(D) a development, credit, or finance corporation chartered by a State, so long as the corporation certifies that grant funds received under this section will not be commingled with other funds; or

"(E) any combination of entities listed in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

"(3) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY WOMEN.—The term 'small business concern owned and controlled by women' has the meaning given under section 3(n).

"(4) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER.—The term 'women's business center' means the location at which counseling and training on the management, operations (including manufacturing, services, and retail), access to capital, international trade, Government procurement opportunities, and any other matter that is needed to start, maintain, or expand a small business concern owned and controlled by women.

"(5) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER ASSOCIATION.—The term 'Women's Business Center Association' means a membership organization formed by women's business centers to pursue matters of common concern.



“(b) AUTHORITY.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Women’s Business Center Program under which the Administrator may provide a grant to any eligible entity to operate one or more women’s business centers for the benefit of small business concerns owned and controlled by women.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The women’s business centers shall be designed to provide counseling and training that meets the needs of the small business concerns owned and controlled by women, especially socially or economically disadvantaged women, and shall provide—

“(A) financial assistance, including training and counseling in how to apply for and secure business credit and investment capital, preparing and presenting financial statements, and managing cash flow and other financial operations of a small business concern;

“(B) management assistance, including training and counseling in how to plan, organize, staff, direct, and control each major activity and function of a small business concern; and

“(C) marketing assistance, including training and counseling in identifying and segmenting domestic and international market opportunities, preparing and executing marketing plans, developing pricing strategies, locating contract opportunities, negotiating contracts, and utilizing varying public relations and advertising techniques.

“(3) TYPES OF GRANTS.—

“(A) INITIAL GRANT.—The amount of an initial grant, which shall be for a 5-year term, provided under this subsection to an eligible entity shall be not more than \$300,000 annually (as such amount is annually adjusted by the Administrator to reflect the change in inflation).

“(B) CONTINUATION GRANTS.—The Administrator may award a continuation grant, which shall be for a 5-year term, of not more than \$300,000 annually (as such amount is annually adjusted by the Administrator to reflect the change in inflation) to an eligible entity that received an initial grant under subparagraph (A). There shall be no limitation on the number of continuation grants an eligible entity may receive under this section.

“(c) APPLICATION.—

“(1) INITIAL GRANTS AND CONTINUATION GRANTS.—To receive an initial grant or continuation grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Administrator in such form, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require, including—

“(A) a certification that the eligible entity—

“(i) has designated an executive director or program manager, who may be compensated using grant funds awarded under this section or other sources, to manage the women’s business center for which a grant under subsection (b) is sought; and

“(ii) meets accounting and reporting requirements established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;

“(B) information demonstrating the experience and effectiveness of the eligible entity in—

“(i) providing counseling and training described under subsection (b)(2);

“(ii) providing training and services to a representative number of women who are socially or economically disadvantaged; and

“(iii) working with resource partners of the Administration and other entities; and

“(C) a 5-year plan that—

“(i) includes information relating to the assistance to be provided by the women’s business center in the area in which the women’s business center is located;

“(ii) describes the ability of the eligible entity to meet the needs of the market to be served by the women’s business center, including the ability to obtain the matching funds required under subsection (e); and

“(iii) describes the ability of the eligible entity to provide counseling and training described under subsection (b)(2), including to a representative number of women who are socially or economically disadvantaged.

“(2) RECORD RETENTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall maintain a copy of each application submitted under this subsection for not less than 5 years.

“(B) PAPERWORK REDUCTION.—The Administrator shall take steps to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the paperwork burden associated with carrying out subparagraph (A).

“(d) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In selecting recipients of initial grants, the Administrator shall consider—

“(A) the experience of the applicant in providing entrepreneurial training;

“(B) the amount of time needed for the applicant to commence operation of a women’s business center;

“(C) in consultation with a Women’s Business Center Association, the capacity of the applicant to meet the accreditation standards established under subsection (k)(4) in a timely manner;

“(D) the ability of the applicant to sustain operations, including the applicant’s ability to obtain sufficient non-Federal funds, for a 5-year period;

“(E) the proposed location of a women’s business center to be operated by the applicant and the location’s proximity to Veteran Business Outreach Centers and to recipients of grants under section 8(b)(1) or 21;

“(F) the population density of the area to be served by the women’s business center operated by the applicant; and

“(G) the advice and counsel of a Women’s Business Center Association to determine areas with unmet needs and the likelihood that the recipient will become accredited.

“(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—

“(A) RULEMAKING.—The Administrator shall issue regulations to specify the criteria for review and selection of applicants under this subsection.

“(B) MODIFICATIONS PROHIBITED AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT.—With respect to a public announcement of any opportunity to be awarded a grant under this section made by the Administrator pursuant to subsection (l)(1), the Administrator may not modify regulations issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) with respect to such opportunity unless required to do so by an Act of Congress or an order of a Federal court.

“(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed as prohibiting the Administrator from modifying the regulations issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) (after providing an opportunity for notice and comment) as such regulations apply to an opportunity to be awarded a grant under this section that the Administrator has not yet publicly announced pursuant to subsection (l)(1).

“(e) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (5), upon approval of an application submitted under subsection (c), the eligible entity shall agree to obtain contributions from non-Federal sources—

“(A) in the first and second year of the term of an initial grant, if applicable, 1 non-Federal dollar for each 2 Federal dollars; and

“(B) in each subsequent year of the term of an initial grant, if applicable, or for the term of a continuation grant, 1 non-Federal dollar for each Federal dollar.

“(2) FORM OF MATCHING FUNDS.—Not more than one-half of non-Federal matching funds described under paragraph (1) may be in the form of in-kind contributions that are budget line items only, including office equipment and office space.

“(3) SOLICITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an eligible entity may—

“(A) solicit cash and in-kind contributions from private individuals and entities to be used to operate a women’s business center; and

“(B) use amounts made available by the Administrator under this section for the cost of such solicitation and management of the contributions received.

“(4) DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.—The Administrator may disburse an amount not greater than 25 percent of the total amount of a grant awarded to an eligible entity before such eligible entity obtains the non-Federal matching funds described under paragraph (1).

“(5) FAILURE TO OBTAIN MATCHING FUNDS.—If an eligible entity fails to obtain the required matching funds described under paragraph (1), the eligible entity may not be eligible to receive advance disbursements pursuant to paragraph (4) during the remainder of the term, if applicable, of an initial grant awarded under this section. Before approving such eligible entity for a continuation grant under this section, the Administrator shall make a written determination, including the reasons for such determination, of whether the Administrator believes that the eligible entity will be able to obtain the requisite funding under paragraph (1) for such continuation grant.

“(6) WAIVER OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon request by an eligible entity, and in accordance with this paragraph, the Administrator may waive, in whole or in part, the requirement to obtain non-Federal matching funds for a grant awarded under this section for the eligible entity for a one-year term of the grant. The Administrator may not issue such a waiver for more than a total of 2 consecutive one-year terms.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to issue a waiver under this paragraph, the Administrator shall consider—

“(i) the economic conditions affecting the eligible entity;

“(ii) the demonstrated ability of the eligible entity to raise non-Federal funds; and

“(iii) the performance of the eligible entity under the initial grant.

“(C) LIMITATION.—The Administrator may not issue a waiver under this paragraph if the Administrator determines that granting the waiver would undermine the credibility of the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(7) EXCESS NON-FEDERAL DOLLARS.—The amount of non-Federal dollars obtained by an eligible entity that is above the amount that is required to be obtained by the eligible entity under this subsection shall not be subject to the requirements of part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, if such amount of non-Federal dollars—

“(A) is not used as matching funds for purposes of implementing the Women’s Business Center Program; and

“(B) was not obtained using funds from the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(8) CARRYOVER.—Excess non-Federal dollars described in paragraph (7) may be used to satisfy the matching funds requirement under paragraph (1) for the subsequent one-year grant term, if applicable, except that such amounts shall be subject to the requirements of part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.

“(f) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) SEPARATION OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall—

“(A) operate a women’s business center under this section separately from other projects, if any, of the eligible entity; and

“(B) separately maintain and account for any grants received under this section.

“(2) EXAMINATION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(A) REQUIRED SITE VISIT.—Before receiving an initial grant under this section, each applicant shall have a site visit by an employee of the Administration, in order to ensure that the applicant has sufficient resources to provide the services for which the grant is being provided.

“(B) ANNUAL REVIEW.—An employee of the Administration shall—

“(i) conduct an annual programmatic and financial examination of each eligible entity, as described in subsection (g); and

“(ii) provide the results of such examination to the eligible entity.

“(3) REMEDIATION OF PROBLEMS.—

“(A) PLAN OF ACTION.—If an examination of an eligible entity conducted under paragraph (2)(B) identifies any problems, the eligible entity shall, within 45 calendar days of receiving a copy of the results of such examination, provide the Assistant Administrator with a plan of action, including specific milestones, for correcting such problems.

“(B) PLAN OF ACTION REVIEW BY THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The Assistant Administrator shall review each plan of action submitted under subparagraph (A) within 30 calendar days of receiving such plan. If the Assistant Administrator determines that such plan—

“(i) will bring the eligible entity into compliance with all the terms of the grant agreement, the Assistant Administrator shall approve such plan; or

“(ii) is inadequate to remedy the problems identified in the annual examination to which the plan of action relates, the Assistant Administrator shall set forth such reasons in writing and provide such determination to the eligible entity within 15 calendar days of such determination.

“(C) AMENDMENT TO PLAN OF ACTION.—An eligible entity receiving a determination under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall have 30 calendar days from the receipt of the determination to amend the plan of action to satisfy the problems identified by the Assistant Administrator and resubmit such plan to the Assistant Administrator.

“(D) AMENDED PLAN REVIEW BY THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—Within 15 calendar days of the receipt of an amended plan of action under subparagraph (C), the Assistant Administrator shall either approve or reject such plan and provide such approval or rejection in writing to the eligible entity.

“(E) APPEAL OF ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Assistant Administrator rejects an amended plan under subparagraph (D), the eligible entity shall have the opportunity to appeal such decision to the Administrator, who may delegate such appeal to an appropriate officer of the Administration.

“(ii) OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPLANATION.—Any appeal described under clause (i) shall provide an opportunity for the eligible entity to provide, in writing, an explanation of why the eligible entity’s amended plan remedies the problems identified in the annual examination conducted under paragraph (2)(B).

“(iii) NOTICE OF DETERMINATION.—The Administrator shall provide to the eligible entity a determination of the appeal, in writing, not later than 15 calendar days after the eligible entity files an appeal under this subparagraph.

“(iv) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO ACT.—If the Administrator fails to act on an appeal made

under this subparagraph within the 15-day period specified under clause (iii), the eligible entity’s amended plan of action submitted under subparagraph (C) shall be deemed to be approved.

“(4) TERMINATION OF GRANT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall terminate a grant to an eligible entity under this section if the eligible entity fails to comply with—

“(i) a plan of action approved by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (3)(B)(i); or

“(ii) an amended plan of action approved by the Assistant Administrator under paragraph (3)(D) or approved on appeal under paragraph (3)(E).

“(B) APPEAL OF TERMINATION.—An eligible entity shall have the opportunity to challenge the termination of a grant under subparagraph (A) on the record and after an opportunity for a hearing.

“(C) FINAL AGENCY ACTION.—A determination made pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall be considered final agency action for the purposes of chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code.

“(5) CONSULTATION WITH MAJORITY WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER ASSOCIATION.—If a majority of women’s business centers that are operating pursuant to agreements with the Administration are members of an individual Women’s Business Center Association, the Administrator shall—

“(A) recognize the existence and activities of such Association; and

“(B) consult with the Association on, and negotiate with the Association in the development of documents with respect to—

“(i) announcing the annual scope of activities pursuant to this section;

“(ii) requesting proposals to deliver assistance as provided in this section; and

“(iii) governing the general operations and administration of women’s business centers, specifically including the development of regulations and a uniform negotiated cooperative agreement for use on an annual basis when entering into individual negotiated agreements with women’s business centers.

“(g) PROGRAM EXAMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall—

“(A) develop and implement an annual programmatic and financial examination of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this section, under which each such eligible entity shall provide to the Administration—

“(i) an itemized cost breakdown of actual expenditures for costs incurred during the preceding year; and

“(ii) documentation regarding the amount of matching assistance from non-Federal sources obtained and expended by the eligible entity during the preceding year in order to meet the requirements of subsection (e) and, with respect to any in-kind contributions described in subsection (e)(2) that were used to satisfy the requirements of subsection (e), verification of the existence and valuation of those contributions; and

“(B) analyze the results of each such examination and, based on that analysis, make a determination regarding the programmatic and financial viability of each women’s business center operated by the eligible entity.

“(2) CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUED FUNDING.—In determining whether to award a continuation grant to an eligible entity, the Administrator—

“(A) shall consider the results of the most recent examination of the eligible entity under paragraph (1);

“(B) shall determine if—

“(i) the eligible entity has failed to provide, or provided inadequate, information under paragraph (1)(A); or

“(ii) the eligible entity has failed to provide any information required to be provided by the women’s business center for purposes of the management report under subsection (m)(1), or the information provided by the center is inadequate; and

“(C) shall consider the accreditation status as described in subsection (k)(4).

“(h) NOTICE AND COMMENT REQUIRED.—The Administrator may only make a change to the standards by which an eligible entity obtains or maintains grants under this section, the standards for accreditation, or any other requirement for the operation of a women’s business center if the Administrator first provides notice and the opportunity for public comment, as set forth in section 553(b) of title 5, United States Code, without regard to any exceptions provided for under such section.

“(i) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—

“(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may enter into a contract with a Federal department or agency to provide specific assistance to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and other underserved small business concerns, if performance of such a contract does not hinder the ability of the eligible entity to carry out the terms of a grant received under this section.

“(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The authority of the Administrator to enter into contracts shall be in effect for each fiscal year only to the extent and in the amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts. After the Administrator has entered into a contract, either as a grant or a cooperative agreement, with any applicant under this section, the Administrator shall not suspend, terminate, or fail to renew or extend any such contract unless the Administrator provides the applicant with written notification setting forth the reasons therefore and affords the applicant an opportunity for a hearing, appeal, or other administrative proceeding under chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code.

“(j) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A women’s business center may not disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance under this section without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

“(A) the Administrator orders such disclosure after the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or

“(B) the Administrator considers such a disclosure to be necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of a women’s business center, except that such a disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for such audit.

“(2) ADMINISTRATION USE OF INFORMATION.—This subsection shall not—

“(A) restrict Administration access to women’s business center data; or

“(B) prevent the Administration from using information about individuals who use women’s business centers to conduct surveys of such individuals.

“(3) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall issue regulations to establish standards for disclosures for purposes of a financial audit described under paragraph (1)(B).

“(k) OFFICE OF WOMEN’S BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Administration an Office of Women’s Business Ownership, which shall be responsible for the administration of the Administration’s programs for the development of women’s business enterprises (as defined in section 408 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act of 1988). The Office of Women’s Business Ownership shall be administered by



an Assistant Administrator, who shall be appointed by the Administrator.

“(2) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF WOMEN’S BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.—

“(A) QUALIFICATION.—The position of Assistant Administrator shall be a Senior Executive Service position under section 3132(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code. The Assistant Administrator shall serve as a noncareer appointee (as defined in section 3132(a)(7) of that title).

“(B) DUTIES.—The Assistant Administrator shall administer the programs and services of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership and perform the following functions:

“(i) Recommend the annual administrative and program budgets of the Office and eligible entities receiving a grant under the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(ii) Review the annual budgets submitted by each eligible entity receiving a grant under the Women’s Business Center Program.

“(iii) Collaborate with other Federal departments and agencies, State and local governments, not-for-profit organizations, and for-profit organizations to maximize utilization of taxpayer dollars and reduce (or eliminate) any duplication among the programs overseen by the Office of Women’s Business Ownership and those of other entities that provide similar services to women entrepreneurs.

“(iv) Maintain a clearinghouse to provide for the dissemination and exchange of information between women’s business centers.

“(v) Serve as the vice chairperson of the Interagency Committee on Women’s Business Enterprise and as the liaison for the National Women’s Business Council.

“(3) MISSION.—The mission of the Office of Women’s Business Ownership shall be to assist women entrepreneurs to start, grow, and compete in global markets by providing quality support with access to capital, access to markets, job creation, growth, and counseling by—

“(A) fostering participation of women entrepreneurs in the economy by overseeing a network of women’s business centers throughout States and territories;

“(B) creating public-private partnerships to support women entrepreneurs and conduct outreach and education to small business concerns owned and controlled by women; and

“(C) working with other programs of the Administrator to—

“(i) ensure women are well-represented in those programs and being served by those programs; and

“(ii) identify gaps where participation by women in those programs could be increased.

“(4) ACCREDITATION PROGRAM.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall publish standards for a program to accredit eligible entities that receive a grant under this section.

“(B) PUBLIC COMMENT; TRANSITION.—Before publishing the standards under subparagraph (A), the Administrator—

“(i) shall provide a period of not less than 60 days for public comment on such standards; and

“(ii) may not terminate a grant under this section absent evidence of fraud or other criminal misconduct by the recipient.

“(C) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may provide financial support, by contract or otherwise, to a Women’s Business Center Association to provide assistance in establishing the standards required under subparagraph (A) or for carrying out an accreditation program pursuant to such standards.

“(5) CONTINUATION GRANT CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining whether to award a continuation grant under this section, the Administrator shall consider the results of the annual programmatic and financial examination conducted under subsection (g) and the accreditation program.

“(B) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENT.—After the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administration may not award a continuation grant under this section unless the applicable eligible entity has been approved under the accreditation program conducted pursuant to this subsection, except that the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Women’s Business Ownership may waive such accreditation requirement, in the discretion of the Assistant Administrator, upon a showing that the eligible entity is making a good faith effort to obtain accreditation.

“(6) ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—Each women’s business center shall participate in annual professional development at an annual conference facilitated by a Women’s Business Center Association.

“(1) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall provide the following:

“(1) A public announcement of any opportunity to be awarded grants under this section, to include the selection criteria under subsection (d) and any applicable regulations.

“(2) To any applicant for a grant under this section that failed to obtain such a grant, an opportunity to debrief with the Administrator to review the reasons for the applicant’s failure.

“(3) To an eligible entity that receives an initial grant under this section, if a site visit or review of the eligible entity is carried out by an officer or employee of the Administration (other than the Inspector General), a copy of the site visit report or evaluation, as applicable, within 30 calendar days of the completion of such visit or evaluation.

“(m) ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate an annual report on the effectiveness of women’s business centers operated through a grant awarded under this section.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) information concerning, with respect to each women’s business center established pursuant to a grant awarded under this section, the most recent analysis of the annual programmatic and financial examination of the applicable eligible entity, as required under subsection (g)(1)(B), and the subsequent determination made by the Administration under that subsection;

“(B) the number of persons advised and trained through the Women’s Business Center Program;

“(C) the total number of hours of advising and training through the Program;

“(D) the demographics of Program participants to include gender, race, and age of each such participant;

“(E) the number of Program participants who are veterans;

“(F) the number of new businesses started by participants in the Program;

“(G) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs supported, created or retained with assistance from women’s business centers;

“(H) the amount of capital secured by participants in the Program, including through loans and equity investment;

“(I) the number of participants in the Program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under the loan programs of the Administration;

“(J) an estimate of gross receipts, including to the extent practicable a description of any change in revenue of small business concerns assisted through the Program;

“(K) to the maximum extent practicable, increases or decreases in revenues for the assisted small business concerns;

“(L) the number of referrals made to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(M) the results of satisfaction surveys of participants, including a summary of any comments received from such participants; and

“(N) any recommendations by the Administrator to improve the delivery of services by women’s business centers.

“(n) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration to carry out this section, to remain available until expended, \$31,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023.

“(2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts made available under this subsection for fiscal year 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, may only be used for grant awards and may not be used for costs incurred by the Administration in connection with the management and administration of the program under this section.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Of the amount made available under this subsection for a fiscal year, the following amounts shall be available for costs incurred by the Administration in connection with the management and administration of the program under this section:

“(i) For the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph, 2.65 percent.

“(ii) For the second fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph and each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year 2023, 2.5 percent.

“(3) EXPEDITED ACQUISITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator may use such expedited acquisition methods as the Administrator determines to be appropriate to carry out this section, except that the Administrator shall ensure that all small business sources are provided a reasonable opportunity to submit proposals.

“(4) ACCREDITATION AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—Not less than \$500,000 of the amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) for a fiscal year shall be available for purposes of carrying out subsection (k), of which no less than \$50,000 shall be available to support an annual conference described under subsection (k)(6).”

#### SEC. 3. EFFECT ON EXISTING GRANTS.

(a) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A nonprofit organization receiving a grant under section 29(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to receive the grant under the terms and conditions in effect for the grant on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, except that the nonprofit organization may not apply for a continuation of the grant under section 29(m)(5) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)(5)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) LENGTH OF CONTINUATION GRANT.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration may award a grant under section 29 of the Small Business Act, as amended by this Act, to a nonprofit organization receiving a grant under section 29(m) of the Small

Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(m)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, for the period—

(1) beginning on the day after the last day of the grant agreement under such section 29(m); and

(2) ending at the end of the third fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.

Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of Small Business Administration shall issue such rules as are necessary to carry out section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656), as amended by this Act, and ensure that a period of public comment for such rules is not less than 60 days.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Women's Business Centers, or WBCs, are a critical component of SBA's entrepreneurial ecosystem. WBCs were created to assist small businesses primarily owned by women, many of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged.

□ 1545

The WBC program funds more than 100 centers nationwide and offers a full range of counseling and training services for all stages of business development. Many of the WBCs provide multilingual services, maintain evening and weekend hours to accommodate clients who work full time, and allow children to attend training sessions with their mothers.

In fiscal year 2018, the WBC program trained and advised more than 150,000 clients and created nearly 12,000 small businesses. It has also proven to be a great return on investment, just like the SBDCs. For every dollar invested in WBCs, \$46 is returned to the economy. And, with women making up the fastest growing sector of entrepreneurs, it is imperative to invest in modernizing and adequately funding the program.

The Women's Business Centers Improvements Act increases the authorization level to \$31.5 million each year and lifts the cap on individual center grants to \$300,000, allowing more estab-

lished centers to expand their reach to greater numbers of women entrepreneurs, particularly those of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Additionally, this legislation makes key changes to the program, enabling the WBCs to serve more of America's nearly 30 million women-owned small businesses. By eliminating unnecessary reporting requirements and creating a transparent and consultative process between SBA and the Association of Women's Business Centers, the bill guarantees WBCs can meet the growing demand for their services.

I want to thank Representative DAVIDS and Representative HAGEDORN for their diligence in working to get this bill right and ensuring that women entrepreneurs across the country have continued access to vital counseling and training.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019. I commend and thank the two lead sponsors of this legislation, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. HAGEDORN of Minnesota, for their leadership. This makes key updates to the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Women's Business Center program, or WBC.

The WBC program funds more than 100 nonprofit organizations that provide training, counseling, and technical assistance specifically tailored to meet the needs of women entrepreneurs. Many WBCs offer training at night or in multiple languages to ensure that women entrepreneurs have the tools and support they need when creating or sustaining a business.

Last year, WBCs trained over 114,000 clients and advised over 26,000 individuals. This training and counseling contributed to the creation of more than 17,000 new small businesses in the United States. The Women's Business Center program has a profound impact not only in our local communities, but also on our Nation's economy overall.

H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019, builds on H.R. 1680, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2018, which passed the House back in May of 2018.

This bill raises the initial 5-year grant amount and indexes it for inflation. This minor increase provides new and existing women's business centers with the support they need to provide an effective course curriculum to small business clients.

Additionally, H.R. 4405 requires the SBA to establish a WBC accreditation program. This program, similar to the successful Small Business Development Center accreditation program, will ensure programmatic consistency among WBC locations and guarantee that each center is providing women entre-

preneurs with effective training opportunities.

These updates will ensure that the funds supporting the WBC program are used efficiently to foster economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it. I, again, want to commend the two leaders on this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS), sponsor of the bill.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019, which would increase access to vital resources and opportunities for female entrepreneurs in Kansas and across the country.

I thank Ranking Member CHABOT and Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for their commitment to small businesses in our country.

I thank my fellow Small Business Committee member, Representative HAGEDORN, for cosponsoring and co-leading this bipartisan piece of legislation with me.

This bill helps to strengthen the Women's Business Center program, which funds more than 100 women's business centers, also known as WBCs, across the country and in the district I represent in Kansas.

These centers provide small business owners, many of whom are socially and economically disadvantaged, with critical counseling and training at all stages of their business development.

Many WBCs provide multilingual services, maintain evening and weekend hours to accommodate clients who work full time, and allow children to attend sessions with their mothers.

The value of WBCs cannot be overstated. Women are the fastest growing sector of entrepreneurs in our country. We often forget that up until 1988, women would have a hard time applying for a business loan without a male relative to cosign it.

Now, more than 11.6 million businesses in the United States are owned by women, and more than 5.4 million businesses are majority owned by women of color.

But even though we have made great progress, many unique challenges still exist for women, particularly women of color, to start and grow a business. These include things like limited access to funding resources and the support system needed to get a business off the ground and maintain its success.

I see this firsthand when I am doing a "Sharice's Shift" in my district. It is our outreach program where I work at a local business and spend time with that business owner in my community.

WBCs are critical in addressing a whole range of women's entrepreneurial needs. They provide training, mentoring, business development, and

financing opportunities for 145,000 women entrepreneurs each year.

The Kansas City Women's Business Center, located in Fairway, Kansas—which I proudly represent—serves over 600 clients annually in both Kansas and Missouri through business trainings, workshops, counseling, and access to capital programs.

That is why it is so important to support the WBC program. Despite the tremendous growth of the program since its creation in 1988, its resources have not kept up with the even greater growth of women entrepreneurs.

My bill would authorize funding for the WBC program for 4 years at \$31.5 million. It is currently at \$18 million. This increase ensures the program can reach even more women.

It would also increase the cap on individual center grants to \$300,000 and index for inflation for the first time since the program's creation.

According to a survey conducted by the Association of Women Business Centers, 70 percent of the centers could match at least \$300,000. And it would establish an accreditation program to strengthen WBCs and raise the standards of excellence for training and counseling women entrepreneurs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act and help ensure that we can create a level playing field for female entrepreneurs that sets them up for success.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. HAGEDORN), the principal sponsor on the legislation on the Republican side.

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member CHABOT for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4405, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative DAVIDS, for sponsoring this bill, introducing it, and inviting me to co-author it. I appreciate her leadership on this.

This bipartisan legislation works to support women entrepreneurs nationwide by modernizing and strengthening the Women's Business Centers program. Our bill will increase access to training, counseling, assistance programs, capital, and workforce investment. All these measures are essential to create new businesses, expand enterprises, and grow our United States economy.

Millions of women own small businesses in the United States, and that is a wonderful thing. Entrepreneurship and the Women's Business Center program are essential for empowering women to become business owners. By enhancing these services, we increase the ability to inspire and foster new generations of business leaders.

Small business is the job-producing backbone of our American economy. Whether you are in southern Minnesota, eastern Kansas, or commu-

nities across our Nation, it is critical that we foster an environment of growth where entrepreneurs of all stripes have access to the resources they need to succeed and are not stymied by excessive regulations, taxes, and other antibusiness burdens.

According to the National Association of Women Business Owners, as of 2017, more than 11.6 million firms are owned and operated by women. These firms employ almost 9 million people and generate \$1.7 trillion in revenue.

To keep our economy growing, we must embrace, encourage, and promote emerging enterprises, including those owned by folks who do not fit the traditional mode of business owners to get started.

One of the great success stories that we have in women entrepreneurship is that of Christine Lantinen and her candy company in Minnesota's First District out of Le Center, Minnesota. The company is called Maud Borup.

In May I had the opportunity to tour the 112-year-old wholesale confections company that specializes in gourmet candy, baking kits, food kits, and lots of other things, including gummy bears, the best I have ever enjoyed, to be honest with you.

Maud Borup started as a woman-owned, brick-and-mortar candy shop in St. Paul, even before women had the right to vote. Today, it is a wholesale company, continuing to offer opportunities for women. Ninety-six percent of its more than 100 employees are women.

Christine, an Army veteran, no less, bought the company in 2005 and has expanded the company's employment by 2,000 percent and sales by 2,500 percent. To put that into perspective, sales have gone from \$500,000 all the way to \$20 million in just 10 years. And for good reason. She was named the Small Business Person of the Year in Minnesota for 2019.

She served her country and now she is serving her community by expanding jobs and economic opportunity for folks in southern Minnesota. This is one of the types of success stories that we are trying to emulate and replicate all across the country with our legislation, the Women's Business Centers Improvements Act.

Our legislation will fund more than 100 nonprofit organizations that provide training, counseling, and technical assistance, specifically for women entrepreneurs.

Our bill, as the ranking member said, expands upon the success of H.R. 1680, which was passed by the House in May of 2018, but didn't quite make it into law. Our legislation will make key improvements for the Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Women's Business Center program by raising the initial grant amount to \$300,000 and increasing the authorization level to \$31.5 million for fiscal years 2020 through 2023.

This legislation establishes an accreditation program to strengthen

Women's Business Centers by increasing accountability and raising the standards of excellence for training and counseling of women entrepreneurs and will also create a transparent and consultative process for the selection of new center locations, while also requiring an annual report to ensure transparency and measure the effectiveness of the overall program.

Most importantly, the bill will help facilitate small business creation, provide much-needed reforms that will be a helping hand to women business owners, free aspiring entrepreneurs of undue burdens and barriers to entry, further economic expansion, and help hardworking Americans achieve their dreams.

I am incredibly proud of the bipartisan nature of this bill. I thank, again, Congresswoman DAVIDS for introducing and managing the bill. I am proud to stand with her to champion women-owned enterprises. And a special thanks to the Committee on Small Business, of course our chair, Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT for the bipartisan support that they have offered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4405.

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Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, so I am prepared to close if the gentleman doesn't have any other speakers.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In closing, although a little less than 40 percent of all firms in the United States are women owned, that number has increased by 114 percent over the last 10 years. With women-owned firms growing more than 2.5 times faster than other businesses, it is important to recognize women entrepreneurs as a driving force in today's economy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the United States has nearly 30 million women-owned firms, more than one-third of all firms. Our economy relies heavily on women-owned small businesses, as they generate over \$1.9 trillion in revenues and employ 9.4 million workers.

H.R. 4405 ensures that they have access to the tools they need to succeed.

The good news is, women-owned small businesses are growing two times faster, on average, than all businesses nationwide, and women of color are launching businesses 4.5 times faster than all businesses.

The discouraging news is that half of aspiring women business owners report a lack of available mentors. We must take action to break down the barriers hindering their success. That is why it is imperative for us to pass this legislation today, ensuring access to

mentorship and professional guidance to the fastest growing group of entrepreneurs.

The Women's Business Centers Improvements Act builds on their success by creating uniformity through accreditation for WBCs and increasing maximum grant levels to ensure they have the resources to meet demands for their services.

We all agree that women business owners offer invaluable contributions to our economy. By passing this bill, we are standing with women.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4405.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## SCORE FOR SMALL BUSINESS ACT OF 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4407) to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4407

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

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019".

### SEC. 2. SCORE PROGRAM PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.

Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

(A) by striking "a Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)" and inserting "the SCORE program described in subsection (c)"; and

(B) by striking "SCORE may" and inserting "the SCORE Association (as defined in subsection (c)) may"; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term 'SCORE Association' means the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association or any successor or other organization that enters into a cooperative agreement (as described under paragraph (2)) with the Administrator to operate the SCORE program.

"(B) SCORE FOUNDATION.—The term 'SCORE Foundation' means an organization with a mission to support the SCORE Association and volunteers of the SCORE program.

"(C) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term 'SCORE program' means the SCORE program authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

"(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The Administrator shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the SCORE Association to carry out the SCORE program, which shall include the following requirements:

"(A) ADMINISTRATOR DUTIES.—The Administrator shall—

"(i) conduct an annual financial examination of the SCORE Association to ensure that any costs paid for with Federal funds are allowable, allocable, and reasonable;

"(ii) for contracts entered into by the SCORE Association to provide goods or services for the SCORE program of a value greater than an amount determined by the Administrator, review and approve such contracts;

"(iii) establish a system through which the SCORE Association can provide documentation relating to such contracts; and

"(iv) within 30 days of the receipt of a quarterly report on the achievements of the SCORE program submitted by the SCORE Association, reconcile and differences between such report and the performance results of the SCORE program reported in a management information system of the Office of Entrepreneurial Development.

"(B) SCORE ASSOCIATION DUTIES.—The SCORE Association shall—

"(i) manage nationwide chapters of the SCORE program;

"(ii) develop guidance and provide annual training to employees of the SCORE Association on generating and using program income from the SCORE program;

"(iii) submit documentation to the Administrator verifying such annual training is completed;

"(iv) separate funds donated to the SCORE Association from program income and funds received pursuant to a cooperative agreement; and

"(v) establish requirements for volunteers participating in the SCORE program, including requirements that each such volunteer shall—

"(I) based on the business experience and knowledge of the volunteer—

"(aa) provide personal counseling, mentoring, and coaching on the process of starting, expanding, managing, buying, and selling a business at no cost to individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

"(bb) facilitate free or low-cost education workshops for individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

"(II) as appropriate, use tools, resources, and expertise of other organizations to carry out the SCORE program.

"(C) JOINT DUTIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter of the SCORE program—

"(i) develop and implement plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently provide services to individuals in rural areas, economically disadvantaged communities, or other traditionally underserved communities, including plans for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chapter expansion, partnerships, and the development of new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE program; and

"(ii) reinforce an inclusive culture by recruiting diverse volunteers for the chapters of the SCORE program.

"(3) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In carrying out this subsection, the SCORE Association shall make use of online counseling, including by developing and implementing webinars and an electronic mentoring platform to expand access to services provided under this subsection and to further support entrepreneurs.

"(4) ACCOUNTING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the SCORE Association shall—

"(A) centralize all accounting and finance systems of each chapter of the SCORE program and develop a uniform policy and procedures to manage Federal funds; and

"(B) designate an employee of the SCORE Association to serve as a compliance officer to ensure expenditures of the SCORE program are fully compliant with any law, regulation, or cooperative agreement relating to the SCORE program.

"(5) COMPENSATION.—

"(A) SALARIES.—The salary of an employee of the SCORE Association may not exceed the equivalent of the maximum rate of pay allowable for an individual in the career Senior Executive Service employed at the Small Business Administration.

"(B) PERFORMANCE AWARDS.—The SCORE Association may spend up to 1.5 percent of the aggregate salaries of employees of the SCORE Association on individual performance awards to employees of the SCORE Association, to be disbursed before the last day of the fiscal year, if not later than 60 days before disbursement the SCORE Association submits to the Administrator a report on the number and amount of such awards to be disbursed.

"(C) SCORE FOUNDATION.—A member of the Board of Directors of the SCORE Association or an employee of the SCORE Association may not simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors of, or receive compensation from, the SCORE Foundation without written approval from the Administrator.

"(6) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS.—The SCORE Association shall—

"(A) annually update all manuals or other documents applicable to employees and volunteers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE program to include requirements relating to reporting procedures and protectors for whistleblowers; and

"(B) conduct an annual training for employees and volunteers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE program on the requirements described in paragraph (1) and emphasize the use of the hotline established by the Office of the Inspector General of the Small Business Administration to submit whistleblower reports.

"(7) PUBLISHED MATERIALS.—The SCORE Association shall ensure all published materials include written acknowledgment of Small Business Administration support of the SCORE program if such materials are paid for in whole or in part by Federal funds.

"(8) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Administrator nor the SCORE Association may disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance from the SCORE Association without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

"(i) the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or

"(ii) the Administrator determines such a disclosure to be necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of the SCORE program, in which case disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for the audit.

"(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMATION.—This paragraph shall not—

"(i) restrict the access of the Administrator to SCORE program activity data; or

"(ii) prevent the Administrator from using SCORE program client information to conduct client surveys.

"(C) STANDARDS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, after the opportunity for notice and comment, establish standards for—

"(I) disclosures with respect to financial audits under subparagraph (A)(ii); and

"(II) conducting client surveys, including standards for oversight of the surveys and for dissemination and use of client information.

“(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTECTION.—The standards issued under this subparagraph shall, to the extent practicable, provide for the maximum amount of privacy protection.

“(9) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the performance and effectiveness of the SCORE program, which may be included as part of another report submitted to such Committees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

“(A) the number of individuals counseled or trained under the SCORE program;

“(B) the number of hours of counseling provided under the SCORE program;

“(C) the number of local workshops;

“(D) the number of clients attending online and local workshops;

“(E) the number of unique clients served;

“(F) to the extent practicable, the demographics of SCORE program participants and volunteers, which shall include the gender, race, and age of each such participant or volunteer;

“(G) the cost to create a job, the cost to create a business, and return on investment;

“(H) the number of referrals to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(I) the number of participants in the SCORE program receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under loan programs of the Administration;

“(J) the results of SCORE program participant satisfactory surveys, including a summary of any comments received from such participants;

“(K) the number of new businesses started up by SCORE program participants;

“(L) the number of such new businesses realizing revenue growth;

“(M) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs created with assistance from the SCORE program;

“(N) the total cost of the SCORE program;

“(O) any recommendations of the Administrator to improve the SCORE program; and

“(P) an explanation of how the SCORE program has been integrated with other resource partners and related resources of the Administration.”

### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SCORE PROGRAM.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not exceed \$11,700,000 in each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022.”

### SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE SCORE PROGRAM.—

(1) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall carry out a study on the future role of the SCORE program and develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will meet the needs of small business concerns during the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, with specific objectives for the first, third, and fifth years of the 5-year period.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing—

(A) all findings and determination made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1);

(B) the strategic plan developed under paragraph (1); and

(C) an explanation of how the SCORE Association plans to achieve the strategic plan, assuming both stagnant and increased funding levels.

(b) ADMINISTRATOR REPORT ON LEASED SPACE.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing an assessment of the cost of leased space that is donated to the SCORE Association.

(c) ONLINE COMPONENT REPORT.—Before the last day of fiscal year 2020, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the online counseling and webinars required under paragraph (3) of section 8(c) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act, including a description of—

(1) how the SCORE Association determines electronic mentoring and webinar needs, develops training for electronic mentoring, establishes webinar criteria curricula, and evaluates webinar and electronic mentoring results;

(2) the internal controls that are used and a summary of the topics covered by the webinars; and

(3) performance metrics, including the number of small business concerns counseled by, the number of small business concerns created by, the number of jobs created and retained by, and the funding amounts directed towards such online counseling and webinars.

### SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

(A) in subsection (b)(12)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(b) OTHER LAWS.—

(1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act)”.

(2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Section 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C. 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(3) MILITARY RESERVIST AND VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION AND OPPOR-

TUNITY ACT OF 2008.—Section 3(5) of the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636 note) is amended by striking “the Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “the SCORE program”.

(4) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B));”;

(B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(5) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE program”.

### SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms “Administration” and “Administrator” mean, respectively, the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof.

(2) SCORE ASSOCIATION; SCORE PROGRAM.—The terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill before us, H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act.

There are nearly 30 million small businesses in the United States, representing more than 99 percent of all businesses. These small firms employ nearly 50 percent of all private-sector employees in the U.S.

The SBA administers a portfolio of entrepreneurial development programs, which includes the SCORE program. Since its inception, the SBA has undertaken efforts to connect new entrepreneurs and small business owners with more experienced businessmen and -women. This expansive network consists of entrepreneurs, business leaders, and executives who volunteer as mentors to small firms, both in person and online.

SCORE has grown to become one of the Federal Government's largest volunteer business adviser and mentoring programs. Yet, the SBA OIG found that improvements are needed to ensure SCORE minimizes risk of fraud or misuse of program funds and to strengthen SBA's oversight and the committee's ability to review the effectiveness of the program.

On July 11, 2019, our Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations held a hearing to examine the agency's oversight of the SCORE program. This bill is a direct result of that hearing and much stakeholder engagement.

H.R. 4407 not only reauthorizes this essential program, but it also takes steps to restore integrity, accounting, and performance to the program. Doing so ensures the program will continue to have the ability to meet the needs of entrepreneurs.

With technology enhancements and streamlined service processes, SCORE mentoring will now be accessible to business owners no matter their location.

I commend Congressman HERN and Congresswoman CRAIG for working together to make sure that the counseling and training programs are operating effectively, as well as holding SBA accountable as a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019.

This legislation will allow the SCORE program to continue to offer business mentoring and training to thousands of entrepreneurs and small business owners each year.

The SCORE program currently includes over 11,000 volunteer mentors with expertise across 62 industries that collectively provide more than a million hours of business counseling each year.

When an entrepreneur seeks a SCORE mentor, they are purposefully paired with a business professional with knowledge in a specific field or experience facing specific challenges. This process ensures that the goals of the entrepreneur are met by the volunteer mentor.

In addition to SCORE's mentorship services, the program also offers in-person business training classes at its 350 chapter locations nationwide.

Entrepreneurs can also utilize the extensive online training opportunities and free business tools available on SCORE's national website.

Over the last 50 years, SCORE has become the Federal Government's largest business mentoring program with over 800 locations nationally and over 11,000 volunteers. Last year, SCORE mentors provided personalized guidance to nearly 140,000 clients. More than 400,000 cli-

ents attended online and local SCORE workshops.

This legislation will allow SCORE to continue to provide these important services. H.R. 4407, the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019, adds strict safeguards to core provisions of the SCORE bill passed last year in May.

This legislation, offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG), also establishes strict new compliance and oversight requirements to protect taxpayer dollars and sets new outcome-based performance goals to ensure the program meets the SBA's standards and congressional intent.

These provisions will significantly increase congressional oversight of the program and provide future Congresses with additional information about the health of the program.

I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) for their leadership on this and also for their very thoughtful approach to the passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN), who is the lead Republican sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4407.

The Service Corps of Retired Executives, better known as SCORE, has helped more than 11 million entrepreneurs over the last 50 years. SCORE is a nonprofit organization made up of active and retired business executives who act as mentors for entrepreneurs. These volunteers provide face-to-face counseling on business issues ranging from planning to budgeting, marketing, and financing, all of this at no charge to the entrepreneur.

As a small business owner myself, I can attest to the importance of mentorship programs like this for first-time entrepreneurs. In a country like ours, where a good idea and hard work can put you on the path to the American Dream, the mentorship of an experienced business owner can be a huge asset to a startup.

Today, there are more than 300 SCORE chapters across the country, totaling more than 11,000 volunteers. This includes a chapter in my hometown of Tulsa, which has over 40 volunteers.

H.R. 4407 will continue the success of the SCORE program by reauthorizing the funds while safeguarding the program for the future by modernizing data standards, closing loopholes for fraud, and adding important oversight

to the use of funds. These provisions will only increase the integrity of SCORE and help the program to assist even more small businesses and entrepreneurs.

All the reforms made in this bill are supported by SCORE. This bipartisan effort to invest in our small business owners and encourage more Americans to follow their dreams is a big step forward in support of the things that make our country so special.

I thank my colleague Ms. CRAIG from Minnesota for being an original cosponsor of this legislation and supporting its progress through the committee and now here on the House floor.

The passage of this bill will not only be an important moment for our country's future business owners, but it is also my first piece of legislation to pass the House. Focusing on the businesses that drive our local economies and encouraging the growth of entrepreneurship across our country has been my top priority in Congress.

Reauthorizing and strengthening SCORE is a necessary step to help grow our economy and invest in our communities, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, before I close today, I want to say that I really appreciate the leadership and the bipartisanship of Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT. They do a great job with bipartisanship in their leadership. It is a great example for the people's House. I encourage all of our Members to come sit in on a meeting sometime. It might be something that they would like to see.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers if the gentleman is ready to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

The simple improvements in this bill will allow the SCORE program to continue its mission helping entrepreneurs to start and grow their businesses.

With the vast majority of all businesses in the United States classified as small, it is vital that these business owners have access to effective entrepreneurial resources. H.R. 4407 would ensure that, regardless of location, a small business owner can access SCORE mentoring and training.

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

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

There is no question that we need to support our small businesses across the country, no matter their location, industry, or expertise level.

H.R. 4407 does exactly that by reauthorizing a major component of SBA's entrepreneurial programs and clarifying the utilization of the volunteer base. This bill is reflective of the growth of the SCORE program, which actively engages business owners, as well as retired executives, to mentor the next generation of job makers.



Most importantly, it responds to the findings of the IG and makes strides to hold the agency and SCORE mentors accountable.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4407.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent Resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.

□ 1615

#### ESTABLISHING A GROWTH ACCELERATOR FUND COMPETITION

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4387) to establish Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4387

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

#### SECTION 1. GROWTH ACCELERATOR FUND COMPETITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a program within the Small Business Administration to be known as the “Growth Accelerator Fund Competition” under which the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall award prizes on a competitive basis to covered entities that—

(1) assist small business concerns with accessing capital and finding mentors and networking opportunities; and

(2) advise small business concerns, including advising on market analysis, company strategy, revenue growth, and securing funding.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Administrator shall carry out the program established under this section in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719).

(c) APPLICATION.—A prize only may be awarded to a covered entity that submits to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(d) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to apply for a prize under this section, a covered entity—

(1) may not have an outstanding, unresolved financial obligation to the Federal Government; and

(2) may not be currently suspended or debarred as specified under subpart 9.4 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(e) SELECTION OF COVERED ENTITIES.—From applications submitted under subsection (c), the Administrator shall select covered entities that will provide to small business concerns—

(1) regular networking opportunities, including introductions to customers, partners, suppliers, advisory boards, and other persons;

(2) mentorship opportunities, including advice on strategy, technology, finances, and commercialization assistance;

(3) shared working environments focused on building a strong community amongst other similar small business concerns;

(4) resources and co-working arrangements;

(5) opportunities to pitch ideas to investors and other capital formation opportunities;

(6) small amounts of angel money, seed capital, or structured loans; and

(7) where appropriate, assistance in securing funding under the SBIR program or the STTR program established under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

(f) PRIORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in approving applications under this section, shall give priority to applications that include methods to provide assistance and advice to small business concerns located in underserved communities, including—

(A) small business concerns owned and controlled by women;

(B) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; and

(C) small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8(d)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(3)(C))).

(2) ALLOCATION.—Of prizes awarded to covered entities under this section in a fiscal year, the Administrator shall ensure that—

(A) not less than 20 percent of such covered entities will assist and advise small business concerns owned and controlled by women; and

(B) not less than 20 percent of such covered entities will assist and advise small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(g) SELECTION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—A covered entity that receives a prize under the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition shall use a selective process to identify small business concerns to provide assistance and advice described under subsection (a).

(h) DEVELOPMENT OF METRICS.—The Administrator shall develop metrics to evaluate the effectiveness and the benefit to the people of the United States of the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition that—

(1) are science-based and statistically driven;

(2) reflect the mission of the Small Business Administration; and

(3) include factors relating to the economic impact of the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a private entity that is incorporated in and maintains a primary place of business in the United States.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS ACT DEFINITIONS.—The terms “small business concern”, “small business concern owned and controlled by women”, “small business concern owned and controlled by veterans” have the meanings given such terms, respectively, in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 to carry out the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 4387, which establishes the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within SBA.

Accelerator programs provide founders of early-stage companies with education, mentorship, financing, cohort-based training, and technical assistance. There are many accelerator success stories. Among them are well-known companies like Airbnb, Dropbox, and Stripe.

The SBA funds the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition for the Nation's most innovative, diverse, and promising small business accelerators and incubators. It was created in 2014 to support small business job creation by giving early-stage entrepreneurs opportunities to immerse themselves in an intense learning environment.

Monetary prizes of \$50,000 to each of the winners go a long way towards supporting the development of accelerators and incubators.

Not only does the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition spur economic development and create jobs, but most importantly, it supports innovation in economic areas that are outside of what we have come to think of as traditional coastal tech hubs.

It supports places like the industrial heartland, where barriers to capital access have hindered entrepreneurs. The program also has a proven track record of investing in women and minority entrepreneurs.

The legislation will authorize \$2 million in funds, annually, for 4 years, to

carry out the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition. H.R. 4387 continues our commitment of investment in the next generation of American entrepreneurs by promoting innovation and growing jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4387. This bipartisan legislation codifies the SBA's Growth Accelerator Fund Competition.

Since 2014, the SBA's Office of Investment and Innovation has run a yearly competition to identify the Nation's best small business accelerators and incubators. The competition has proven successful over the past 5 years, and I expect that will continue to be successful during the authorization period.

The accelerators that win these awards represent a broad set of industries and sectors, from manufacturing to tech startups, to farming with a diversified range of demographic groups.

The winners are selected through a two-tier review panel process and are evaluated by experts in entrepreneurship, investing, and business plans, both inside and outside Federal Government. The expert judges review applications and pitch videos submitted by the finalists.

I am proud to say that three Cincinnati organizations have won an award prize since the initiative's inception: The Brandery, First Batch, and Mortar. These award dollars have been reinvested in small business clients in Cincinnati communities.

As an authorized program rather than an SBA Administrator initiative, the competition will now be subject to greater congressional oversight.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) and my fellow Ohioan, Mr. BALDERSON, for their leadership on this bill. Their hard work on this bill has been informed by oversight findings, program feedback, and agency transparency.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has my full support. I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take this opportunity also to congratulate Congressman ADRIANO ESPAILLAT from New York and Mr. BALDERSON for their hard work and the contributions that they are making with this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), who is the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and also Ranking Member CHABOT for their leadership. I would also like to thank my colleague, Congressman BALDERSON, for working with me on this bipartisan legislation.

One of the most widely successful tools the Small Business Administration utilizes to grow and support small

businesses is the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition. Since this program began in 2014, the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition has small businesses and entrepreneurs in almost 40 States.

This competitive program provides some of the most innovative and promising small businesses in high-growth sectors with early-stage education, financing, mentorship, cohort-based training, and technical assistance. Importantly, these entrepreneurial development models create a pipeline of talented entrepreneurs—especially women and minorities—to grow and succeed.

According to the Small Business Administration, since this Growth Accelerator Fund Competition began in 2014, the first 50 awardees have led directly to almost 1,500 companies across the country.

Codifying this program and authorizing \$2 million for 4 additional years is a commitment to American innovation. The legislation reflects our bipartisan support and priority investment in the growth, development, and expansion of small businesses.

I am proud to support this program, and I am glad to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle on this meaningful and important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

The Growth Accelerator Fund Competition at the SBA draws attention and funding to parts of the country where there are gaps in the entrepreneurial ecosystem. This bipartisan bill, while congressionally authorizing an already successful program, will provide for increased reporting and better metrics to gauge program outcomes and will provide budding entrepreneurs with greater resources to build our communities.

This bill is a product of our bipartisan work at the Small Business Committee, and I want to thank all of our members, both Democratic and Republican, for their excellent work on this legislative package, as well as our chairwoman, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and her staff for working with our staff in a very cooperative, bipartisan way.

It would be great if the rest of the House worked as well as this committee does. I think it is the best committee in Congress. I am on Judiciary and Foreign Affairs, too, so they may not like that, but this is a really bipartisan committee, and it is a real joy to be on it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this bill's adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Business accelerators help high-growth startup enterprises develop their products, identify promising customer segments, and secure resources, including vital capital and potential employees. It is clear that they serve an important role in innovation, and H.R. 4387 enhances the ability of the

SBA's Growth Accelerator Fund Competition so it can continue to assist entrepreneurs.

By opening the funding network for companies that may not otherwise have gained such exposure, the growth accelerator fund helps boost small business innovation and grow the economy.

The SBA growth accelerator program supports underserved business owners and fills critical gaps in capital access. In 2019, 60 percent of the winners were either women owned, socially or economically disadvantaged, or located in areas with a lower number of SBIR and STTR awards. This bill reinforces our committee's pledge to entrepreneurship and job creation.

Finally, I want to thank Mr. ESPAILLAT and Mr. BALDERSON for their diligence on this bill, and I also want to take the opportunity to thank the ranking member, Mr. CHABOT, his staff, and my staff.

What we are showing today is that there is not a Republican or Democratic approach when it comes to small businesses. This is the way that we do right by the American people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4387.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1822

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. TITUS) at 6 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.

## REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2513, CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-247) on the resolution (H. Res. 646) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2513) to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting

United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas President Trump released the transcript of a call between him and the President of Ukraine;

Whereas President Trump subsequently released the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019;

Whereas, in a September 26, 2019, hearing on the whistleblower complaint, House Intelligence Committee Chairman ADAM SCHIFF purported to relay the content of the phone call to the American people;

Whereas, instead of quoting directly from the available transcript, Chairman SCHIFF manufactured a false retelling of the conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky;

Whereas this egregiously false and fabricated retelling had no relationship to the call itself;

Whereas these actions of Chairman SCHIFF misled the American people, bring disrepute upon the House of Representatives, and make a mockery of the impeachment process, one of this Chamber's most solemn constitutional duties;

Whereas, for more than 2 years, Chairman SCHIFF has spread false accusations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia;

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, then-Ranking Member SCHIFF read out false allegations from the Steele dossier accusing numerous Trump associates of colluding with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF falsely claimed in a March 2017 interview to have "more than circumstantial evidence" of collusion with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member SCHIFF negotiated with Russian comedians whom he believed to be Ukrainian officials to obtain materials to damage the President of the United States politically;

Whereas, according to a New York Times article on October 2, 2019, Chairman SCHIFF's committee staff met with the whistleblower prior to the filing of his complaint, and staff members communicated the content of the complaint to Chairman SCHIFF;

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF concealed his dealings with the whistleblower from the rest of the Intelligence Com-

mittee, and when asked directly in a television interview whether he had any contact with the whistleblower, he lied to the American people and said, "We have not spoken directly with the whistleblower.";

Whereas members of the Intelligence Committee have lost faith in his objectivity and capabilities as chairman, with every Republican member on the committee having signed a letter calling for his immediate resignation as chairman; and

Whereas Chairman SCHIFF has hindered the ability of the Intelligence Committee to fulfill its oversight responsibilities of the intelligence community, an indispensable pillar of our national security: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) the House of Representatives censures and condemns Representative ADAM SCHIFF for conduct that misleads the American people in a way that is not befitting an elected Member of the House of Representatives;

(2) Representative ADAM SCHIFF will forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative ADAM SCHIFF will be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would now recognize the gentleman from Arizona to offer the resolution just noticed.

Does the gentleman offer the resolution?

Mr. BIGGS. Yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

Whereas President Trump released the transcript of a call between him and the President of Ukraine;

Whereas President Trump subsequently released the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019;

Whereas, in a September 26, 2019, hearing on the whistleblower complaint, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff purported to relay the content of the phone call to the American people;

Whereas, instead of quoting directly from the available transcript, Chairman Schiff manufactured a false retelling of the conversation between President Trump and President Zelensky;

Whereas this egregiously false and fabricated retelling had no relationship to the call itself;

Whereas these actions of Chairman Schiff misled the American people, bring disrepute upon the House of Representatives, and make a mockery of the impeachment process, one of this chamber's most solemn constitutional duties;

Whereas, for more than 2 years, Chairman Schiff has spread false accusations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia;

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, then-Ranking Member Schiff read out false allegations from the Steele dossier accusing numerous Trump associates of colluding with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member Schiff falsely claimed in a March 2017 interview to have "more than circumstantial evidence" of collusion with Russia;

Whereas then-Ranking Member Schiff negotiated with Russian comedians whom he

believed to be Ukrainian officials to obtain materials to damage the President of the United States politically;

Whereas, according to a New York Times article on October 2, 2019, Chairman Schiff's committee staff met with the whistleblower prior to the filing of his complaint, and staff members communicated the content of the complaint to Chairman Schiff;

Whereas Chairman Schiff concealed his dealings with the whistleblower from the rest of the Intelligence Committee, and when asked directly in a television interview whether he had any contact with the whistleblower, he lied to the American people and said, "We have not spoken directly with the whistleblower.";

Whereas members of the Intelligence Committee have lost faith in his objectivity and capabilities as Chairman, with every Republican member on the Committee having signed a letter calling for his immediate resignation as Chairman; and

Whereas Chairman Schiff has hindered the ability of the Intelligence Committee to fulfill its oversight responsibilities of the Intelligence Community, an indispensable pillar of our national security: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) the House of Representatives censures and condemns Representative Adam Schiff for conduct that misleads the American people in a way that is not befitting an elected Member of the House of Representatives;

(2) Representative Adam Schiff will forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative Adam Schiff will be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

#### MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hoyer moves that the resolution be laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table offered by the gentleman from Maryland.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to table will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 4406; and

H.R. 4407.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 185, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 568]

YEAS—218

Adams	Blunt Rochester	Carson (IN)
Aguilar	Bonamici	Cartwright
Amash	Boyle, Brendan	Case
Axne	F.	Casten (IL)
Barragán	Brindisi	Castor (FL)
Bass	Brown (MD)	Castro (TX)
Beatty	Brownley (CA)	Chu, Judy
Bera	Bustos	Cicilline
Beyer	Butterfield	Cisneros
Bishop (GA)	Carbajal	Clark (MA)
Blumenauer	Cárdenas	Clarke (NY)

Clay	Johnson (TX)	Pressley	Lamborn	Pence	Steil	Bass	Foster	Lujan
Cleaver	Kaptur	Price (NC)	Latta	Perry	Steube	Beatty	Foxo (NC)	Luria
Clyburn	Keating	Quigley	Lesko	Posey	Stivers	Bera	Frankel	Lynch
Cohen	Kelly (IL)	Raskin	Long	Ratcliffe	Taylor	Bergman	Fudge	Malinowski
Connolly	Khanna	Rice (NY)	Loudermilk	Reed	Thompson (PA)	Beyer	Fulcher	Maloney,
Cooper	Kildee	Rose (NY)	Lucas	Reschenthaler	Thornberry	Bilirakis	Gallagher	Carolyn B.
Correa	Kilmer	Rouda	Luetkemeyer	Rice (SC)	Tipton	Bishop (GA)	Gallego	Maloney, Sean
Costa	Kim	Roybal-Allard	Marchant	Riggleman	Turner	Bishop (UT)	Garamendi	Marchant
Courtney	Kind	Ruiz	Marshall	Roby	Wagner	Blumenauer	Garcia (IL)	Marshall
Cox (CA)	Kirkpatrick	Ruppersberger	Mast	Rodgers (WA)	Walberg	Blunt Rochester	Garcia (TX)	Mast
Craig	Krishnamoorthi	Rush	McCarthy	Roe, David P.	Walden	Bonamici	Gianforte	Matsui
Crist	Kuster (NH)	Ryan	McCaul	Rogers (AL)	Walker	Bost	Gibbs	McAdams
Crow	Lamb	Sánchez	McClintock	Rogers (KY)	Walorski	Boyle, Brendan	Golden	McBath
Cuellar	Langevin	Sarbanes	McHenry	Rose, John W.	Waltz	F.	Gomez	McCarthy
Cunningham	Larsen (WA)	Scanlon	McKinley	Rouzer	Watkins	Brady	Gonzalez (OH)	McCaul
Davids (KS)	Larson (CT)	Schakowsky	Meadows	Roy	Weber (TX)	Brindisi	Gonzalez (TX)	McCollum
Davis (CA)	Lawrence	Schiff	Miller	Rutherford	Webster (FL)	Brooks (AL)	Gottheimer	McGovern
Dean	Lawson (FL)	Schneider	Mitchell	Schweikert	Wenstrup	Brooks (IN)	Granger	McHenry
DeFazio	Lee (CA)	Schrader	Moolenaar	Scott, Austin	Westerman	Brown (MD)	Graves (GA)	McKinley
DeGette	Lee (NV)	Schrier	Mooney (WV)	Sensenbrenner	Williams	Brownley (CA)	Graves (LA)	McNerney
DeLauro	Levin (CA)	Scott (VA)	Mullin	Shimkus	Wilson (SC)	Buchanan	Graves (MO)	Meeks
DelBene	Levin (MI)	Scott, David	Murphy (NC)	Simpson	Wittman	Buchon	Green, Al (TX)	Miller
Delgado	Lewis	Serrano	Newhouse	Smith (MO)	Womack	Budd	Griffith	Mitchell
Demings	Lieu, Ted	Sewell (AL)	Norman	Smith (NE)	Woodall	Burchett	Guest	Moolenaar
DeSaulnier	Lofgren	Shalala	Nunes	Smith (NJ)	Wright	Bustos	Guthrie	Mooney (WV)
Deutch	Lowenthal	Sherman	Nunes	Spano	Yoho	Butterfield	Hagedorn	Moore
Doggett	Doyle, Michael	Sherrill	Olson	Staubert	Young	Byrne	Harder (CA)	Morelle
F.	Luria	Slotkin	Palazzo	Stefanik	Zeldin	Calvert	Hartzler	Moulton
Engel	Lynch	Smith (WA)	Palmer			Carbajal	Hastings	Mucarsel-Powell
Escobar	Malinowski	Soto				Cárdenas	Hayes	Mullin
Eshoo	Maloney,	Spanberger	Allred	Haaland	Richmond	Carson (IN)	Heck	Murphy (FL)
Espallat	Carolyn B.	Speier	Bishop (NC)	Keller	Rooney (FL)	Carter (GA)	Hern, Kevin	Murphy (NC)
Evans	Maloney, Sean	Stanton	Collins (GA)	Kennedy	Scalise	Carter (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Nadler
Finkenauer	Matsui	Stevens	Curtis	Lipinski	Sires	Cartwright	Higgins (LA)	Napolitano
Fletcher	McAdams	Suozzi	Davis, Danny K.	Loebach	Stewart	Case	Higgins (NY)	Neal
Foster	McBath	Swalwell (CA)	Dingell	McEachin	Takano	Casten (IL)	Hill (AR)	Neguse
Frankel	McCollum	Thompson (CA)	Gabbard	Meng	Timmons	Castor (FL)	Hill (CA)	Newhouse
Fudge	McGovern	Thompson (MS)	Gaetz	Meuser	Upton	Castro (TX)	Himes	Norcross
Gallego	McNerney	Titus	Gooden	Peters		Chabot	Holding	Norman
Garamendi	Meeks	Tlaib	Grijalva	Pingree		Cheney	Hollingsworth	Nunes
Garcia (IL)	Moore	Tonko				Chu, Judy	Horn, Kendra S.	O'Halloran
Garcia (TX)	Morelle	Torres (CA)				Cicilline	Horsford	Ocasio-Cortez
Golden	Moulton	Torres Small				Cisneros	Houlahan	Olson
Gomez	Mucarsel-Powell	(NM)				Clark (MA)	Hoyer	Omar
Gonzalez (TX)	Murphy (FL)	Trahan				Clarke (NY)	Hudson	Palazzo
Gottheimer	Nadler	Trone				Clay	Huffman	Pallone
Green, Al (TX)	Napolitano	Underwood				Cleaver	Huizenga	Palmer
Harder (CA)	Neal	Van Drew				Cloud	Hunter	Panetta
Hastings	Neguse	Vargas				Clyburn	Hurd (TX)	Pappas
Hayes	Norcross	Veasey				Cohen	Jackson Lee	Pascarell
Heck	O'Halloran	Vela				Cole	Jayapal	Payne
Higgins (NY)	Ocasio-Cortez	Velázquez				Comer	Jeffries	Pence
Hill (CA)	Omar	Visclosky				Conaway	Johnson (GA)	Perlmutter
Himes	Pallone	Wasserman				Connolly	Johnson (OH)	Peterson
Horn, Kendra S.	Panetta	Schultz				Cook	Johnson (SD)	Phillips
Horsford	Pappas	Waters				Cooper	Johnson (TX)	Pocan
Houlahan	Pascarell	Watson Coleman				Correa	Jordan	Porter
Hoyer	Payne	Welch				Costa	Joyce (OH)	Posey
Huffman	Perlmutter	Wexton				Courtney	Joyce (PA)	Pressley
Jackson Lee	Peterson	Wild				Cox (CA)	Kaptur	Price (NC)
Jayapal	Phillips	Wilson (FL)				Craig	Katko	Quigley
Jeffries	Pocan	Yarmuth				Crawford	Keating	Raskin
Johnson (GA)	Porter					Crenshaw	Kelly (IL)	Ratcliffe

## NAYS—185

Abraham	Cloud	Griffith
Aderholt	Cole	Grothman
Allen	Comer	Guest
Amodei	Conaway	Guthrie
Armstrong	Cook	Hagedorn
Arrington	Crawford	Harris
Babin	Crenshaw	Hartzler
Bacon	Davidson (OH)	Hern, Kevin
Baird	Davis, Rodney	Herrera Beutler
Balderson	DesJarlais	Hice (GA)
Banks	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Barr	Duncan	Hill (AR)
Bergman	Dunn	Holding
Biggs	Emmer	Hollingsworth
Bilirakis	Estes	Hudson
Bishop (UT)	Ferguson	Huizenga
Bost	Fitzpatrick	Hunter
Brady	Fleischmann	Hurd (TX)
Brooks (AL)	Flores	Johnson (LA)
Brooks (IN)	Fortenberry	Johnson (OH)
Buchanan	Foxo (NC)	Johnson (SD)
Buck	Fulcher	Jordan
Bucshon	Gallagher	Joyce (OH)
Budd	Gianforte	Joyce (PA)
Burchett	Gibbs	Katko
Burgess	Gohmert	Kelly (MS)
Byrne	Gonzalez (OH)	Kelly (PA)
Calvert	Gosar	King (IA)
Carter (GA)	Granger	King (NY)
Carter (TX)	Graves (GA)	Kinzing
Chabot	Graves (LA)	Kustoff (TN)
Cheney	Graves (MO)	LaHood
Cline	Green (TN)	LaMalfa

## NOT VOTING—28

□ 1857

Messrs. ROUZER and LOUDERMILK changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. CROW, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mses. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and CLARKE of New York changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4406) to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 25, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 569]

YEAS—375

Abraham	Amodei	Baird
Adams	Armstrong	Balderson
Aderholt	Arrington	Banks
Aguilar	Axne	Barr
Allen	Bacon	Barragán

Bass	Foster	Lujan
Beatty	Fox (NC)	Luria
Bera	Frankel	Lynch
Bergman	Fudge	Malinowski
Beyer	Fulcher	Maloney,
Bilirakis	Gallagher	Carolyn B.
Bishop (GA)	Gallego	Maloney, Sean
Bishop (UT)	Garamendi	Marchant
Blumenauer	Garcia (IL)	Marshall
Blunt Rochester	Garcia (TX)	Mast
Bonamici	Gianforte	Matsui
Bost	Gibbs	McAdams
Boyle, Brendan	Golden	McBath
F.	Gomez	McCarthy
Brady	Gonzalez (OH)	McCaul
Brindisi	Gonzalez (TX)	McCollum
Brooks (AL)	Gottheimer	McGovern
Brooks (IN)	Granger	McHenry
Brown (MD)	Graves (GA)	McKinley
Brownley (CA)	Graves (LA)	McNerney
Buchanan	Graves (MO)	Meeks
Bucshon	Green, Al (TX)	Miller
Budd	Griffith	Mitchell
Burchett	Guest	Moolenaar
Bustos	Guthrie	Mooney (WV)
Butterfield	Hagedorn	Moore
Byrne	Harder (CA)	Morelle
Calvert	Hartzler	Moulton
Carbajal	Hastings	Mucarsel-Powell
Cárdenas	Hayes	Mullin
Carson (IN)	Heck	Murphy (FL)
Carter (GA)	Hern, Kevin	Murphy (NC)
Carter (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Nadler
Cartwright	Higgins (LA)	Napolitano
Case	Higgins (NY)	Neal
Casten (IL)	Hill (AR)	Neguse
Castor (FL)	Hill (CA)	Newhouse
Castro (TX)	Himes	Norcross
Chabot	Holding	Norman
Cheney	Hollingsworth	Nunes
Chu, Judy	Horn, Kendra S.	O'Halloran
Cicilline	Horsford	Ocasio-Cortez
Cisneros	Houlahan	Olson
Clark (MA)	Hoyer	Omar
Clarke (NY)	Hudson	Palazzo
Clay	Huffman	Pallone
Cleaver	Huizenga	Palmer
Cloud	Hunter	Panetta
Clyburn	Hurd (TX)	Pappas
Cohen	Jackson Lee	Pascarell
Cole	Jayapal	Payne
Comer	Jeffries	Pence
Conaway	Johnson (GA)	Perlmutter
Connolly	Johnson (OH)	Peterson
Cook	Johnson (SD)	Phillips
Cooper	Johnson (TX)	Pocan
Correa	Jordan	Porter
Costa	Joyce (OH)	Posey
Courtney	Joyce (PA)	Pressley
Cox (CA)	Kaptur	Price (NC)
Craig	Katko	Quigley
Crawford	Keating	Raskin
Crenshaw	Kelly (IL)	Ratcliffe
Crist	Kelly (MS)	Reed
Crow	Kelly (PA)	Reschenthaler
Cuellar	Khanna	Rice (NY)
Cunningham	Kildee	Rice (SC)
Davids (KS)	Kilmer	Richmond
Davis (CA)	Kim	Riggleman
Davis, Rodney	Kind	Roby
Dean	King (NY)	Rodgers (WA)
DeFazio	Kinzing	Roe, David P.
DeGette	Kirkpatrick	Rogers (AL)
DeLauro	Krishnamoorthi	Rogers (KY)
DelBene	Kuster (NH)	Rose (NY)
Delgado	Kustoff (TN)	Rose, John W.
Demings	LaHood	Rouda
DeSaulnier	LaMalfa	Rouzer
DesJarlais	Lamb	Roybal-Allard
Deutch	Lamborn	Ruiz
Diaz-Balart	Langevin	Ruppersberger
Doggett	Larsen (WA)	Rush
Doyle, Michael	Larson (CT)	Rutherford
F.	Latta	Ryan
Duncan	Lawrence	Sánchez
Dunn	Lawson (FL)	Sarbanes
Emmer	Lee (CA)	Scanlon
Engel	Lee (NV)	Schakowsky
Escobar	Levin (CA)	Schiff
Eshoo	Levin (MI)	Schneider
Espallat	Lewis	Schrader
Estes	Lieu, Ted	Schrier
Evans	Lofgren	Schweikert
Finkenauer	Long	Scott (VA)
Fitzpatrick	Loudermilk	Scott, Austin
Fleischmann	Lowenthal	Scott, David
Fletcher	Lowe	Sensenbrenner
Flores	Lucas	Serrano
Fortenberry	Luetkemeyer	Sewell (AL)

Shalala Thompson (CA)  
 Sherman Thompson (MS)  
 Sherrill Thompson (PA)  
 Shimkus Thornberry  
 Simpson Tipton  
 Slotkin Titus  
 Smith (MO) Tlaib  
 Smith (NE) Tonko  
 Smith (NJ) Torres (CA)  
 Smith (WA) Torres Small  
 Smucker (NM)  
 Soto Trahan  
 Spanberger Trone  
 Spano Turner  
 Speier Underwood  
 Stanton Van Drew  
 Stauber Vargas  
 Stefanik Veasey  
 Steil Vela  
 Stevens Velázquez  
 Stivers Visclosky  
 Suozzi Wagner  
 Swalwell (CA) Walberg

## NAYS—25

Amash Green (TN)  
 Biggs Grothman  
 Buck Harris  
 Burgess Hice (GA)  
 Cline Johnson (LA)  
 Davidson (OH) King (IA)  
 Ferguson Lesko  
 Gohmert Massie  
 Gosar McClintock

## NOT VOTING—31

Allred Haaland  
 Babin Keller  
 Bishop (NC) Kennedy  
 Collins (GA) Lipinski  
 Curtis Loebsock  
 Davis, Danny K. McEachin  
 Dingell Meadows  
 Gabbard Meng  
 Gaetz Meuser  
 Gooden Peters  
 Grijalva Pingree

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

## □ 1905

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 569.

## SCORE FOR SMALL BUSINESS ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4407) to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 389, nays 8, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 570]

## YEAS—389

Abraham Deutch  
 Adams Diaz-Balart  
 Aderholt Doggett  
 Aguilera Doyle, Michael  
 Allen F.  
 Amodei Duncan  
 Armstrong Dunn  
 Arrington Emmer  
 Axne Engel  
 Babin Escobar  
 Bacon Eshoo  
 Baird Espallat  
 Balderson Estes  
 Banks Evans  
 Barr Ferguson  
 Barragán Finkenauer  
 Bass Fitzpatrick  
 Beatty Fleischmann  
 Bera Fletcher  
 Bergman Flores  
 Beyer Fortenberry  
 Bilirakis Foster  
 Bishop (GA) Foxx (NC)  
 Bishop (UT) Frankel  
 Blumenauer Fudge  
 Blunt Rochester Fulcher  
 Bonamici Gallagher  
 Bost Gallego  
 Boyle, Brendan Garamendi  
 F. García (IL)  
 Brady García (TX)  
 Brindisi Lujan  
 Brooks (IN) Gibbons  
 Brown (MD) Gohmert  
 Brownley (CA) Golden  
 Buchanan Gomez  
 Burchon Gonzalez (OH)  
 Budd Gonzalez (TX)  
 Burchett Gottheimer  
 Burgess Granger  
 Bustos Graves (GA)  
 Butterfield Graves (LA)  
 Byrne Graves (MO)  
 Calvert Green (TN)  
 Carbajal Green, Al (TX)  
 Cárdenas Grothman  
 Carson (IN) Guest  
 Carter (GA) Guthrie  
 Carter (TX) Hagedorn  
 Cartwright Harder (CA)  
 Case Harris  
 Casten (IL) Hartzler  
 Castor (FL) Hastings  
 Castro (TX) Hayes  
 Chabot Heck  
 Cheney Hern, Kevin  
 Chu, Judy Herrera Beutler  
 Cicilline Hice (GA)  
 Cisneros Higgins (LA)  
 Clark (MA) Higgins (NY)  
 Clarke (NY) Hill (AR)  
 Clay Hill (CA)  
 Cleaver Himes  
 Cline Holding  
 Cloud Hollingsworth  
 Clyburn Horn, Kendra S.  
 Cohen Horsford  
 Comer Houlihan  
 Conaway Hoyer  
 Connolly Hudson  
 Cook Huffman  
 Cooper Huizenga  
 Correa Hunter  
 Costa Hurd (TX)  
 Courtney Jackson Lee  
 Cox (CA) Jayapal  
 Craig Jeffries  
 Crawford Johnson (GA)  
 Crenshaw Johnson (LA)  
 Crist Johnson (OH)  
 Crow Johnson (SD)  
 Cuellar Johnson (TX)  
 Cunningham Jordan  
 Davids (KS) Joyce (OH)  
 Davidson (OH) Joyce (PA)  
 Davis (CA) Kaptur  
 Davis, Rodney Katko  
 Dean Keating  
 DeFazio Kelly (IL)  
 DeGette Kelly (MS)  
 DeLauro Kelly (PA)  
 DelBene Khanna  
 Delgado Kildee  
 Demings Kilmer  
 DeSaulnier Kim  
 DesJarlais Kind

Reed Sherman  
 Reschenthaler Sherrill  
 Rice (NY) Shimkus  
 Rice (SC) Simpson  
 Richmond Slotkin  
 Rigglesman Smith (MO)  
 Roby Smith (NE)  
 Rodgers (WA) Smith (NJ)  
 Roe, David P. Smith (WA)  
 Rogers (AL) Smucker  
 Rogers (KY) Soto  
 Rose (NY) Spanberger  
 Rose, John W. Spano  
 Rouda Speier  
 Rouzer Stanton  
 Roybal-Allard Stauber  
 Ruiz Stefanik  
 Ruppersberger Steil  
 Rush Steube  
 Ryan Stevens  
 Sánchez Stivers  
 Sarbanes Suozzi  
 Scanlon Swalwell (CA)  
 Schakowsky Taylor  
 Schiff Thompson (CA)  
 Schneider Thompson (MS)  
 Schrader Thompson (PA)  
 Schrier Thornberry  
 Schweikert Tipton  
 Scott (VA) Titus  
 Scott, Austin Tlaib  
 Scott, David Tonko  
 Sensenbrenner Torres (CA)  
 Serrano Torres Small  
 Sewell (AL) (NM)  
 Shalala Trahan

## NAYS—8

Amash Buck  
 Biggs Gosar  
 Brooks (AL) Griffith

## NOT VOTING—34

Allred Keller  
 Bishop (NC) Kennedy  
 Cole Lipinski  
 Collins (GA) Loebsock  
 Curtis McEachin  
 Davis, Danny K. Meadows  
 Dingell Meng  
 Gabbard Meuser  
 Gaetz Peters  
 Gooden Pingree  
 Grijalva Rooney (FL)  
 Haaland Rutherford

## □ 1914

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, please accept the following vote recommendations in my absence as I represent the United States at the formal ascension of the Emperor in Japan. Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 568, “yea” on rollcall No. 569, and “yea” on rollcall No. 570.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, as I am back home in Dallas, Texas in light of the tornado and storm, I submit the following vote explanation. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 568, “yea” on rollcall No. 569, and “yea” on rollcall No. 570.



PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE CATAFALQUE SITUATED IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER IN CONNECTION WITH MEMORIAL SERVICES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOUSE WING OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 27) providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

#### S. CON. RES. 27

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Architect of the Capitol is authorized and directed to transfer the catafalque which is situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center to the House wing of the Capitol so that such catafalque may be used in connection with services to be conducted there for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.*

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN JACK EDWARDS

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

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my Alabama colleagues in remembering the extraordinary life of Alabama's great public servant, the late Congressman Jack Edwards.

Jack served Alabama's First Congressional District in Washington for 20 years. He was a great friend and mentor to me and countless others, and he was a true leader here in Congress where he led the rebuilding of our military under President Reagan.

Jack's service continued after Congress. He was chair of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce during a period of remarkable renaissance. He also served as chair of the board of trustees for the University of Alabama.

Jack was a born leader who loved his country and never failed to answer the call of service. Jack helped create the America we know today, and we owe him a great debt of gratitude. In re-

membering Jack Edwards, we all should emulate his example and the principles he stood for: unquestioned integrity, commitment to others, and respect for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all Members and guests of the gallery rise for a moment of silence in honor of the late Jack Edwards.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a good friend, patriot, and one of the most principled, passionate men I have ever known; that is Elijah Cummings.

Elijah Cummings was an individual who has done so much for his community, has done so much for his country and his state. I had the honor of serving with Elijah Cummings for over 25 years. We also went to the same high school, City College.

Congressman Cummings received attention on the national stage as chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, and as such he was fighting for our democracy every single day, signing subpoenas in the hours before his death. He spoke truth to power and was taking on what many of us see as dangerous threats to our system of government, divided by our forefathers into three equal branches.

But even as he commanded a gavel as chairman, he never stopped fighting for Baltimore and the little guy. Chairman Cummings can rest easy knowing that he did everything he could in his time to restore the principles of our democracy and equality.

His passing is a tremendous loss to me personally, the city of Baltimore, our State, and our country. My heart goes out to his family and friends and staff during this time of grief.

#### RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL HERBERT LLOYD WILKERSON ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, the United States Marine Corps is characterized by their values of honor, courage, and commitment—as Marines would say, “Semper Paratus.”

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Herbert Lloyd Wilkerson on his 100th birthday, a decorated veteran who truly personifies these values of the United States Marine Corps.

Major General Wilkerson first felt the call to serve following the attacks on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. Still three hours short of graduation, he courageously enlisted as a private. Major General Wilkerson would go on to serve our country in World War II, the Korean war, and Vietnam, soon be-

coming chief of staff and base commander for Camp Lejeune. General Wilkerson's unrelenting commitment to serve the United States of America will inspire generations to come just as it inspired his own son, Major General Tom Wilkerson.

Please join me in celebrating Major General Wilkerson's 100 years of being always faithful to our country, serving with relentless patriotism and valor.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of our honorable statesman and dear friend, Congressman Elijah Cummings. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Cummings championed issues, including civil rights, access to affordable healthcare, transportation, and congressional oversight.

Representative Cummings was irritated when I pushed him to take an office in the Congressional Black Caucus until he went home that weekend and he came back with a big smile and said that the people at home had noticed it. He also succeeded me as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Madam Speaker, I join Members of Congress in extending our sympathies to Congressman Cummings' wife, Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his family, and to all who had the great pleasure of knowing him. The legacy of Congressman Cummings will endure in this great institution as those that live in the hearts of others never truly perish.

#### RECOGNIZING GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize this past September 29 as Gold Star Mother's Day. Originally dedicated in 1936, the last Sunday in September each year honors mothers who have lost a son or daughter while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Service and sacrifice for our Nation is not only a personal commitment, but one that involves the sacrifice of entire families and even whole communities. In Gold Star Mothers we can see one of the most important reminders of this sacrifice.

Thank you to the Gold Star Mothers for your own service to our Nation. I understand that a day of recognition will not bring back the lives of your children, but you continue to be an inspiration to us all. With national conventions, fundraising events, and Federal advocacy, you continue to move forward and make our world a better place to live.



# RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month and to celebrate the enormous contributions people with disabilities have made and will continue to make throughout the American workforce.

I especially want to highlight the work being done in Michigan's Ninth District by the Commission on Disabilities to promote inclusion in Warren, Michigan. On October 23 the commission is cohosting a Disability Awareness Fair to commemorate this month and connect workers with disabilities to important resources.

America is strongest when we harness the talents and creativity of all of our people. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the indisputable contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

## RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

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

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an important veterans' initiative that I am proud to lead with Chairman TAKANO. It is essential that we recognize and commend the selfless sacrifice veterans have made to protect our most precious freedoms.

That is why Chairman TAKANO and I have challenged all Members of Congress to participate in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project by submitting at least one of their veteran constituents' stories to the project prior to Veteran's Day.

The Veterans History Project gives our Nation's heroes a platform to share and preserve their personal stories about their time in uniform to help Americans understand military service and its importance to our country's history. We can think of no better way to honor the men and women who fought for our freedoms in the weeks leading up to Veteran's Day than by ensuring that their unique stories of service are forever memorialized for future generations of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to associate my remarks with those about Elijah Cummings and wish his family God's blessings.

## HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the extraordinary life of Congressman Elijah Cummings. He was a trailblazer for civil rights, a fierce advocate for equal justice, a defender of good government, and a friend and mentor to countless people, especially to members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congressman Cummings was born the son of sharecroppers and rose to incredible heights, but he never forgot his roots. Elijah Cummings never stopped striving to ensure every American could reach his or her potential the way he did. He understood that we are all in this together, that as a Nation we rise and fall as one.

I will never forget those values which he taught and lived through his own example each and every day. We will always treasure the time we spent together and the lessons he taught all of us. When Congressman Cummings spoke, we listened. He helped so many of us. But Congressman Cummings' work is far from done. It is up to us to keep marching on his behalf and carry on the iconic legacy he has entrusted in us to carry us forward.

## RECOGNIZING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence is a terrible reality for far too many women, men, and children. By the time I finish this speech, roughly 20 people will fall victim to abuse at the hands of an intimate partner.

This is Ashley Hall, a mother of two young girls from my district. She was a dance instructor, a teacher's aide, and she had a heart for those who struggled. Ashley was also a victim of domestic violence. She lost her life at the hands of her husband, a tragedy that will impact her daughters for the rest of their lives.

This month let the stories like Ashley's be shared as a way to help others. Take time to reach out to those you think may be in need. Get involved by supporting local shelters and speak out against this tragic issue. Resources are available for those in need. The National Domestic Violence Hotline can be reached at 1-800-799-7233.

## HONORING CODY STASHAK

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, Cody Stashak grew up in Mays Landing in south Jersey. He graduated from Oakcrest High School in 2012 where he played baseball for the Falcons and went on to attend Cumberland County College for 2 years where he played baseball, as well.

Cody moved on from our south Jersey district to St. John's University in New York where he continued to excel in his sport. Now Cody has moved to the major leagues. Cody was drafted to the Minnesota Twins in 2015 where he was mainly used as a relief pitcher.

This year Cody made his major league debut in a recent game against the New York Yankees where he allowed only four hits and he struck out three. Cody, your talent and dedication are admirable, and we are so impressed with how far you have come.

Cody might be in Minnesota now, but we know that he is south Jersey through and through and his south Jersey community is rooting for him. I am happy to say that I have known Cody's father and his grandfather through the years, and I know how proud they are and how proud south Jersey is of its star.

## CONGRATULATING JILL STAFFORD

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Principal Jill Stafford for being named the Principal of the Year for Region 10 by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Having dedicated 27 years of her professional career to her students, Ms. Stafford has displayed her passion for education and commitment to her community. For the last 7 years Ms. Stafford has served as the principal of Lowery Freshman Center in Allen, Texas.

Ms. Stafford goes above and beyond each and every day for both her students and her colleagues. As students face the daunting transition into high school, it is critical that they have the unmatched support of strong leaders like Principal Stafford to keep them motivated and on track. I ask my colleagues and the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Principal Jill Stafford for her hard work and congratulate her on this well-earned recognition.

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## HONORING CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH CUMMINGS

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a great American patriot, Elijah Cummings.

On behalf of the people of Baltimore, I want to thank him for his incredible leadership, for his friendship to so many, for his mentorship of so many in the community and to me.

I had the privilege for almost 12 years, the last 12 years of Elijah's life, to sit a few feet away from him in the

Oversight and Reform Committee and to see what a national leader he was, how he fought for the left out and the locked out.

I also had the opportunity to be with him on many occasions in Baltimore, to see how people responded to him, how they invested in his leadership. We will miss that dearly.

I was thinking today as I drove from Baltimore through West Baltimore, the community he loved, about his fight for the soul of our democracy, and I had anxiety about if we can continue that fight without him. But it occurred to me that Elijah would not have left us when he did if he didn't believe that we had it within ourselves to finish that fight.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Elijah for his inspiration. May his memory be eternal.

#### RECOGNIZING THE STUDENTS OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students of the Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology in Pleasant Gap, Pennsylvania.

Recently, I had the pleasure of joining several students back in Centre County for a very special project that they are working on. It is called Heroscaping.

The students are building a memorial at the Centre County Public Safety Training Center to honor first responders, particularly those who answered the call to serve when the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11.

The project was recently finished, and it was an honor to join them when I was back in my district to help lay pavers and meet many of the students involved. One of the students was just 3 months old when the planes crashed into the Twin Towers. The others had not been born yet.

That is why projects like these are so important—to honor the men and women who rose to the occasion to protect our Nation and to ensure that the younger generations never forget their sacrifices.

#### INVESTIGATING PRESIDENT TRUMP AND UKRAINE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, three of the House committees investigating President Trump's dealings with Ukraine subpoenaed administration officials. They seek answers as to why President Trump would purposely withhold critical military assistance from Ukraine.

Such a request is well within the committee's constitutional legislative

powers. It is also central to establishing whether President Trump knowingly withheld military assistance to coerce Ukrainian Government officials into creating a false narrative on his political rival, Vice President Joe Biden.

On October 15, the committees received a letter from the Vice President, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Department of Defense rejecting the House subpoena. One letter even indicated the administration was "unable to comply with your request for documents at this time."

Mr. Speaker, this is unconscionable. As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus and a senior member on the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I am greatly disheartened that U.S.-Ukraine relations could be put at risk just to advance and cover up President Trump's malfeasance.

America deserves transparency and truth, and the Trump administration must work with Congress or face constitutional justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LEVIN of Michigan). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### HONORING BILL WINKKY

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

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Bill Winkky, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

Bill Winkky, son of Mary Emma and Robert Winkky, was born in Kingston, New York, on September 29, 1939. In his 80 years of life, he has been a mentor, a friend, a father, a husband, and an all-around good man who deserves to be recognized.

In 1963, Bill married Charlotte Sommerfield and has remained by her side for the past 56 years. Bill has such dedication to his wife and his family that it is heartwarming to see. Yet his family is not the only thing he has been dedicated to over the years.

He was a teacher, dedicating 32½ years to educating and enriching the lives of the youth he taught. He also coached several sports, including football, wrestling, swimming, and track. The hours he spent dedicated to young people were well spent, and he had a profound impact on his students.

Bill also dedicated time to serving the people as the town of Veteran supervisor for 10 years, and he continues to hold this role now.

It is not often you have the pleasure of meeting a man as dedicated to helping others as Bill Winkky. He is a pillar in the community who has given so much of himself to our youth through his coaching and teaching tenure. He continues to do a great deal as the town of Veteran supervisor.

I am honored to know him, and I am equally honored to celebrate his

achievements and his legacy of hard work, compassion, and community-mindedness here today.

Mr. Speaker, given the above, I ask this legislative body to pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Bill Winkky on his 80th birthday.

Godspeed, Bill, and God bless.

#### WEST MICHIGAN BLUE RIBBON AWARD

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate three west Michigan schools that have recently been recognized for their academic excellence and high student achievement.

It is an honor to represent Lakewood Elementary School and Eagle Crest Charter Academy in Holland, Michigan, and Peach Plains Elementary School in Grand Haven, which were each awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award by the Department of Education.

Each year, this esteemed recognition is presented to K-12 schools across the Nation that show outstanding gains in student achievement or demonstrate academic excellence that goes above and beyond.

In west Michigan, we have a legacy of offering our children excellent educational opportunities. These three schools in Ottawa County join a wonderful group of west Michigan schools that have already earned this distinction in the past.

This award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and entire communities that have dedicated themselves to creating a learning environment where students can thrive and achieve academic success.

Congratulations to the Eagle Crest Charter Academy, Lakewood Elementary School, and Peach Plains Elementary, and the students, parents, and staff for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to improving educational outcomes in our communities.

#### CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH BROWN

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank an educator from my district who recently received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching from the National Science Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Elizabeth Brown of Brogue in southern York County was a chemistry, physics, and forensic science teacher at North Harford High School in Maryland. As a teacher, Beth started a Women in Science luncheon to support young women interested in careers in science.

Beth currently has left teaching but is working to help other science, technology, engineering, and math, or

STEM, teachers by writing Next Generation Science Standards curriculum.

Mr. Speaker, I am incredibly thankful for the passion that Beth shared with her students, instilling in them an appetite for learning that they will carry for the rest of their lives.

Congratulations to Ms. Brown on receiving the Presidential award.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Elizabeth Brown for her hard work, and I thank all the teachers across southern York and Lancaster Counties who do great work educating our students every day.

#### RECOGNIZING DYSLLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring awareness to dyslexia, a learning disability that affects as many as one in five people.

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month, which is why I will be introducing a resolution this week calling on Congress to formally recognize it.

Those who have dyslexia struggle with language skills, making reading significantly more difficult.

While this is a serious problem, it is a solvable one. If educators identify dyslexia early on and teach children proper techniques, students can use these tools to succeed. Reading is foundational to education, as we first learn to read and then read to learn.

Dyslexia affects students equally regardless of intelligence, socioeconomic status, or gender. Many famous people, including Albert Einstein, Steve Jobs, and George Washington, had dyslexia. They were able to achieve incredible things despite their learning disabilities.

However, 74 percent of children who are poor readers in third grade remain poor readers by the time they reach ninth grade. This is why, as co-chair of the bipartisan House Dyslexia Caucus, I am working to increase awareness. I encourage my colleagues to join the House Dyslexia Caucus so we can ensure children with dyslexia have every opportunity to succeed.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESS- MAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, and I thank our CBC chair, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, for her leadership in organizing this effort.

For the next 60 minutes, we want to pay a special tribute to Congressman Elijah E. Cummings.

The Congressional Black Caucus, the entire country, and this institution

suffered a great loss. As a lifelong advocate for justice, equality, and the truth, Congressman Cummings was the true definition of a leader and public servant.

To many, Chairman Cummings was a friend and a mentor, but to the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Chairman Cummings was family.

Last week, Congress lost a fierce leader, a tireless champion of the people, and my friend, Chairman Elijah Cummings. It is a sad time for Congress, for Maryland, and, in fact, for the entire country.

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For the next 60 minutes we will hear from members of the Congressional Black Caucus and other colleagues as we pay tribute to a great man.

Mr. Speaker, I yield, first and foremost, to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, a man of great honor and a giant within the House of Representatives.

Congressman Cummings was born in Baltimore on January 18, 1951. He was one of seven children of Robert and Ruth Cummings. Although his family struggled financially, they always found a way to help others in their community.

Representative Cummings and his family, like thousands of other African Americans, had to face the brutal experience of the Jim Crow period. When Representative Cummings was a child, at 11, he was attacked while trying to swim in the neighborhood swimming pool. Racist adults threw rocks and bottles that resulted in injuries but left him with a determination to study law and to become the fighter for social justice that characterized his life.

He would go on to receive his bachelor's degree in political science from Howard University, and, while at Howard, he served as student government president. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Howard University, he obtained his law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Congressman Cummings practiced law in Baltimore, and, at the age of 31, he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates, where he served for 14 years and ascended to become the first African American speaker pro tempore.

In 1996, Congressman Cummings won a special election to Congress. He immediately demonstrated his leadership talent and won the respect of his colleagues.

In 2003, he was elected as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, where he served with distinction.

In 2011, he was elected by the Democratic Caucus as the ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform; and, in January of this year, he became the chair of the committee.

At this difficult time in the history of our country, we were so fortunate to

have had Representative Cummings in the leadership of such an important and contentious committee. He fought passionately for the rights of children separated from their families; he fought for everyone to have healthcare and medications that are affordable; and he fought for everyone to have access and the right to vote.

Anyone who attended a committee hearing could feel his passion. Even if they disagreed with him, they knew his passion was based on his belief and a commitment to fight for justice. The respect he afforded his opponents demonstrated for everyone to see how to lead with integrity and humility.

Chairman Cummings once said: "I'm not trying to do anything extraordinary. I'm trying to do what the Constitution says I'm supposed to do."

Representative Cummings' passing is a loss to the entire Nation, especially at this moment in history where he provided for us all an example of true leadership—leadership for the people, not leadership for self-advancement. He provided an example for us all to emulate.

His memory will forever be in our hearts and his legacy is secured in history because, in spite of his word, he was, in fact, extraordinary.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for her timely remarks and for her leadership and compassion for our entire Congressional Black Caucus membership during this very difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the majority whip.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman of our caucus for giving us somewhat of a resume of the life of Elijah Cummings.

Most people know that Elijah Cummings' roots were deep in South Carolina soil. I happen to represent the county in which his parents were born. They came north to Baltimore, seeking a better life for their children. They were sharecroppers in the county that gave birth to Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas.

The interesting thing about the people of that community who formed the movement that spurred a national and, I dare say, international movement was the simplicity of their lives and their aspirations. The Brown case was not about integrating schools; it was about getting a schoolbus for their children.

The people who came together were people of modest means. The case got the name of Briggs v. Elliott. Harry Briggs was an ordinary man working at a filling station making \$23 a week; his wife, Eliza, making \$18 a week as a chambermaid in a motel. That is the community that Elijah Cummings' family left.

He came back to that community often, and we would talk about it: the

dreams and aspirations of his parents and what they instilled in him. They were both evangelicals.

Elijah took on the mantle of an evangelist. He didn't work to prepare people for the hereafter. He worked to prepare people for the here and now.

I have been approached by various media sources with the question: What is the legacy of ELIJAH CUMMINGS? It is a simple legacy that I hope all of us will remember.

First of all, it matters not where you come from. What really matters is how far you go.

He came to this body knowing full well that he was coming into a body where people stood on the shoulders of giants. He didn't set out to be a giant, but he became one. And we, today, are much better off because of ELIJAH CUMMINGS.

I often think about a long conversation Elijah and I had over near the wall. He told me, one day, about being placed in special education as a child. He told me what it was like when a teacher saw him and decided that the only thing special about Elijah Cummings was his inquisitiveness. He was inquisitive, a little bit too much for some people, and they thought, to get rid of him, they would put him in special education.

This teacher took him out of that class, and Elijah Cummings went on to graduate college Phi Beta Kappa, to finish law school, to become the first African American to head a position in the House of Delegates of Maryland, and to come here to this body and to chair a committee, a committee that he chaired with distinction and reverence.

We are going to miss Elijah Cummings. All of us in this body will stand upon his strong shoulders.

Thank you, Elijah. Thank you.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority whip for his heartfelt remarks and for sharing his personal reflections on his friendship and service with Chairman Cummings.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), a civil rights icon and a man whom I am very honored to serve with in this body each and every day.

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a close, dear, and beloved friend, almost like a brother, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

This great man, this brother, spent 36 years in public service to his people, his home State, and to our country. He was a leader who loved this Nation, all of its people, and fought until his very last breath for those who had been left out and left behind.

He dedicated every single moment of his life to strengthening and preserving our Union. He spent every waking moment thinking of those who were hurting and suffering. He focused all of his energy into this Congress and the people we represent.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to know and to love him. It was an honor to

serve with him. It was a great honor to consider him my brother and my friend.

Sometimes people would confuse us and say: "Hello, Elijah," or, "Hello, JOHN LEWIS" to him, and we would joke about it. We would laugh about it.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the people in Maryland and people around our Nation and people around the world: We have lost a warrior. I don't think we will be so lucky or so blessed to see the likeness of this man again.

As a nation and as a people, we owe Chairman Cummings a debt of gratitude. There are no words to describe the loss of our brother, our friend, and our colleague who lived up to this great and powerful name. It hurts so deeply that all I can do is keep his wife, his family, and all who knew and loved him in my constant prayers.

Elijah, we hope to see you again one day. Blessed be your name.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, we as a body extend our sincerest condolences to Chairman Cummings' wife, Dr. Maya Rockeymoore; their children, grandchildren, friends, staff, and all those whom he positively impacted in his life and work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

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Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding.

At times like these, my good friend who chaired the Oversight and Reform Committee, on which I also serve, was compelled to be a strong leader, but that is who Elijah was anyway.

Elijah Cummings was known for calling out his Republican colleagues on countless issues, from the Census to the treatment of children coming across the border.

Yet, Chairman Cummings always took a principled stand whenever he saw the strong against the weak. Elijah Cummings' strong sense of principle was reinforced by his commanding presence, booming voice, and convincing sense of rectitude.

Yet, the presence of the passing of Chairman Cummings drew widespread sympathy and comment from the very Republicans in this House he most opposed. It is Republicans who give the best witness to Chairman Cummings' resolute fairness. Even as he held the gavel, he always let his adversaries have their say. Afterward, of course, he took them all to the cleaners.

Tragically, we have lost Elijah Cummings when this House perhaps most needed his principled leadership.

Our Committee on Oversight and Reform, which he chaired, is one of the committees deeply involved in the impeachment inquiry. Almost every day, Republicans and Democrats are sitting in to hear testimony and ask questions of witnesses during this investigation stage of the impeachment inquiry.

Elijah Cummings' legendary evenhandedness will be most missed

and sought after by all who are looking for a role model and for best practices for the rare impeachment inquiry and, for that matter, hereafter.

Let us always remember our good friend, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for sharing her remarks and reflections on his leadership.

He definitely had a presence as a dignified leader and chairman, and he personified what it really means to oversee his committee with civility and respect for each Member. I had the honor of serving on that committee during my first tenure in Congress, and I learned a lot and will continue to carry out that leadership.

I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Truly, this is the day that the Lord has made. In spite of the fact that our hearts are heavy, we must rejoice and be glad in it because we have the opportunity to celebrate the life of our longtime friend and our colleague, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

As you have heard, Elijah rose from modest beginnings to become one of the greatest public servants that our country has seen. Elijah always did what he believed was right, which earned him respect and friendship on both sides of the aisle. His courage, his passion, and his integrity were undeniable to anyone who crossed his path.

Elijah inspired us regularly as one of the greatest orators in this House. He came to my district in Georgia as a guest speaker, and when he finished, everyone was in awe. Elijah's powerful voice made everyone take notice, listen intently, and then act.

America has lost a fierce warrior who was committed to doing the right thing, regardless of politics. We will truly feel his absence in this House, where he spoke truth to power and passionately advocated for justice and equality for all.

My wife, Vivian, and I send our prayers and our deepest condolences to his wife, Maya, his children, and his family as we mourn this great man.

Winston Churchill once said: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Elijah Cummings gave so much to so many for so long. He made his life, but even greater, he made a life for his constituents and for countless others all across this Nation.

Truly, this world is a better place because of the life and legacy of Elijah Cummings.

To God, be the glory for our friend, our colleague, and the legacy of Elijah E. Cummings.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for again sharing his very heartfelt remarks.

This body tonight, it is very humbling to be here with each of the Members who have joined us, each one great in their own way.

As one of the new Members here in this body, it gives me great pride to be a part of the Congressional Black Caucus and to know that each and every Member has made such significant contributions, not just to their districts, but to the entire country.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH).

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

The Word of the Lord says in Psalm 116:15: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

With that in mind, the people of the First Congressional District of Illinois have sent me here to extend their collective condolences to the family and friends of Elijah Eugene Cummings and to the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland.

Elijah loved the Lord because the Lord first loved Elijah. How do I know this? I know this from the many times that we had discussions. Rarely in those discussions did we talk about anything other than the Gospel of Jesus Christ and how good the Lord has been to both Elijah and myself. I just stopped by the well of the U.S. House of Representatives this evening to tell somebody, to tell everybody, that the Lord is good and his mercy endures forever.

Our Nation shall surely miss the love, the compassion, the strength, the brilliance, the tireless dedication, and the amazing words of Elijah Eugene Cummings.

The Lord proclaims now to all who would hear his praise for Elijah and Elijah's work: Well done, my good and faithful servant. Well done.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman RUSH for his encouraging words, the Word that we know we needed, not just the day that we heard of the passing of Chairman Cummings, but the Word that continues to sustain us each and every day.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, one of the big five, as we call them here in the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the chorus of admirers of Elijah Cummings and to mourn the passing of our distinguished colleague.

Congressman Cummings served with passion for the rule of law, and always governed in a respectful manner, even when dealing with some of the most critical and controversial issues facing Congress today.

It is rightly noted that when Congressman Cummings spoke, he spoke with moral authority, frequently reminding us that "we are better than that."

He was an invaluable leader for civil rights, justice, and fundamental fairness. He believed in the promise of America and served as an example of it every single day. We are better off be-

cause of his leadership in Congress and the tremendous contributions he made over his life of service.

Mr. Speaker, I send my deepest condolences to Dr. Maya Rockeymoore Cummings, his three children, and all of his loved ones. I hope they will find comfort in knowing that so many people across the country are mourning their loss with them.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and chairman of the Education and Labor Committee.

I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, another great chairman who governs with a steady hand and another example of the wonderful leadership that we have in this body.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I am happy to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Elijah Cummings.

We all have at least one Elijah Cummings story. Some of us have a lot more. But more importantly, it is how Elijah lived that we have to pay tribute to.

Elijah demonstrated every day not only that he loved the people of Baltimore, but he loved this great country. If we can just pattern our lives after Elijah Cummings' past, we will be fine.

To a great warrior, a great patriot, a great leader who, obviously, in a lot of our minds, was taken too short, we say God bless you. We understand that if we had anything to do with it, we would have kept you here. But it just wasn't in the plan.

So, departing, I say to you, as well as my colleagues: Elijah, we appreciate you. Your job here in this Congress speaks volumes. God bless you.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for coming to the floor and speaking on behalf of his experience and friendship with Chairman Cummings.

As the gentleman said, he really demonstrated a life worth living and an example, an embodiment, definitely for young people and young leaders of what they should do to exemplify a good role model.

I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, to Elijah's wonderful wife and my friend, and to his children and family, we have said over and over again how much we will miss him, but we realize how much you will miss him.

Elijah Cummings was my classmate. He came in during a special election, but we always viewed each other as classmates coming in the mid-1990s.

His spirit was so strong that he was able to provide his own internal strength and also to provide strength for others.

I think we knew about Elijah's parents more than anyone else. He talked about Robert and Ruth Cummings not

only as sharecroppers but as preachers, and he talked about how they poured into his life.

Elijah was a successful man though he started with a designation that he was slow in school. He was a Phi Beta Kappa, becoming Maryland's first African American speaker pro temp.

□ 2015

But what I know most about him is that Elijah would not want us to talk about all of those successes. He probably wouldn't even want us to talk about his being the powerful chairman of the Oversight and Reform Committee or talk about his work in criminal justice and ban the box that we worked together on, or even when he took a whole group of Members over to Baltimore when he first got elected because of the scourge of HIV/AIDS. He wanted us to see it; he wanted us to stand with him; and he wanted to show his community that he was going to fight on their behalf.

What I love most about Elijah was that he mentored people anywhere he could find them on the floor of the House. We joined each other in wanting to mentor to young interns, and every time the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation called him to speak to the interns—I remember a time when John, Elijah, and I spoke to the class, and Elijah lifted them beyond anyone's expression or belief.

Elijah Cummings gave his maiden speech, and I want to give his words when he first came to the United States Congress. When I saw these, I said how powerful and potent.

Elijah Cummings said:

I only have a minute,  
60 seconds in it.  
Forced upon me, I did not choose it,  
But I know that I must use it.  
Give account if I abuse it,  
Suffer, if I lose it.  
Only a tiny little minute,  
But eternity is in it.

So, as I close my remarks, being reminded that Elijah would not want us to give his whole litany of success, I began to think of the speech of Dr. Martin Luther King on the night before his death, when he reminded people that he wanted to be known as someone who tried to help someone. He said he feared no man.

When Elijah spoke and worked, and when he worked with Republicans, he did not fear them, but he brought them to him. He made peace, while he also fought for justice.

In the words of Dr. King in that last speech, he said: "When people get caught up with that which is right and they are willing to sacrifice for it, there is no stopping point short of victory."

I believe in this life our dear friend secured real victory for his people and his constituents, a victory for those who believe in justice and equality, and a victory for the people of the United States of America.

So, Elijah, the minute you had, the minute that was given to you, you did

not waste it, and you have gained eternity. As Dr. King said, you were the orchestrator of letting justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. You were part of that justice and part of that victory. You didn't stop short. You only had a minute, but boy what you did do with that.

May God bless your soul, may you be in peace, may you R.I.P., and may we love you until we meet again.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congressman HORSFORD of Nevada for anchoring this Special Order in remembrance of Chairman Elijah Cummings, the indefatigable champion of justice and equality, the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight, the Member of Congress from the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland since April 16, 1996, and above all, the devoted and beloved son of Baltimore.

Chairman Elijah Cummings died Thursday, October 17, 2019 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland; he was 68 years old.

On behalf of my family and the constituents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I offer my deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. Mr. Speaker, our friend Elijah Cummings was in every sense of the word a statesman and a gentleman who believed in bipartisanship and treated everyone equally and respectfully.

Born January 18, 1951 in Baltimore, Maryland, to Robert and Ruth Cummings, South Carolina, sharecroppers who followed the Great Migration north to factory jobs in Baltimore, Elijah Eugene Cummings was the third of seven children.

After graduating from Baltimore City College High School in 1969, Elijah Cummings attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he was elected President of the student government and graduated in 1973 with a degree in political science, earning honors as Phi Beta Kappa.

Mr. Speaker, you may be interested to know that Elijah Cummings went on to earn a law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings' matriculation and graduation from the University of Maryland School of Law was poetic justice because a generation before it had denied admission to another son of Baltimore, the legendary Thurgood Marshall, who then went to the Howard University School of Law and later became the greatest social engineer and the architect and instrument of the strategy that defeated Jim Crow and toppled de jure segregation at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings practiced law for 14 years in Baltimore and in 1982 he was elected to the House of Delegates of the Maryland General Assembly where he served for 14 years.

In the Maryland General Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland and was the first African American in Maryland history to be named Speaker Pro Tempore, the second highest position in the House of Delegates, earning a reputation as a champion of progressive and liberal causes and constituencies and as a skilled census-builder.

Mr. Speaker, in 1996 when Congressman Kweisi Mfume resigned to assume the presidency of the United Negro College Fund, Elijah Cummings ran in and easily won the spe-

cial election created by the vacancy with 80 percent of the popular vote.

Elijah Cummings was re-elected to the 105th Congress and each of the succeeding Congresses until his untimely death, never winning with less than 70 percent of the vote.

In Elijah Cummings' maiden address as a member of Congress he vowed that he would make use of his limited time in Congress:

I only have a minute.  
Sixty seconds in it.  
Forced upon me, I did not choose it,  
But I know that I must use it.  
Give account if I abuse it.  
Suffer, if I lose it.  
Only a tiny little minute,  
But eternity is in it.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings made good on that prophetic promise from the start.

As a Member of Congress, Elijah Cummings served on the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and on Oversight and Government Reform.

As a freshman member, Elijah Cummings championed and supported health care and labor legislation.

In 2003, Elijah Cummings was elected as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In the 112th Congress, Elijah Cummings was elected by his colleagues to be Ranking Member of what is now known as the Committee on Oversight and Reform and in the 115th Congress was appointed by the Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI to the Benghazi Committee.

One of my proudest moments was working with Elijah Cummings to secure passage of H.R. 1076, the Fair Chance Act, which would "ban the box" in federal hiring by restricting federal employers and contractors from asking about the criminal histories of applicants until the conditional offer stage.

The Fair Chance Act would give formerly incarcerated people a fair chance at a job and a piece of the American dream.

I was proud to have been able to work with Chairman Elijah Cummings in support of this legislation and other legislative goals of mutual interest and concern like reducing gun violence and eliminating unfair policing in communities of color.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings dedicated his life to serving and uplifting others and empowering the people he was sworn to represent; he was a man for and of the people, going to the streets and ensuring that their voices were heard.

Elijah Cummings received national attention in 2015 when he walked the streets of Baltimore, his notable bullhorn in hand, and pleaded for calm after riots erupted in his neighborhood after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a young black man who died in police custody.

Elijah Cummings took the issues of his constituents to heart; many of us recall how he fought for meaning in the death of young Deamonte Driver, a 12-year-old Maryland boy who died from an untreated tooth infection.

Elijah Cummings often said that "our children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see" and was committed to ensuring that the next generation had access to quality healthcare and education, clean air and water, and a strong economy defined by fiscal responsibility.

Elijah Cummings had a servant's heart and was imbued with an ethic of service and inspired countless numbers of persons fight for their beliefs.

Unsurpassed was this native of Baltimore's love for his hometown.

That could also be seen by his response to the current President's belittling Baltimore and his congressional district as a "disgusting, rat and rodent infested mess" to which Elijah Cummings invited the President to join him in the important work of ensuring that all Americans had accessible, affordable, high quality health care.

Elijah Cummings' passion was not reserved for his district and the city of Baltimore; he also deeply loved his country.

As Ranking Member and the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Elijah Cummings brought his intellect to what he called "the fight for the soul of our democracy."

Elijah Cummings deeply believed in our democratic system and values and worked tirelessly to preserve them and exhorted everyone to the same:

"When we're dancing with the angels, the question will be asked, in 2019, what did we do to make sure we kept our democracy intact? Did we stand on the sidelines and say nothing?"

In the words of his widow, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, Elijah Cummings "worked until his last breath because he believed our democracy was the highest and best expression of our collective humanity and that our nation's diversity was our promise, not our problem."

Mr. Speaker, the life of Elijah Cummings is a testament to what a person of goodwill can accomplish with a servant's heart and the understanding that in the passion play of life you only have a minute, but all eternity is in it.

Elijah Cummings did not waste his minute of eternity.

Elijah Cummings will live forever in the hearts of the people of his hometown Baltimore, his state of Maryland, and the United States.

To his widow Maya, his children, and family and friends he loved and who loved him so dearly, my deepest sympathies go out to and I hope you find consolation in the certain knowledge that our beloved Elijah is now dancing with the angels.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who is another great leader. She is one of the co-chairs of the Steering and Policy Committee for the House Democrats and a true champion on so many issues, particularly for women, children, and families.

Ms. LEE of California. First, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I also want to thank our chair, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, and STACEY PLASKETT for leading this beautiful tribute tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in honor of the life and legacy of Chairman Elijah Cummings, who was a great statesman and leader, but also a kind and gentle human being who led with both his head and his heart.

My heart is heavy tonight as I offer my deepest condolences to my friends, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, the



entire family, his staff, and the people of Baltimore, whom he loved and served with courage and boldness.

Yes, he was a person of deep faith, which was that guiding light in everything that he did. Elijah was the son of two pastors, and he took care of his mother and his father in their last years on Earth.

Elijah had been a friend and adviser to me since I first came to Congress. When I was first elected, he gave me much-needed encouragement, knowing that I had come in a special election, replacing my mentor and my friend, the late great Congressman Ron Delums, who had some big shoes to fill.

But Elijah told me early on, he said: Hey, you have got to step out there, carve out your own agenda, and get out there and do your job, what you need to do to serve the people of your district.

He wanted to help me. We talked about how he could do that. He was the first Member of Congress—and he was so eager to do this—to visit my district early on in my tenure.

We had a town meeting on gun safety, mass incarceration, and criminal justice reform. I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, my constituents were in awe. They also send their condolences this evening.

This was a defining moment for me as he lifted me up as a new Member of Congress in my district in a way that no one had, and he continued to support me and advise me on many important decisions.

Also, like Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, I had the privilege to be with Congressman Cummings in his district several times. The first time was when he invited CBC members to visit his HIV/AIDS clinics and other community organizations. It was so remarkable to see how people not only respected him as a great Member of Congress, but how they loved and connected with him as their brother who never lost touch with the people.

So Elijah will be remembered as a man who pulled no punches, was authentic to the core, and a champion for our democracy. The greatest tribute to his work will be for all of us to continue to stand and defend our democracy with the same passion, vigor, and determination that he had.

I will miss Elijah's wise counsel, his words of encouragement, his support, and his leadership.

May his legacy live on, and may he rest in peace and power.

I will miss you so much, Elijah. May God bless.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her heartfelt remarks.

Each one of us can tell our own story of our experiences and opportunities that we had to share with Chairman Cummings, and that is really the opportunity that we have tonight during this Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), who is an-

other person with a great legacy, who continues to serve his constituents with dignity.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Nevada for yielding.

He was my chairman, my colleague, and my friend: the late great Elijah Cummings.

I not only had the good fortune of serving with Chairman Cummings, I also was blessed to get to know him well over the years. He was a powerful and passionate advocate for the city of Baltimore, which he loved so dearly.

I want to say that thousands of my constituents back in St. Louis have posted messages of condolence for Chairman Cummings' family. One of the most moving messages simply said this:

One of the nicest things that can be said about a man is that we believed him.

And that is the truth. Chairman Cummings fearlessly spoke truth to power, not to defeat an opponent, but to challenge us, to lift up this institution, and to give the American people a government that is as good and decent as they are.

I think the true measure of what Elijah Cummings meant to us was that, early last Thursday, when word of his untimely death began to spread, there were as many Republican tears as Democratic tears mourning the passing of this very good man in the spirit of compassion and reconciliation the Lord has endowed within each of us if we have the wisdom to seek it.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy to Chairman Cummings' family, and I want them to know that I share their grief. I have lost a brother, an American hero, and a true leader of this House.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congressman for coming to the floor to share his remarks.

Many experiences have been shared from the Oversight and Reform Committee, from those who served on that committee, those who worked with Chairman Cummings on his staff. He was known to have one of the best staffs here in the House of Representatives, and it is partly because they got to work with such a great chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD), who is the former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, let me thank Congressman HORSFORD for yielding this evening, and I thank him for his extraordinary leadership.

Elijah Cummings was my friend. Nearly every legislative day for the past 15 years, we talked about every subject you can imagine. Some of it consisted of small talk, but very often it consisted of serious conversations about our families and about our communities.

So, on behalf of my family and on behalf of the 750,000 people of the First Congressional District of North Caro-

lina, I extend condolences to the Cummings family and to the good people of Baltimore.

Mr. Speaker, several years ago, I shared with Congressman Cummings a very sad situation in my district involving an African American attorney who had suffered a debilitating stroke and was having financial problems. Immediately—immediately—Mr. Cummings said: I have great affection for Black lawyers who have served their community, and I am going to send him some money. And he did.

From time to time, I would see Mr. Cummings on national television on the talk shows. I would come back to the floor on Monday night or Tuesday night and I would sit next to him. I would compliment Mr. Cummings about his appearances on television and how he handled himself. I recall one day he told me that every minute that he is on television, he spent 1 hour preparing for that 1 minute. He was one for preparation.

I sat next to Congressman Cummings as he cast his last floor vote several weeks ago. He didn't know it was his last, but it was. He was seated right over where Ms. CLARKE is seated right now. As his staff assisted in getting him out of the chair, he looked at me that day and said: "I'm so sick. I love you, man."

I say to you tonight, Congressman Cummings: I love you; we love you; and America loves you.

Mr. Speaker, we celebrate a life well-lived. Elijah Eugene Cummings belongs to the ages.

Rest in peace, my brother, rest in peace.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BUTTERFIELD again for sharing his stories of friendship and how Chairman Cummings really touched his life as an example to so many here in this body.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), who is my good friend.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague, Chairwoman BASS, and our coleaders for this evening's Special Order hour, for providing this moment for us to reflect.

Let me start by saying, on behalf of myself, the Clarke family, and the people of the Ninth Congressional District of New York, I rise today to reflect upon the life and the legacy of the great chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Chairman Elijah Cummings, and express my heartfelt and deepest condolences to his wife, Maya Rockeymoore, his family, friends, constituents, and staff. Our great Nation is mourning and is in shock over the loss of a great man.

As one of seven children born to parents who were sharecroppers and, just as important, or maybe more importantly, pastors of the Gospel, it is safe to say that Chairman Cummings embodied the epitome of our ancestors' wildest dreams and most fervent prayers.

□ 2030

Chairman Cummings represented Baltimore, Maryland, with devotion, pride, dignity, and integrity, and dedicated his career to ensuring that his beloved community was never marginalized.

As chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Mr. Cummings used his voice to protect our democracy, to protect our civil liberties, and indeed, our humanity and our Constitution until his very last breath, and we will forever be indebted to his lifelong dedication to public service.

He will be remembered as a steadfast, former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, an advocate of the Congressional Black Caucus and black communities across this Nation who used his voice to elevate our colleagues in leadership positions and to mentor black staffers.

I recall when I was elected to the House of Representatives in the year 2006, I heard from all of the members of the New York Congressional Delegation, but I got a call from this gentleman from Baltimore, Maryland, with a thundering voice over the phone. That is when I knew I had made it, because I received a call from Elijah Cummings. And he offered his support, his mentoring, and his encouragement, and continued to do that every day that we served in this body together.

Let us all take comfort in knowing that Chairman Cummings' legacy will be forever ingrained in the halls of Congress through the next generation of leaders that his work impacted and inspired, and all of us who are his legacy keepers.

Chairman Cummings completed his mission. He is now, as he has said, dancing with the angels, and will go down in American history as a pillar in preserving our democracy and our core American values.

Words cannot express the void and loss that our collective community feels during this time of bereavement, but we must lift our heads and continue to walk in the light of Chairman Cummings' legacy. We are standing on the shoulders of a giant, and we will live out his mission of creating a better America for all, one where we pass on to our children and grandchildren a nation far greater than the one that we inherited.

May Chairman Elijah E. Cummings rest in peace and rise in glory. We will miss him dearly. I thank him.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. It has been my great honor to coanchor this Special Order hour with my esteemed colleague, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT. And I want to, again, thank our chairwoman, KAREN BASS, for her effort in bringing forward this opportunity for us to all share our reflections.

And I just want to say, on my behalf, that Chairman Cummings stood up for, really, the most vulnerable in society, and supported policies to ensure that

the next generation of Americans have access to a clean environment, affordable housing, quality healthcare and education, and financial empowerment.

Congressman Cummings was a firm believer in the United States Constitution, who fought for equality for all Americans. It is certain that Chairman Cummings did everything in his power, and then some, to defend our country and its institutions, to keep our democracy alive and thriving, despite attacks from within. His legacy of leadership will continue to inspire us all, and his presence in Congress will surely be missed.

I hope now that he is resting in power and dancing with the angels, happily, with the knowledge that he set an example of resistance and perseverance, and that we will continue in his footsteps, we will carry on his spirit, and we will carry on his legacy.

I now turn this over to the coanchor for this Special Order, my colleague and good friend, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT from the U.S. Virgin Islands, and I yield back the balance of my time.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 30 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), my colleague, for his support of the Congressional Black Caucus, and working with me in ensuring that the voices of Black America are heard here in the Congress.

At this time, I yield to the great gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) for his reflections of our colleague, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) and the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) for coanchoring this hour.

Elijah Cummings epitomized the virtues of honesty, dignity, decency, grace, and responsibility. He was committed to his family, to whom I offer my deepest condolences, and he was committed to his community. And Elijah was committed to being true to the oath that he took to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

He did so as chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform where he carried out the responsibilities of that office with great ability. Elijah Cummings wielded the gavel with the ability of a giant, but he was a quiet, unassuming, and a kindhearted man, and unafraid to sometimes walk alone.

Walking alone, Elijah saw more than many will ever see. That is why Elijah will continue to be our North Star. His light shines on in the dark night of his passing; his spirit and his example will live on in our hearts, to guide us as we

live, true to the oath we endeavor to uphold.

Shine on, Elijah Cummings, shine on. Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his reflections on our colleague, Elijah Cummings.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND), former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, a good friend and colleague.

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the delegate from the Virgin Islands for cohosting this Special Order in honor of Elijah Cummings.

We all ask that question to the Lord: "What is required of thee?"

And the answer is simple: Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God.

That is exactly what Chairman Elijah Cummings did. He fought for justice every day, not just in the halls of Congress, not just in courtrooms, sometimes it was on the streets of Baltimore. When the community was protesting, he was out there fighting for justice.

He loved mercy. He fought for criminal justice reform every ounce and minute of his life, because he knew that we have to give people a second chance and that, but for the grace of God, who knows where anybody would be.

And then last, it was to walk humbly. Many people don't know this, but Elijah Cummings was one of the first Members of Congress to endorse me, because he was about lifting up the next generation. He knew that you don't have to blow out somebody else's candle for yours to shine brighter. And what he did all the time was light candles in the next generation so that they would assume the mantle of leadership and so that they would find their purpose in life.

So I would just end with this: Elijah Cummings was a man of purpose. It wasn't about politics. It wasn't about partisanship. It certainly wasn't about profits. It was about purpose. And the one thing that comforts me, and I am sure the entire Black Caucus, is that we know in our hearts that last Thursday, at 2:30 a.m., we know that Elijah Cummings heard these words: Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those words.

Mr. RICHMOND, that happens to be my life scripture—Micah 6:8. That, I believe, was the scripture that the Lord gave me when I was in law school. I recognize that I had the honor of being a member of the committee in which Elijah Cummings sat, was the chair, and I was on that committee for 5 years now.

Mr. Cummings was a mentor to me. And to those who had a chance to interact with him and knew him more than just as a Member of Congress, he was a man of God. He lived and worked in Congress on Christian values. I think that scripture, Micah 6:8 exemplifies how he lived his life. It really exemplifies his Christian walk.

He was a man of great wisdom. And although he needed little protection, when I was on that committee, I viewed my role as not only being a consummate prosecutor and counselor but being on the front line. I remember I called and told him, I was almost gleeful, that I was going to be sitting in front of him, not because I thought that the camera would be there, but that I could watch his back from many of those coming at him from the front.

He always shook his head at my colorful language. Although, mind you, he did chuckle quietly at a lot of the things that I had to say. And he always counseled me to take care of my children first before any of this. "Take care of your family," he always said, "because at the end of the day, that is who you are going to have, even when you leave this job." But he also counseled me to go slow and steady, to "walk humbly," as Micah 6:8 says.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), who sits with me on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. He represents his home of Newark, New Jersey, and I would ask him to reflect on the life and his times with Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT), my friend, for once again being here for this Special Order hour.

I first want to offer my condolences to Mrs. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings and her family on this immense loss.

I rise to honor a true American hero, Congressman Elijah Eugene Cummings, a strong man, a serious man, a man that was about the business of this Nation. Irrespective of whether it was on the streets of Baltimore or in the halls of Congress, he never wavered in his plight to make sure that the American people had the opportunities that everyone—everyone—should be afforded in this great Nation.

It is difficult to state just how immense this loss is to the people of his district, the State of Maryland, and the entire Nation. Congressman Cummings was a dedicated public servant who represented Maryland's Seventh District with honor and distinction for 23 years. But he was so much more than that. He was an icon, a leader, a statesman, a patriot, and the embodiment of the American Dream.

Yet, the real legacy of Congressman Cummings was his connection to the people of his district. It was quite common to find him at the corner grocery store, neighborhood church, and any other number of community functions. It gave him a level of respect that made him beloved in his district.

The esteemed congressman, JOHN LEWIS, once said of Mr. Cummings: "There was no greater friend to the poor, to the lost, to the left out and the left behind than Representative Cummings." Never have truer words been spoken about anyone. He was a great man, congressman, and most of all, a great American.

We had some of the same medical issues, so we spent many evenings on the phone talking him through what the next step would be in the process. And he said to me one day, he said, "Payne, I am scared." But he wasn't just scared about his health issues, he was scared about the direction that this Nation was going in. And to his very last existence, he was concerned about the people in his district and this country.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss him dearly. This Nation will miss him.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 20 minutes remaining.

□ 2045

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I have met many people in my life, but Elijah Cummings was steadfast and unmovable in his quest to protect our democracy.

He was my friend from day one. I was a lost freshman, trying to find my way to the Rayburn Building from Cannon. Not only did Elijah teach me how to read the numbers, but he walked me all the way to the Rayburn Building. Then he recommended a chief of staff to me, Kimberly Ross, who is with me today.

He was a mentor to me and so many. We texted often and talked about healthcare challenges and the challenges of our communities and this great Nation.

He cosponsored and saluted me for my work putting Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill.

Elijah would often say his life was based on pain, passion, and purpose, which propelled him forward.

A few months ago, he keynoted an event in my district for his good friend, the Reverend Dr. Charles Booth's program, Bridges to the Future, for its 25th anniversary, although he was not feeling well himself. But Elijah was a friend to the end.

His unmatched ability to tap into the heart of the matter and find consensus that mattered was Elijah.

So, Elijah, my brother, my friend, my mentor, my colleague, I assure you, when times get tough, I will borrow your fighting spirit and harness the power to stand firm in the face of injustice.

My heart and prayers are with his wife and my friend, Maya; his children; his family; his constituents; and his staff.

Elijah, my friend, my colleague, rest in peace. Rest in power, my friend. I know you are dancing with the angels. God bless you.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms.

ADAMS), who, like Elijah Cummings, came to Congress first in a special election. I am happy to call her my classmate.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and also the gentlewoman from Nevada, Chairwoman BASS, and all who participated in organizing this event.

I rise to join other Members tonight to honor the life and career of one of this body's most effective lawmakers, one of the most tireless champions of the underprivileged, and a close and dear friend to us all, representative Elijah Cummings.

The 12th District of North Carolina extends condolences to his wife, his family, his extended family, and to the members of his district.

Elijah was one of our best examples of what it means to be a public servant. In Baltimore, he was not only his community's Member of Congress, but he was its voice, a recognizable and fervent product of the community that he represented.

When West Baltimore was hurting after the death of Freddie Gray, it was Representative Cummings who spoke the words of a grieving community.

When the President of the United States insulted his city, it was Representative Cummings who stood up and offered to show the President what Baltimore is really about.

This was the type of man and Member that Elijah Cummings was, an advocate for what was right.

He was an advocate for our youth, and he took a sincere interest in their success. I remain personally grateful to him for the support that he gave to my youngest grandson as he explored entrance and application to Howard University.

Elijah Cummings was always an advocate for what was right, or, as Dr. King would call it, he was indeed a drum major for justice. He earned the respect of men, women, and little children, and he made this world much better than he found it.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE), my very close classmate from the State of Michigan who is herself a tireless fighter for the rights of not only the people of Michigan but of women and people who are oppressed and who also sat and sit on the Committee on Oversight and Reform under the tutelage of Elijah Cummings.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, who has been a very close colleague as we have sat under the guidance and leadership of Elijah Cummings.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to honor my chairman, Elijah Cummings.

This is an extremely difficult time for me because Chairman Cummings was more than a colleague; he was my mentor.

As a freshman, while serving on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform with Chairman Cummings, I came

to him with a litany of questions. He never turned me away. He was always receptive and always considerate. He would eventually explain to me how much he appreciated that I had put thought into the policies that I wanted to implement while serving in Congress.

It was then that this great man actually saw that I really cared for people, and he instructed me to continue doing the work because, when you really care, your constituents will see it and will appreciate it.

When I came to him during the Flint water crisis and told him we needed to look into this because people were being hurt, and children were being physically damaged, he was so determined to get to the truth.

I watched him serve in the majority and in the minority, and there were many times when this chairman, my Chairman Cummings, became the voice of reason within the Caucus and at the helm of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

He was a consensus builder. He cut to the chase. And he was the person who worked across the aisle, never, ever putting anyone before the American people.

I will miss his bigger-than-life presence in our meetings. I will miss that booming voice, heaving incredible words of wisdom during our committee hearings. I will miss the intelligent and passionate questions and the astute observations that he would hurl at any of the combative witnesses.

I will miss the man who believed in the American experience, and he fought for this democracy with his last breath.

Most of all, I will miss the considerate, giant gentleman who was my mentor, Elijah Cummings.

This week, as we bid farewell to Baltimore's native son, I know he will be dancing with the angels, smiling down on us, saying to continue the fight and keep the faith because our democracy is worth the fight.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for those words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), representing Philadelphia.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues and members of the Congressional Black Caucus, under the leadership of KAREN BASS and both co-leaders here tonight, Congresswoman STACEY PLASKETT and STEVE HORSFORD, for their leadership.

Last week, I lost a friend and a colleague, and Baltimore, Maryland, and the United States lost a civil rights activist, a tireless activist and leader.

I had the privilege of knowing the chairman for many years, since we both served our State legislatures before coming to Congress. We represented districts. I represented a district in Philadelphia, and he represented a district in Baltimore. He got elected about 1982. I got elected in 1981.

We both had similar challenges. He did in Baltimore. I did in Philadelphia.

A few months ago, I saw the chairman here on the House floor, and I complimented him for being relentless in his commitment to civic participation.

I had the pleasure of sitting with him on my very first State of the Union Address. That day, we had the chance to talk about discussions and challenges that we both faced in major urban cities.

Today, I am glad I said something when I had the chance. I told him that I loved him. I told him that I loved him for all the things he had been doing and all the relentlessness he has shown.

Now, it is all up to us who are still in this fight to carry on, to make a difference.

So, Mr. Chairman, rest in power. We have to continue this fight.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank Mr. EVANS, as one gentleman from a great American city paying tribute to another man from a great American city, as native sons. I thank him for those kind words and for the fight that we are all continuing to undertake on behalf of the people whom we represent in this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS), who had the honor of being on the Oversight and Reform Committee with Mr. Cummings, for her remarks about that great American.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Dr. King once said the true measure of a man is not how he behaves in moments of comfort and convenience, but how he stands in times of challenge and controversy.

Last Congress, I had the honor of serving with Chairman Cummings on the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and he did not look for the easy way out. He never ran from controversy or challenge.

You see, Mr. Cummings was a true leader. Life is all about choices, Mr. Speaker, and true leaders have to make a lot of them.

We can live in fear of what man will say or do to us, or we can stand up and speak out for what we know in our hearts is right.

Elijah Cummings never failed to stand up and speak out. You see, he was a true leader.

We can follow the crowd no matter how wrong the crowd may be, or we can choose to be a drum major for justice. Elijah Cummings chose to be a drum major for justice.

Mr. Speaker, we can close our minds and our hearts, mentor no one, and share nothing with anyone. We can make life's journey all about us, or we can mentor, impart knowledge and wisdom, and look out for someone else and have their back.

Elijah Cummings was a mentor, a role model. He cared about us. And every day, we knew it.

Elijah Cummings had the Nation's back. For that, we are forever grateful to Chairman Elijah Cummings for a life well lived.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank the gentlewoman for those powerful words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH) for her tribute and words about Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I would like to begin by offering my deepest prayers to Congressman Cummings' wife and family and the Baltimore community. He was a solid voice of conscience and always offered a steady hand and sound wisdom.

He was one of the giants among us here in Congress.

Congressman Cummings was born the son of sharecroppers from Clarendon County, South Carolina, a county where children were forced to walk miles to attend segregated schools. The refusal of Clarendon County to provide buses for the Black children in that district became the court case *Briggs v. Elliott*, one of the five cases that would be decided under the shared designation of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Remarkably, Congressman Cummings never forgot his roots. He spent his entire life as a fierce champion for justice and humanity. He boldly fought for civil and human rights with the strength given him by God.

His humility, his compassion, and his commitment were nothing short of inspiring.

□ 2100

I remember the times I would come in here on the floor and I would sit down next to him and he'd say: How are you doing today, kid?

And I would say: Well, you know, it is kind of rough being a freshman.

And he said: That is okay. Take care of your family. Stay focused. Stay clean. Do your work. Stay in the district, and you will be just fine.

Representative Cummings once said: When we are dancing with the angels, the question will be asked, what did we do to make sure that we kept our democracy intact?

Well, Representative Cummings, you moved mountains for democracy.

And so, now, as he dances with the angels in Heaven, we honor his lifelong fight for our democracy, his towering legacy, and his unwavering dedication to the United States of America and to the world. He will truly be missed.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY), who also sat on the Oversight and Reform Committee under Mr. Cummings.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and the gentleman from Nevada and our chair, KAREN BASS, for organizing this Special Order.

What an honor and a privilege to spend my early months as a freshman Member of Congress in close proximity to a titan for justice and a force for good, someone who spent several decades as a truth-teller and a justice-

seeker, who, in his role as chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, knew that the best disinfectant is sunlight, and he shone a light on every injustice.

He was a patriot, tireless in his efforts to preserve our democracy, and a statesman of unwavering conviction. He challenged each of us to appeal to our better angels, to be decent, to be fair, to comport ourselves with the reverence and dignity this institution demands and our country deserves.

He was consistent and did that even in the face of great physical fatigue and, some days, perhaps, even a weary spirit, in the face of injustice and indignities. He often reminded us that it was our charge on the Committee on Oversight and Reform to be an efficient and effective pursuit of the truth.

His body has transitioned, but his instructive words ring resoundingly and true. He was a selfless servant and leader until the end.

One of the final pursuits of justice we took on together was to maintain access to lifesaving healthcare for our immigrant neighbors in the medical deferred action program. His staffer, Anthony, drove through the night to Baltimore so the chairman could sign subpoenas, advancing our fight together.

Truly, in life, all you have is your name and your word, and when it comes to Elijah Cummings, both were good.

Until the very end, the chairman would stop my staff and me in the hallways, and he would say: Are you keeping up the fight?

He knew the fight was greater than one man or one mission or one legislative act. The pursuit of justice is not a box you simply check. So we continue in that pursuit, following in the footsteps of a giant.

No one can fill your shoes, but we will pick up the torch and press forward with your moral clarity as our roadmap and your vision as our charge. We will keep up the fight.

To my forever chairman, Elijah Cummings, rest in power.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I just want to close my portion of this by stating that, when it came to a notion of democracy, Chairman Cummings, in his speeches, insistently invoked it, and not in the inert way that elected officials tend to do.

He spoke of democracy as something vital and fragile and valuable, an inheritance that had to be safeguarded for future generations. He said that to all of us who sat under him in his chairmanship and ensured that we brought that passion and that desire to do the best for this democracy that our bodies could do.

So I thank him for that. I thank him for everything that he has been to all of us.

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

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) for 30 minutes.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and my privilege to continue the CBC's Special Order hour, and we are going to call this portion CBC and friends.

It is my honor now to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), one who has served alongside the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings throughout his tenure here and I know would like to bring forth his very special remarks and reflections at this time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise, yes, to mourn his death, but I also rise to celebrate his life, because it was a life worthy of great celebration.

I rise understanding that, yes, he was brilliant. He was a Phi Beta Kappa with some 13 doctoral degrees, but he did not allow his brilliance to outshine his goodness.

His goodness was such that he was one who cared for the least, the last, and the lost. He was there for those whom we consider the least among us, those who were not born into plenty but, rather, into poverty.

He was there for those who were the last, the last hired and the first fired. He fought for jobs for them.

He was there for those who are lost, lost in poverty in the richest country in the world, and he fought to elevate their lives; those lost in chemical abuse, he was there to help them acquire healthcare.

He was truly a person who made a difference in the lives of people whom he never had the opportunity to meet and greet.

So I mourn his passing, but I celebrate his living.

And while I am sure there are many who will say that he left too soon, I can only say this: We had him for 68 years, and I am grateful for that 68 years.

God bless you, dear brother. You were a wise warrior and a seeker of peace. And while you may not be with us physically, your spirit will endure forever.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Houston for sharing those very inspiring, uplifting comments about our dear, beloved colleague at this time.

It is important for us, as we go through the stages of mourning, to recognize, as he has stated, rightly stated, that we were fortunate to have Elijah Cummings with us for 68 years—his family, his friends, even longer—and during the 68 years, we were fortunate to have him as part of our family here in the Congressional Black Caucus and in the Halls of Congress.

In that time, he was able to accomplish so much through his God-given talents and abilities that he has become well-known not only here in the United States, but around the world.

I am hearing from members of the Caribbean community who have read about and heard about the passing of Elijah Cummings, all of whom have reached out to share with me their comments and their condolences because they understand what Elijah has meant not only to the United States House of Representatives, United States Congress, but, indeed, because he was a world-class leader.

Mr. Speaker, I have some friends and colleagues of the honorable chairman of the Oversight and Reform Committee who would like to say a few words, if you will, about our great colleague.

It is my honor, at this time, to yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), my classmate and colleague, a member of the Oversight and Reform Committee and the Judiciary Committee, to give his remarks.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I was just walking back to my office and I saw on the video this memorial service, this celebration of life, and I wanted to come listen. It has been inspiring for me, so many appropriate remarks made about this great man.

I feel privileged just to stand here at the podium where he spoke and next to his photograph just as I felt privileged to know him and become a friend, and where he spoke over here when he was in the wheelchair and in the Speaker's lobby before votes and during votes.

When I was home this weekend, more people came up to me in Memphis, and people on social media, and expressed their condolences, their appreciation of his life and their knowledge that the Congress had lost a person who was irreplaceable.

Elijah Cummings was one of the great people that I have had the opportunity to interact with in my life, in Congress, and in other places.

Truly, a giant has fallen. He had grace. He had knowledge. He had judgment. He had character.

It has been spoken, and I remember seeing him on television walking in Baltimore at some risk to himself, during the riots, to help bring calm to Baltimore, leadership where he put his community first and his safety second.

He talked about: We are better than this. Well, we are better than this, and, hopefully, one day, we will be as good as him.

He knew that we were only here for a minute and you should make that time worthwhile, and he made it worthwhile.

Friday, a week ago, the last Friday that Elijah was in our caucus, we had a caucus conference call, and the discussion toward the end was about the Congress' issuance of subpoenas and the attempt to get them enforced through the courts.

I believe Elijah was the last person to speak on the call, and when he spoke, it was like hearing the voice of God. He said that these cases will go through the courts, and they will be appealed, and they will eventually be appealed to

the Supreme Court, and, at that point, our democracy will be in the balance.

He was right, and those were his last words to the caucus.

He cared about democracy. He cared about this Congress. He cared about the Constitution.

And even when President Trump degraded his city, he was gracious in his response and never was in any way defensive or attacking the President.

Elijah Cummings would stop you and give you a word of encouragement to keep going. He was one of the great people to serve in the Congress. I am just blessed to have my life interface with his. I will miss him greatly.

I also extend my condolences to his family, and I hope I get the chance to serve along with his wife.

□ 2115

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for sharing his insight and his own personal experiences with our dear colleague, Elijah Cummings, who touched so many lives, Members here in Congress, the members of their family, our own constituents.

Like Mr. COHEN, so many people in my district were reaching out and expressing their condolences and sharing their stories with me this past week. I attended a church service where, again, people talked about Elijah Cummings. His influence has gone far and wide, and I think that the values that he held about our democracy are reverberating, and that should give us all great heart to move forward and press forward as we fight the battle to preserve our democracy and lift up the Constitution and rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), another colleague and also another classmate of mine, who has joined us and would like to share his sentiments, his insights into the life of Elijah Cummings and his interactions with our dear colleague.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my classmate for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it has been so wonderful to be sitting here listening to members of the Congressional Black Caucus talk about their work, their friendship, their respect for a giant who walked among us, and of course, that is Elijah Cummings.

The Congressional Black Caucus is regarded by many, myself included, as the conscience of this Congress. And there was no better representative of that conscience than Elijah Cummings, who served for a couple of years as the chair of the Black Caucus. All of us who served with Elijah are better for it and have fond memories and great appreciation for our friendship and admiration for him.

I was quite lucky because I have served with Elijah on the Oversight and Reform Committee for 13 years. So in those committees, along with you my friend, Representative CLARKE, we really got to see Elijah face a lot of very tough situations.

I am going to make it a little bit personal here about some of my vivid experiences I have had with Elijah. Elijah and I worked very hard on the drug bill that is now going to be named in his honor to provide the government with the ability to negotiate lower prices so that the people he represents, and we all represent, can get the drugs they need.

Shortly after President Trump was elected, I think it was April of 2017, the President invited Elijah to the White House to talk about prescription drugs. Since I had been working with Elijah on this for years, Elijah invited me. I kind of crashed the party.

Number one, how many of our colleagues would invite a junior Member to a White House meeting just because the two of us had been working on the issue together? I would like to say all of us would. Elijah did.

We went to the White House, and we talked a lot with the President about the prescription drug negotiation bill. But in the course of the conversation, the President expressed dismay about where Elijah lived. This was before the President was saying the horrible things about that community with rats and rodents and all the other things. He was genuinely dismayed that a person in Congress could live in a community that the President just didn't think that he could ever live.

And I remember Elijah was dismayed that anybody, including the President of the United States, didn't understand how wonderful the people were in that community, how dignified they were, how they faced adversity every single day, how they helped one another get up when somebody fell down. Elijah was astonished. He lived in the best place in the world. That was what Elijah conveyed to the President. And Elijah conveyed that he represented the best people in the world. That was Elijah Cummings.

I remember the topic was prescription drugs, and Elijah was quite disciplined. You know, the topic is the topic, we will get to the business at hand. But the question of voter fraud came up, and in the way that only Elijah can do, where he is not intimidated but he is not showing off—and it is a fine balance—he just said in his direct way, we don't have a problem with voter fraud. We have a problem with voter suppression.

And to be in the presence of this man in the Oval Office where there was no artifice to Elijah's presence, there was no sense from Elijah of disrespect for the office, certainly, even though he disagreed with the President on so many things, but it was no different for Elijah than if he was in a local diner in Baltimore talking to the people he represented; he was direct, to the point, and empathetic to the concerns of the people that he represented.

So it was just a wonderful opportunity for me to see a great man in action. It is how he lived. It wasn't like he had to think about it. It wasn't like

he had to calculate anything. He was present in that moment. He was present in that moment as he was present every moment of the day. It was there for the people he represented. He conveyed the immense appreciation and respect for the dignity of the people he represented and the humility that he felt that he had been given this opportunity to be their Member of Congress, a special man.

The memory of Elijah for all of us will sustain us through difficult times, and may his example be the one we aspire to follow.

I thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus for this wonderful tribute to a wonderful leader from the ranks of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Vermont for sharing his insight as a member of the committee led by the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings.

As we wind down here this evening, there are a couple of things that have been a running theme among our colleagues this evening, and it is sort of the quiet thunder, the strength, the dignity, the integrity of the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings. And I thought about the fact that still waters run deep. He wasn't a boisterous person, a showboater, but he knew how to command the moral authority that moves a Nation. Whether it was voting rights or civil rights, whether it was the children of Flint or the children of the border, whether it was preserving this democracy and making sure that the rule of law stands above all else in the Constitution of the United States, we could turn to our North Star, Elijah E. Cummings to be a champion, to be a voice, to be the compass that led this Congress into the next level of integrity that we need to move this Nation forward.

And so, we are honored this evening that so many colleagues have taken the time to be here in tribute to the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings. We again want to, on behalf of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and colleagues of the wider body, express our heartfelt condolences to Maya Rockey Moore, the family, the constituents of Maryland's Seventh District, as well as the very dedicated staff of the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings.

Congressman Cummings will never be forgotten. As I stated in my comments, we are legacy keepers, and so everything that we have been taught and learned from Elijah will be applied in the days ahead as he would have us do.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this Special Order.

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



There was no objection.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great leader, legislator and servant of the people. A man of principle and unyielding resolve to be the voice of the people; Congressman Elijah Eugene Cummings.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Congressman Cummings maintained an unbreakable bond to the community that raised him, fighting for the people he loved every day.

From his days as Speaker pro tempore of the Maryland House of Delegates, to becoming Chairman of the powerful House Committee on Oversight and Reform of the U.S. Congress, Congressman Cummings defended the less fortunate by ensuring federal government programs were meeting the needs of the people of his district and this country. He became a powerful voice for equality and opportunity, a tireless advocate for affordable healthcare, quality education, civil rights, and criminal justice reform.

Congressman Cummings committed himself to civil rights advocacy and social justice. He was known as the gentleman who "will not yield" when it comes to educating our children, protecting communities of color, and migrant families. As his colleague, it was no surprise to see him take to the streets to extinguish the flames of outrage sparked by racism and excessive violence by law enforcement in his hometown. He will forever be remembered as a calming spirit in a time of civil unrest in the city of Baltimore.

Congressman Cummings' lifetime of public service was defined by compassion, integrity, and a commitment to empowering the people he was sworn to represent. His presence will be sorely missed. His legacy of leadership will continue to be an inspiration to us all. It was an honor to know him, and call him friend.

Elijah was a man of great and unwavering faith. I can imagine, as he was making his transition early last Thursday morning, he sang the words of the old hymn, "Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face; There to sing forever of His saving grace; On the streets of glory let me lift my voice; Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice."

Farewell my friend. Another soldier gone home.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, last week, we lost the earthly man Elijah Cummings. Most of the country and many around the world knew him as a member of Congress from the city of Baltimore. He was a fierce fighter for the forgotten, a sworn opponent of hunger, poverty, abuse and addiction and a relentless advocate for civil rights. Chairman Cummings was a driven man, a person who pushed for what was right because he believed in the supreme responsibility of elected officials to advocate for those we represent.

I have the honor of being a member of the Committee he chaired for 5 years. Congressman Cummings was a mentor to me. I and those who had a chance to interact with him knew him as more than a Member of Congress. More importantly, he was a man of God. He lived and worked in Congress on Christian values.

He was a man of great wisdom and, although he needed little protection, I viewed my role on the Committee as not only being the

consummate prosecutor and counselor but as a frontline and protector to this gentleman. With a booming voice and speaking cadence that hinted of the pulpit—his parents were preachers—Chairman Cummings was a compelling figure on Capitol Hill for more than two decades, repeatedly re-elected by voters in Maryland's Seventh Congressional District, which covers much of Baltimore, including a section of the city with more than its share of social problems. He campaigned tirelessly for stricter gun control laws and was a consummate voice for those addicted to drugs. He was at times gruff, but always respected. But, it was as Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform—the panel charged with maintaining integrity in government—that Chairman Cummings may have left his most legacy.

When it came to the notion of democracy, Chairman Cummings, in his speeches—particularly those he gave in the past few years—insistently invoked it, and not in the inert way that elected officials tend to. He spoke of democracy as something vital and fragile and valuable—an inheritance that had to be safeguarded for future generations. When he spoke of HR-1, the exhaustive election-protection bill that the Democrats introduced in January as their first piece of legislation of this Congress, he mentioned his ninety-two-year-old mother, who had died a year earlier. She was a former sharecropper, who implored him, "Do not let them take our votes away from us." He viewed his Chairmanship of the House Oversight and Reform Committee as part of the battle to protect voting rights. What remains clear is the void that Chairman Cummings's absence leaves in his district and his country. This would have been the case at nearly any point in his quarter century in Congress. But it's even more acute in this one. In a fiery bit of oration delivered at the introduction of HR-1, he pledged to "fight to the death" in defense of voting and, thereby, democracy. It was a promise that he made good on.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of an honorable statesman and dear friend, Congressman Elijah Cummings.

Congressman Cummings graduated from Baltimore City College High School before attending Howard University, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. At Howard, he served as the president of the student government and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest academic honor society in the United States. He continued his studies at the University of Maryland School of Law and went on to be admitted to the Maryland Bar Association.

Congressman Cummings was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1982, where he served for 16 years. As a Member of the House of Delegates, he was elected as the first African American Speaker Pro Tempore in the state's history and was selected as Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus. Following the conclusion of his service in the state legislature, Congressman Cummings was entrusted to represent the constituents of the 7th District of Maryland in the United States House of Representatives, where he had served dutifully since.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Cummings championed issues including civil rights, access to

affordable healthcare, and congressional oversight, to name a few. He has served as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in the 108th Congress and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. At the time of his passing, he was Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and a senior Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Congressman Cummings was a faithful member of the Baltimore community above everything else. He served on many local boards, including the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, the University of Maryland Board of Advisors, and the SEED School of Maryland Board of Directors. In addition, he was an Honorary Board Member of KIPP Baltimore Schools and the Baltimore School for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Members of Congress in extending our sympathies to Congressman Cummings' wife, Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, his family, and to all who had the great pleasure of knowing him. The legacy of Congressman Cummings will endure in this great institution, as those that live in the hearts of others never truly perish. May he rest in peace.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Congressman Elijah Cummings, a friend, mentor, patriot and titan of the House of Representatives.

Congressman Cummings was a giant among us who led with his heart and governed with the love of his district and our country. He worked until his very last breath for the good of our nation because he believed in the power of the American people to make our country a better place for our children to live and prosper.

After all, Congressman Cummings knew firsthand the power of the American dream. The son of sharecroppers, he grew up to graduate Phi Beta Kappa from Howard University, receive his law degree from the University of Maryland and go on to serve his beloved home of Baltimore in both the state legislature and in Congress.

Day in and day out, Congressman Cummings fought to ensure our government worked for the people, providing the tools to help Americans succeed and the opportunities to make their dreams a reality. He understood that patriotism is not looking at our nation's past through rosy glasses and a revisionist history, but rather that it is having the courage to examine more closely those areas that are broken and believing in the power of our system to fix them.

Social justice was in his blood—when he was just 11 years old, he and his friends worked to integrate a segregated swimming pool in his native Baltimore. I was honored to work with him closely to ensure every American is able to cast his or her ballot on election day. And he fought passionately against forces that undermine the integrity of our democracy and the principles upon which our nation was founded.

Congressman Cummings will be forever missed, but his legacy lives on and continues to inspire us to live our lives for the benefit of others—and the good of our nation.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Ms. HAALAND (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of flight canceled.

Mr. MCEACHIN (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for September 9 until October 23.

## EXPENDITURES BY THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL UNDER HOUSE RESOLUTION 6, 116TH CONGRESS

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE  
ADMINISTRATION,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 21, 2019.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 302(c) of House Resolution 6 (116th Congress) I hereby submit the attached statement "setting forth the aggregate amounts expended by the Office of General Counsel on outside counsel and other experts pursuant to this title on a quarterly basis" for the quarter beginning on July 1, 2019 and ending on September 30, 2019, for publication in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,  
Chairperson.

## AGGREGATE AMOUNT EXPENDED ON OUTSIDE COUNSEL OR OTHER EXPERTS (H. RES. 6)

January 1–March 31, 2019 .....	\$0.00
April 1–June 30, 2019 .....	0.00
July 1–September 30, 2019 .....	0.00
Total .....	0.00

## SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2635. An act to require the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to declassify any and all information relating to whether the government of Saudi Arabia assisted a citizen or national of Saudi Arabia in departing the United States while the citizen or national was awaiting trial or sentencing for a criminal offense committed in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. RASKIN, on Friday, October 18, 2019, announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1196.—An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

## ADJOURNMENT

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the

House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

## BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4406, the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

2680. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's notification of its 2019 compensation program adjustments, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1833b(a); Public Law 101-73, Sec. 1206(a); (103 Stat. 523); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2681. A letter from the Director, Regulations Management Team, Rural Development, Rural Housing Service, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major notice — Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program Guarantee Fee Rate, Annual Renewal Fee, Rural Area Definition, and Funding Priority for Fiscal Year 2020; and Water and Waste Disposal Programs Guaranteed Rural Area Definition and Funding Reservation for Fiscal Year 2020 received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2682. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Major non-regulatory guidance — Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act: Providing Equitable Services to Eligible Private School Children, Teachers, and Families received October 17, 2109, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2683. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, "Evaluation of the Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration (MEPD): Report to Congress (RTC)", pursuant to Public Law 114-255, Sec. 12004(b); (130 Stat. 1275); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2684. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled "Harmonization of Differences Between the Department of Health and Human Services' Human Subject Regulations and the Food and Drug Administration's Human Subject Regulations", pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 289 note; Public Law 114-255, Sec. 3023(e); (130 Stat. 1098); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2685. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (17-5) [EPA-

HQ-OPPT-2018-0567; FRL-10000-42] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2686. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final authorization — North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2019-0425; FRL-10001-05-Region 4] received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2687. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report covering the period from May 11, 2019 to July 10, 2019, on the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 107-243, Sec. 4(a); (116 Stat. 1501) and 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 102-1, Sec. 3 (as amended by Public Law 106-113, Sec. 1000(a)(7)); (113 Stat. 1501A-422); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2688. A letter from the Acting Director, International Cooperation, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 18-19, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2689. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. RSAT-19-6937, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2690. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. RSAT-16-5363, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2691. A letter from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting notification that the Annual Report on Commercial Activities at the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for Fiscal Year 2017 has been posted on the Open Government page of the Board's public website, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2692. A letter from the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting a copy of the request regarding the Department of Commerce's report to Congress on Fiscal Year 2017, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2693. A letter from the Director, OCFO-Transparency and Accountability Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension [0505-AA17] received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2694. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2019 and 2020 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Correction [Docket No.: 180831813-9332-03] (RIN: 0648-XG471) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public

Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2695. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Restrictions in Purse Seine Fisheries [Docket No.: 190220141-9141-01] (RIN: 0648-BI78) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2696. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final temporary rule — Temporary Rule To Establish Management Measures for Red Grouper in the Gulf of Mexico [Docket No.: 190213109-9385-02] (RIN: 0648-BI63) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2697. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Adjustment of Georges Bank and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder Annual Catch Limits [Docket No.: 190220138-9138-01] (RIN: 0648-XG833) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2698. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Affairs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery of the South Atlantic Region; Abbreviated Framework Amendment 2 [Docket No.: 181019966-9244-02] (RIN: 0648-BI56) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2699. A letter from the Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office, transmitting a schedule and analysis of proposed fees for Copyright Office Services, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. 708(b); Public Law 94-553, Sec. 101(b) (as amended by Public Law 106-379, Sec. 3(a)(3)); (114 Stat. 1445); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2700. A letter from the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting the FY 2018 Annual Report on Small Entity Compliance Guides; to the Committee on Small Business.

2701. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations and removal of temporary regulations — Liabilities Recognized as Recourse Partnership Liabilities under Section 752 [TD 9877] (RIN: 1545-BM83) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2702. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations and removal of temporary regulations — Removal of Temporary Regulations on a Partner's Share of a Partnership Liability for Disguised Sale Purposes [TD 9876] (RIN: 1545-BO05) received October 10, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law

104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2703. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting a Biennial Report — Americans with Disabilities Act Public Services and Accommodations Inspections — 114th Congress, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1341(e)(2); Public Law 104-1, Sec. 215(e)(2) (as amended by Public Law 108-271, Sec. 8(b)); (118 Stat. 814); jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and Labor.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services, H.R. 2514. A bill to make reforms to the Federal Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering laws, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-245, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. LOFGREN: Committee on House Administration H.R. 4617. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-246, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PERLMUTTER: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 646. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2513) to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-247). Referred to the House Calendar.

### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2514 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4617 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 4767. A bill to promote innovation in financial services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. DOGGETT,

Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 4768. A bill to amend section 511 of the Social Security Act to reduce maternal mortality by continuing to invest in evidence-based home visiting models that are addressing the social determinants of maternal health and morbidity; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4769. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BAIRD (for himself and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 4770. A bill to revise and improve the advisory committees of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 4771. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit appellants to appear in disability compensation cases before the Board of Veterans' Appeals by picture and voice transmission from locations other than facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4772. A bill to provide for the protection of proprietary information provided to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, and Ms. CHENEY):

H.R. 4773. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants for the purpose of improving the farm management knowledge and skills of livestock producers; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4774. A bill to amend section 3554(a)(4) of title 44, United States Code, to direct the head of each agency to ensure Federal employees are trained in cyber security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 4775. A bill to limit the amount of expenditure on Presidential travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 4776. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a competitive grant program to award grants to local educational agencies to address implicit bias in elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 4777. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to take steps to ensure domestic ownership and control of election service providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H. Res. 647. A resolution raising a question of the privileges of the House.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 648. A resolution honoring the lives, work, and sacrifice of Joseph Curseen, Jr., and Thomas Morris, Jr., the 2 United States Postal Service employees who died as a result of their contact with anthrax while working at the United States Postal Facility located at 900 Brentwood Road, NE, Washington, DC, during the anthrax attack in the fall of 2001; United States Postal Service employees, who have continued to work diligently in service to the people of the United States notwithstanding the anthrax attack; as well as the other 3 Americans who died and the 17 who became ill in the attack; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. SIRES):

H. Res. 649. A resolution expressing the support of the United States for the grassroots development programs the Inter-American Foundation has undertaken for the past 50 years; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. McHENRY:

H.R. 4767.

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

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence . . . of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4768.

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

Section 8, Article 1: to provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4769.

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

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 4770.

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

Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, Congress has the authority to regulate foreign and interstate commerce. In addition, Congress has the power to make all Laws necessary and proper to carry out all other of its vested powers pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM:

H.R. 4771.

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

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 1 "The Congress shall have Power To . . . provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States;"

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18 "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof"

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4772.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 4773.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4774.

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

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

By Mr. TED LIEU of California:

H.R. 4775.

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

Article I Section VIII

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4776.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 4777.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 3: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CRIST, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 38: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 94: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 141: Mr. ROSE of New York and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 435: Mr. EVANS and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 464: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 510: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. DEAN, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 553: Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

H.R. 566: Mr. POCAN, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 598: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 616: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.

H.R. 647: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 649: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 651: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 655: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 663: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 724: Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 726: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 737: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 741: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 763: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 827: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 865: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 871: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 874: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 879: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 884: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. LUJÁN.

H.R. 886: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 912: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 935: Mr. SABLÁN.

H.R. 945: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1030: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 1034: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1042: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1066: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1109: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1140: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1153: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1154: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1175: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. VELA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 1220: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1225: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1228: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1274: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 1296: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1364: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1370: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 1374: Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 1379: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. LAMB.

H.R. 1380: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1383: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1398: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 1400: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1418: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1450: Mr. VELA, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1511: Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 1549: Mr. KILDEE and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1579: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1629: Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 1643: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 1682: Ms. FRANKEL.

H.R. 1688: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1692: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 1695: Mr. KIM.

H.R. 1721: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 1754: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 1786: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 1811: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 1855: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 1869: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 1873: Mr. BUDD and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 1897: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1922: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 1923: Mr. SOTO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 1948: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MCBATH,

Mr. STANTON, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. GOLDEN, and Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 1959: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 1981: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GALLEGGO, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1987: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1992: Mr. DELGADO.

H.R. 1998: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 2048: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 2096: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 2137: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 2146: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 2150: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 2153: Mr. COLE and Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 2166: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 2191: Mr. LAMB.

H.R. 2195: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 2208: Mrs. DEMINGS.

H.R. 2213: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 2214: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 2245: Mr. YARMUTH and Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 2256: Mr. MEEKS and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 2275: Mr. KATKO.

H.R. 2283: Mr. COLE, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 2311: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 2315: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 2339: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 2344: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2351: Ms. BASS.

H.R. 2382: Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 2420: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 2423: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. KIM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and Ms. CHENEY.

H.R. 2426: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. ESTES.

H.R. 2435: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 2452: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 2457: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 2466: Mr. KIM.

H.R. 2482: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 2491: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 2501: Ms. DEAN and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2506: Mr. GAETZ.

H.R. 2508: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 2529: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2550: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2566: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 2585: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 2639: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 2645: Mrs. AXNE and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 2653: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2679: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 2681: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 2683: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 2687: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2694: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 2700: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 2702: Mr. CISNEROS.

H.R. 2711: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 2748: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 2771: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 2836: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 2846: Mr. LAMB and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 2863: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 2867: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 2887: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 2905: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2931: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 2982: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MAST, Mr. CASE, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2986: Ms. LEE of California and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 3043: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 3062: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 3077: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. WILLIAMS.

H.R. 3082: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 3094: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 3098: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 3121: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 3162: Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 3180: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 3182: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 3195: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. FRANKEL.

H.R. 3197: Mr. SABLÁN, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. KIM.

H.R. 3219: Mr. GALLEGGO.

H.R. 3222: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 3243: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 3369: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 3373: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 3378: Mrs. DINGELL and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 3398: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 3447: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 3461: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 3463: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 3473: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 3503: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 3517: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 3524: Mr. POCAN and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 3598: Mr. WATKINS.

H.R. 3612: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 3637: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.

H.R. 3702: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 3706: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 3742: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 3757: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3778: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 3801: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 3835: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 3956: Mr. BEYER and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 3961: Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 3973: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 3975: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 4004: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 4031: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 4035: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4044: Mr. NADLER and Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 4056: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 4098: Mr. BUCK, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 4099: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 4111: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 4132: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 4137: Mr. KILMER and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 4162: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 4189: Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 4193: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 4194: Mr. YARMUTH and Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 4206: Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 4220: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 4228: Mr. POCAN, Mr. KING of New York, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 4247: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 4248: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 4263: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 4271: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 4283: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 4289: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 4296: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 4297: Mr. COHEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 4305: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. UPTON,

Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. KATKO, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 4309: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 4331: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. MAST, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4346: Mr. ROONEY of Florida.

H.R. 4348: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HIMES, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 4355: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 4370: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 4371: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 4372: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 4373: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 4388: Mr. SPANO and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 4391: Mr. VELA.

H.R. 4399: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. EMMER.

H.R. 4468: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 4478: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H.R. 4499: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 4502: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 4508: Mr. MOOLENAAR and Mr. HURD of Texas.

H.R. 4560: Mr. VELA and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 4579: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. MCEACHIN.

H.R. 4618: Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 4639: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 4640: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 4647: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 4650: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 4665: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4671: Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 4673: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 4674: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BASS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PAYNE, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 4686: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 4691: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 4692: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 4694: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. TIPTON, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 4695: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CROW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 4698: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 4705: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 4708: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 4709: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 4716: Mr. FERGUSON and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4729: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 4730: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 4732: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 4736: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 4744: Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 4745: Mr. LONG.

H.R. 4751: Ms. NORTON.

H.J. Res. 2: Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. PETERSON, and Ms. PINGREE.

H.J. Res. 76: Ms. CRAIG.

H. Con. Res. 32: Mr. KING of New York and Mr. TAYLOR.

H. Con. Res. 50: Mr. MAST and Mr. KINZINGER.

H. Res. 23: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.

H. Res. 54: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. COLE.

H. Res. 138: Mr. SOTO.

H. Res. 230: Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H. Res. 310: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H. Res. 387: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H. Res. 495: Ms. BONAMICI.

H. Res. 515: Mr. WALTZ.

H. Res. 517: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky and Ms. PORTER.

H. Res. 552: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H. Res. 585: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H. Res. 594: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H. Res. 597: Mr. OLSON.

H. Res. 604: Mr. BARR, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.

H. Res. 630: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. WALDEN.

H. Res. 639: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. DUNN, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.





United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

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

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

No. 166

## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Master, we find shelter in Your shadow, for You are our refuge and fortress.

Lord, we place our trust in You. Rescue our Senators from the forces that seek to threaten freedom. Remind our lawmakers that nothing is impossible for You. Be with them this day as they strive to serve You and country.

We call on You because You have promised to answer us, so satisfy our longings with Your saving power.

Lord, use us all to help heal the wounds of a divided nation. We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAWLEY). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for which time I might consume, and my guess is it will be about 15 minutes.

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

### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, first of all, my usual 1-minute speech after I open the Senate.

Last week, I spoke about consistent congressional oversight, the checks and balances of government, Congress is to make sure that the executive

branch of government faithfully executes the laws under the Constitution.

In that speech, I talked about how the Democrats have ignored their own party's use of Russian and Ukrainian Government connections to undermine Trump. I noted how the Democrats' action literally fit their own definition of collusion.

Congress ought to conduct aggressive oversight. It is a constitutional demand. However, if you want to be taken seriously in this body and by the American public, you have to be very consistent. Of course, I am pointing out some inconsistencies by the other political party.

When Democrats ignore their own leadership collusion with foreign governments, yet investigate the President after alleging he did the same, that is a lack of consistency and creates doubts about credibility.

### WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on another subject, I recently introduced the Whistleblower Programs Improvement Act of 2019, a bipartisan bill, and I have the support of the bipartisan whistleblowers caucus.

This legislation strengthens whistleblower protection for whistleblowers working in a variety of key sectors, including our securities and commodities industries and the foreign service.

There has been a lot of talk about government whistleblowers lately that is very appropriate. It is important to remember that many of our whistleblower laws are there to protect just ordinary average Americans who don't work in government at all. Many of the groups helped by this bill work in private industry. In some cases, they are investors or businesspeople who have been on the receiving end of financial fraud.

In other cases, they are employees, like stockbrokers, traders, investment

advisers, administrative professionals, and other support staff, who see activities in the course of their work that they know are outright wrong, and these good people decide to speak out. Speaking out, many times, causes you to eventually seek whistleblower protection.

Among these brave whistleblowers are people like the three employees at Merrill Lynch who had evidence that between 2009 and 2015 their company was misusing customer cash. Now, just think how lucky these savers were who were helped by whistleblowers willing to come out and say a wrong has been committed.

They did it this way: The whistleblowers told the Security and Exchange Commission what they knew. In doing so, they provided information critical to an investigation of the company's practices. That investigation uncovered multiple violations of Federal rules.

Among other things, the Securities and Exchange Commission found the company was not depositing cash in reserve accounts as law required. Instead, the company was using tricky accounting maneuvers to free up billions of dollars per week and then using that money to finance its own trading practices. In the process, it is quite obvious the company was putting its customers' cash at risk.

The Securities and Exchange Commission said: "Had Merrill Lynch failed in the midst of these trades, the firm's customers would have been exposed to a massive shortfall in the reserve account."

The information provided by whistleblowers led to a successful enforcement action, which involved an admission of wrongdoing by the company and a \$415 million settlement.

Now, getting back to the importance of whistleblowers. If these whistleblowers hadn't stepped forward, then, who knows, those shady accounting practices might still be going on this

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



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very day instead of having been stopped—stopped cold. Investors might still be facing the same unnecessary risks.

Now, there are plenty of examples from the commodities industry as well—people like Edward Siedle, a whistleblower who informed the Commodity Futures Trading Commission that JPMorgan Chase was failing to disclose conflicts of interest with some of its clients. Because Mr. Siedle decided to speak out about what he knew, the government collected hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements.

Whistleblowers like Mr. Siedle and the employees at Merrill Lynch deserve our gratitude, and they deserve our support. They help the Security and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to do their job, and they help to promote transparency. With transparency comes accountability—in this case, for our financial system.

I will tell you something else they deserve. They deserve assurance that when they put their jobs and their reputation on the line, they will not be fired just for trying to do the right thing.

They deserve to know that if the government recovers money because of their disclosures, they will be able to get a decision on their award application in a timely fashion. Currently, whistleblowers don't have these assurances.

Last year, despite strong objections that I raised in a brief to the Supreme Court in the case of *Digital Realty v. Somers*, the Court ruled that a whistleblower who reports violations of our Nation's securities laws is protected from retaliation not all the time but only when he or she discloses the wrongdoing directly to the SEC.

Because of this ruling, if a whistleblower in the securities industry reports a concern to a supervisor at their place of work without also going to the SEC, they can be fired without any recourse; in other words, fired for the so-called crime they did, and what did they do? They did nothing more than what you might call the crime of committing truth. They have no legal protection or means of getting their job back.

That is not what Congress intended when it created the current Security and Exchange Commission Whistleblower Program, and that was done back in 2010. It is not what I intended when I voted for that whistleblower protection.

That law was supposed to protect whistleblowers who report wrongdoing. It was supposed to prevent them from being fired without just cause.

This decision has far-reaching implications that potentially affect others beyond those working in the securities industry.

Because the commodities whistleblower program was established through the same public law as the Security and Exchange Commission pro-

gram, that program incorporates many of the same provisions, including similar language to that which the Supreme Court ruled on during the *Digital Realty* case.

That means whistleblowers in yet another program face the prospects of having anti-retaliation provisions Congress put in place a decade ago suddenly yanked away from them. That is unacceptable to me. It is a scenario that should be unacceptable to every Member of this body who cares about keeping our financial system very strong, protecting the investor.

My bill prevents the Supreme Court ruling from becoming the status quo. It makes it clear that whistleblowers who report concerns about possible violations of our Federal securities and commodities laws are fully protected, whether they take their concerns to the Security and Exchange Commission or to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or to anyone else in their company who they reasonably believe has the ability to address their concerns. That is what companies should want. They should want it anyway, to keep their public respectability.

It is also a commonsense goal that we ought to be seeking, and it is commonsense.

When an employee tells his or her company about a concern, it gives the company a chance to investigate and address the concerns, and, if necessary, to self-report any problems to the Federal regulators.

Companies that come clean and self-report almost always receive reduced penalties. That is an outcome that is better for the company, and it is obviously better for the investors.

On another matter, my bill addresses concern for securities and commodities whistleblowers. I said before that if the government recovers money as a result of a whistleblower's disclosure, the whistleblower deserves at least an initial decision concerning their award application and to do it in a timely fashion. Unfortunately, my office has heard of far too many cases where whistleblowers have had to wait years to get a decision from the Securities and Exchange Commission after they apply for an award, and you apply for the award after you make the case for the government. Waiting that long is unacceptable. A year should be more than enough time for regulators to reach an initial determination regarding an award application.

My bill makes the 1-year standard law for both the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission whistleblowers. If the agency takes longer than a year to reach an initial decision, the whistleblower office must notify the chairman and the whistleblower of the cause for the delay.

Recently, I had the chance to sit down with Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Clayton to discuss these changes. My staff worked

closely with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to craft the language. Now I urge all of my colleagues to support change, as well.

In addition to these changes, my bill irons out other differences between the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission whistleblower programs and ensures that whistleblowers reporting to both of these bodies have access to the same judicial remedies.

It also enables the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to hold more in the consumer protection fund. That is the fund used to pay out its awards to the whistleblower, and it allows the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to use money from the fund to teach stakeholders about the opportunities that are available to them through the whistleblower program.

Finally, my bill addresses a critical gap in protections provided to Foreign Service employees through the Whistleblower Protection Act. Due to a drafting error in the law, the Office of Special Counsel has stated that it doesn't have the authority to investigate instances of possible retaliation against Foreign Service workers when the retaliation comes in the form of a poor performance evaluation. That is an important task of the Office of Special Counsel and an important protection that Congress has afforded to other government whistleblowers. The Foreign Service office's people should have that as well. My bill closes that gap and makes it clear that Foreign Service workers should receive those same protections.

In closing, this bill contains commonsense changes. It reinforces and extends protections that Congress already granted in the past and ensures that whistleblowers working in different industries who make similar kinds of disclosures are equally treated and equally protected under the law. It also tells the Supreme Court of the United States: You didn't get it right. That is something I am certain we can all get behind—straightening out the Supreme Court when they don't follow congressional intent.

The bipartisan coalition of support for this bill is a strong testament to that. I thank my original cosponsors, Senators BALDWIN, DURBIN, and ERNST, for their enthusiastic support of this legislation. When it comes before the Senate for a vote, I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE CATAFALQUE SITUATED IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER IN CONNECTION WITH MEMORIAL SERVICES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOUSE WING OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 27.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 27), providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and 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.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 27) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE AND APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this week the Senate has several opportunities to make headway on important matters facing our country.

First, we will tend to a pending treaty protocol on the accession of a new member to NATO and reaffirm the importance of the alliance to the security of U.S. interests around the world. Then, we will consider yet another of the President's well-qualified nominees to the diplomatic corps. But while the Senate can take care of some of these matters on their own, much of the pressing business of the American people requires coordination with our colleagues across the Capitol.

Unfortunately, the only thing that seems to really inspire House Democrats these days is their obsession with overturning the results of the 2016 election.

In the weeks since the Speaker of the House gave in to her far-left Members' demands for an impeachment inquiry, she and other prominent House Democrats have insisted over and over and over that impeachment will not stop them from making real progress on legislation.

They say their 3-year-old impeachment parade doesn't have to block traf-

fic and bring other important priorities to a standstill. That is what they have been saying, but actions speak louder than words. We have yet to see any actual indication that House Democrats intend to make good on that commitment.

For months, we have heard the Speaker claim that she would like to get to yes on the USMCA. We have heard that her caucus is "making progress," but nearly a year after this landmark agreement with Mexico and Canada was announced, the most significant update to the North American trade policy in a generation is still waiting for the House to take action. Billions of new dollars in economic growth and 176,000 new American jobs are still waiting on House Democrats.

And that is not all. So far, even something as completely basic as funding our Armed Forces—funding our men and women in uniform—has met the same fate. Democrats have elected to stall it and block it in order to pick fights with the White House. Notwithstanding our bipartisan, bicameral agreement to wrap up the appropriations process in good faith, Senate Democrats voted a few weeks ago to block funding for the Department of Defense. No critical resources for U.S. servicemembers, no predictable planning process for our commanders, no pay raise for our all-volunteer Armed Forces—none of that was allowed to travel through the Senate because our Democratic colleagues just don't care for the occupant of the White House.

Ironically, many of these same colleagues of ours have spent recent days making loud pronouncements on U.S. foreign policy. By the sound of their comments, it almost sounds as if they are coming around to Republicans' long-held views on the necessity of American leadership all around the world. But, once again, actions speak louder, and thus far our Democratic colleagues have not even been willing to get past partisanship for the sake of job No. 1—funding our military.

So this week we will offer our Democratic colleagues a clear test. Are all the declarations that they are willing to work on important legislation just empty talk or will Senate Democrats finally do their part to move the appropriations process forward?

Soon we will vote on advancing a package of domestic funding legislation. As I said last week, I am grateful to Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY for their continued conversations and hopeful they can produce a substitute amendment that will fund a number of urgent domestic priorities. Then, once we complete that work, we will vote to move forward the funding for our national defense—two big votes, two big votes, two big opportunities for our Democratic friends to show the country whether their party's impeachment obsession leaves them any room at all for the pressing business of the American people.

#### MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2644

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2644) to impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, and for other purposes.

Mr. McCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

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

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

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### PROTOCOL TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OF 1949 ON THE ACCESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following treaty, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Calendar No. 5, Treaty document No. 116-1, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia.

Pending:

McConnell amendment No. 946, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 947 (to amendment No. 946), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

#### HEALTHCARE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I want to tell you a quick story about a woman from Atlanta. Her name is Dawn Jones. Dawn bought what is commonly referred to in the insurance industry as a short-term health insurance plan. She brought it from the Golden Rule Insurance Company,

which is a unit of UnitedHealth, and she needed it because she needed some coverage in between jobs. She was then diagnosed with breast cancer, and she went through a heartbreaking experience, trying to get her insurance company to cover her for her \$400,000 medical bill.

In the end, she could not get her short-term health insurance plan to cover her breast cancer treatments, and here is the reason why. The insurer didn't need to cover preexisting conditions. Short-term plans do not need to cover things we traditionally think of as healthcare insurance today. The protections of the Affordable Care Act require that insurance cover you regardless of whether you are diagnosed with a serious disease, but short-term plans don't need to cover you for those things.

This short-term plan didn't cover her breast cancer, despite the fact that she wasn't diagnosed with breast cancer until after she signed up for the plan. So you may ask: Why is that a preexisting condition if she wasn't diagnosed with breast cancer until she was on this short-term plan?

Well, the insurer in this case made a very innovative argument. It said that she actually had the cancer before she signed up for insurance. So even though she didn't know she had cancer and even though she hadn't been diagnosed with cancer, because she technically had cancer before she got the insurance plan, she had a preexisting condition, and, thus, they would not cover her.

This is a pretty typical story about what happens on these short-term insurance plans in this country. They are more commonly referred to these days as junk insurance plans because, for millions of Americans who sign up for short-term insurance, they find out that it really doesn't cover much of anything.

One Golden Rule plan excludes pregnancy and provides a lifetime maximum benefit of \$250,000. That is, by the way, an incredibly low amount of lifetime coverage—\$250,000. One hospital stay for a serious illness can be over \$250,000. And the icing on the cake—this particular junk plan from Golden Rule doesn't cover a hospital room or nursing services for patients admitted on a Friday or Saturday. So good luck if you get sick on a Friday or Saturday because you are not going to get coverage on those 2 days of the week. These are junk plans because they don't cover what you need, and you, by and large, don't find out about that until you actually need the insurance.

How about a gentleman from San Antonio who actually had his short-term plan for about 6 years? He had been paying it and paying it for 6 years. Because they are technically short-term plans, he was renewing them over and over and over again, and when he was diagnosed with kidney disease, they wouldn't cover him because they went

back to his medical records and found out that he had some blood work done earlier that had shown the initial signs of kidney disease, but he wasn't diagnosed until later on.

What they said—just as they did for the woman in Atlanta—was this: Because you had signs of kidney disease when you were insured with us a year ago, we are not going to cover you now because, technically, you are on a new plan.

He had been getting a plan every 6 months every year. He didn't have any gaps in insurance, but because he technically was signing up for short-term plan after short-term plan, he didn't get covered for his kidney disease.

Over and over, we hear these stories about individuals who go on these junk plans and then find out that they can't get insured for anything—can't get insured for hospital stays on Fridays and Saturdays, can't get insured for mental health treatment, no prescription drug benefits, no coverage for maternity, and all sorts of backbending activity to try to stop people from getting coverage for illnesses.

Yet these plans are becoming more and more prolific. Why is that? The reason is that the Trump administration is using an innovative method to try to get more Americans to sign up for these junk plans, and that is what I wanted to come to the floor and talk about today.

These junk plans are a nightmare for people who get on them and then find themselves on the outside of coverage. When you sign up for health insurance, you basically think it is going to cover a set of things like hospital stays on weekends and coverage for your cancer diagnosis, but these junk plans don't cover those things.

The administration has decided to use a section of the Affordable Care Act that was designed to strengthen our healthcare system and, instead, use it to weaken the healthcare insurance system by providing for more and more of these junk plans.

Here is a little bit of legislative history. There is a section of the ACA that was set up so that you could apply to the State for a waiver to improve coverage. The waiver says that you can do some innovative things in the ACA so long as you prove that whatever you are going to do is going to provide health coverage that is just as comprehensive as what is required under the ACA, that you are not going to cost consumers any more than what they are paying under the ACA, that the number of people who are insured under the ACA in your State isn't going to go down—it is going to stay stable or go up—and you are not going to increase the Federal deficit.

Well, President Trump, in October of 2018, issued new guidance that essentially guts all of those protections for these waivers. President Trump basically says that these short-term insurance plans can be approved, even if they cost people more, even if they

don't cover things like preexisting conditions, and even if they result in fewer people getting insurance.

This October 2018 guidance allowed for these junk plans to be sold in more States to more consumers. Even worse, the 2018 guidance said that these junk plans could be sold side by side with the Affordable Care Act plans right on the same web page, disguising the fact that some plans would actually cover you for your preexisting conditions and others wouldn't.

So, today, we have more and more of these junk plans available to individuals and more people who are vulnerable to all of the old abuses that used to happen left and right in the healthcare insurance system, largely to people who have pretty serious illnesses.

Now, 130 million Americans have a preexisting condition. In my State, over a half million people have some sort of preexisting condition. If they sign up for one of these junk plans—either because they were marketed the plan under the belief that it would cover them or by mistake because they didn't notice the difference between the ACA-regulated plans and the junk plans on the website that they went to—they are at risk of not getting covered for their preexisting condition.

It gets even worse than that because what economists tell us is that these junk plans, which cover very little, are admittedly going to be attractive to some people who are presently pretty healthy. Young people and people who don't have any preexisting conditions may sign up for those junk plans because it doesn't really matter to them at the time that they don't get coverage for much at all; the junk plans are going to have prices that are lower, in most instances, than the plans that cover basic healthcare services. In the short term, that might be OK for the people who are relatively healthy until, of course, they get sick and find out that their junk plan doesn't cover anything. But for the people who have preexisting conditions, who can't sign up for the junk plans, and who need to be on the plans that are regulated by the Affordable Care Act, their premiums are going to skyrocket.

This is health insurance 101. As more healthy people go to the junk plans, leaving behind on the Affordable Care Act plans folks who have these preexisting conditions, their prices will go up.

The Trump administration's junk plan rule is, frankly, bad news for a lot of people who are on junk plans if and when they actually need healthcare insurance, but it is also really terrible news for the 130 million Americans who have preexisting conditions, who are likely going to see their insurance rates skyrocket.

Next week we are going to have a vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate, a vote on a resolution of disapproval for the administration's junk plan guidance. I have listened for a long time to

Members of the Senate on both sides of the aisle talk about how the one thing we agree on is that we need to protect people with preexisting conditions, and though many of our Republican colleagues might not support the Affordable Care Act, they do agree that we should support people with preexisting conditions, which I generally read to mean that we should make sure we don't pass legislation and we don't let the administration do anything that will make it even harder than it already is to live with a cancer diagnosis or a diagnosis of serious heart disease.

Yet it is completely clear that the Trump administration's guidance is going to make life a lot worse for people with preexisting conditions, for those who go on the junk plans, and for those who stay behind.

Here is a quote from an article in *The Atlantic* magazine, which did a summary of these junk plans and what they are like and, frankly, how important they are to insurance companies. The article says that these short-term junk plans "make up a high-profit portion" of the insurance industry's business.

They are largely designed to rake in premiums, even as they offer little in return. And even when they do pay for things, they often provide confusing or conflicting protocols for making claims. Collectively, short-term plans can leave thousands of people functionally uninsured or underinsured without addressing or lowering real systemwide costs.

That is the story of junk plans. They are a pretty good deal for the insurance industry, which is why they have been pushing the Trump administration to allow more of these junk plans to be sold. They are a good deal for the insurance companies because ultimately they don't require the insurance companies to pay out a lot in benefits, but they ultimately make a ton for the insurance companies in the premiums they collect.

It is time for everybody in this body who has stood up and said that they support individuals with preexisting conditions to vote that way. Next week, we will have an opportunity to stop in its tracks the Trump administration's rule allowing for more of these junk plans to be sold to consumers. Because we know the House of Representatives will join us, we now have the chance to actually do something about it and stop this erosion of healthcare for people with preexisting conditions before it is too late.

I get that the country and this Congress are rightly consumed with the ongoing scandal surrounding the impeachment inquiry and the recent heartbreaking, unconscionable events in Syria, but that doesn't mean folks in our States are as concerned with those headline-grabbing issues as we are. They still have to make their budgets balance every single month, and they are deeply worried—at least those families I talked to in Connecticut who are still struggling with serious illnesses—about our ability to

make sure the protections for preexisting conditions, which were a lifeline for millions of Americans when we passed the Affordable Care Act, are not undermined by this President. We have a chance to step up and do something about it next week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, before I get into my main remarks on Syria, I just heard the majority leader, Leader MCCONNELL, say that he wants to see if we can do appropriations bills, that he will see if the Democrats want to legislate. Give me a break. Since we have started to legislate, we have been waiting for 6 months, 9 months. It is well-known in the country that the Senate is the legislative graveyard, that Leader MCCONNELL has not put on the floor bill after bill on major issues that affect the country and that demand attention. Most everybody knows that he is proud that he is the Grim Reaper. So now, in his asking if the Democrats want to legislate, it is all up to Leader MCCONNELL.

On the appropriations bills, of course, we want to legislate when it is being done in a fair way. There are some bills that came out of the Appropriations Committee in a bipartisan way. I think there are four of them that the leader is thinking of putting on the floor, and we would like to move forward on those and have a vigorous process as we go forward.

There are certain bills that were not done with any consultation—the taking of money out of things like MILCON and HHS and putting it for a wall that he knows the Democrats will not go for. Those kinds of things we can't legislate until they become bipartisan, until we work together. There are certain bills—HHS, Defense, MILCON, DHS—that we can't move forward on until we have some bipartisan agreement. Yet, on the bills on which there is agreement, we would be happy to move forward. Of course, that doesn't solve the problem.

After that happens, our House colleagues—Speaker PELOSI, Chair LOWEY—have since suggested that there be a 302(b) conference because even the 302(b)s are different than these bills, and that is the right place to go once the Senate passes these less controversial bills.

I hope we can move forward. I hope we can. The first package of bills—four of the five—is not controversial. The fifth, they didn't even bring to the

floor of the Committee on Appropriations—MILCON. Yet, on those four, moving forward would be a fine thing. Hopefully, we could work out an amendment process whereby Members could offer amendments.

So we will finally legislate after 9 months, not just move judges and other appointees, and that is a good thing. I am glad that Leader MCCONNELL has finally, maybe, felt the pressure and wants to legislate.

#### TURKEY AND SYRIA

Madam President, let's go to Syria.

Saturday night, President Trump announced on Twitter that he was reversing his decision to host next year's G7 summit at his golf resort in Doral, FL. The President's original decision was the textbook definition of self-dealing—an outrageous move that provoked immediate and rightful condemnations. Over the weekend, multiple outlets reported that the President decided to back down only after hearing of intense opposition from members of his own party, many of whom told him privately they would not defend him on the issue.

It is obvious to almost everyone in America that you don't suggest a resort that you own as the place to have a conference. It makes no sense. Is the President so interested in making a few extra dollars—reports are that he brags what a multibillionaire he is—that he would risk violating the rules and laws of this country, the emoluments clause? It makes no sense.

It is unfortunate that this wasn't the only decision that made no sense. There is an obvious parallel between the President's decision about the G7 and his decision to precipitously withdraw our forces from Syria. Both were done in a sort of whimsical way whereby, from all reports, the President didn't consult with the experts in this latter case—with the military, the State Department, and the CIA.

Both have resulted in condemnation from across the political spectrum. In fact, last week, over 120 House Republicans voted in favor of the resolution criticizing the President's Syria policy. Leaders MCCARTHY, SCALISE, and CHENEY are hardly moderates, in the middle, who always seek compromise. These are pretty hard-nosed people, and they voted to condemn it, so it must be pretty bad. Of course, it is. Former military commanders and some of the President's staunchest allies in the Senate have echoed those sentiments.

Just like the President reversed course on the G7 after a torrent of criticism from his own party, President Trump must dramatically and drastically rethink his policy in Syria, which is far more dangerous because of one word above all else—"ISIS." By his abruptly having pulled troops out of northern Syria, the President has betrayed and deserted our partners and

allies and has created a security vacuum that our longest standing adversaries—Iran, Putin, and Assad—are exploiting. He put American lives in danger by letting hardened ISIS fighters escape captivity and regroup.

As American troops leave Kurdish areas, videos show Kurdish locals hurling rotting vegetables and shouting “America lies.” That is painful. Do you know to whom it is the most painful? Our soldiers who fought alongside the Kurds. The Kurds sacrificed some of their own people so that Americans wouldn’t have to die.

One leading Russian newspaper, which is, no doubt, part of the Putin propaganda machine, ran a column this week that proclaimed Russia’s unexpected triumph in the Middle East and that Putin won the lottery. Meanwhile, public reports suggest that at least 200 people with suspected links to the Islamic State have escaped the displacement camp in northeast Syria as a result of the Turkish invasion, and we in New York know better than anyone what a small group of bad, bad terrorists—evil terrorists—can do in untold damage to our homeland.

This policy is reckless, unthought out, and dangerous. It has been 3 weeks since the announcement of the President’s decision, and he has yet to articulate any plan for what happens next. As a 5-day pause on hostilities comes quickly to an end tomorrow, every Member of this Chamber ought to be asking: What is President Trump’s strategy to secure the enduring defeat of ISIS? How does the President plan to find the escaped ISIS prisoners? How does he plan to fix this mess? These ISIS people are dangerous and can create a problem right here in our homeland.

This morning, according to the New York Times, the President is now considering leaving a small force in eastern Syria. We need to know if that is true. If so, how many? What would be the force’s mission and for how long? Maybe the most pressing question is, How would a deployment in eastern Syria secure ISIS prisoners and help track down those who have escaped? This presents such a great danger to our country.

The President is flitting from one idea to the next and has no coherent, apparent strategy. His own Cabinet officials have yet to even agree on a time to brief the Senators on the administration’s plan. We have been waiting, and we want to hear from the top people—Secretary Esper, Secretary Pompeo, and CIA Director Haspel. This is serious stuff. The Congress has to be briefed. We are worried the reason we are not being briefed is that there is no strategy and that these three people who are in charge of major portions of the American Government—the military, the CIA, the diplomatic corps—don’t have any idea what the President is up to.

The quickest, simplest, and most powerful way to send that message to

the President would be for the Senate to take up and pass the bipartisan House resolution on Syria. Last week, I asked for the Senate’s consent to take it up, but unfortunately it was blocked. We are going to keep going back to it.

It makes a difference when my Republican colleagues stand up to the President. That can affect him more than anything else, so they shouldn’t duck it or be allowed to duck it. When the Republicans pressure the President, as they did on the G7, he considers changing course. So, when it comes to our national security, vital matters of foreign policy, and, yes, especially when it comes to the Constitution, the rule of law, or the integrity of our democracy, the Republicans must put the country over the party.

On Syria and the fight against ISIS, that means Leader McConnell and Senate Republicans should let us vote on the House resolution criticizing the President’s withdrawal.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

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

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to talk about the question of impeachment, which, of course, is being debated across the country.

Evidence continues to mount regarding actions the President has taken. Of course, this issue is not only worthy of debate but also worthy of inquiry and review and even debate and discussion here in the Senate.

From the Mueller report to the recent revelations regarding the President’s dealing with Ukraine and its President, evidence indicates that the President is not only willing to take actions which, in my judgment, amount to an abuse of power—in fact, I think the behavior of the President on the phone call with the Ukrainian President was a textbook case of abuse of power. Apparently, he wants to enlist others to defend the indefensible—this behavior—and has said other things that are troubling to so many Americans.

I think it is important to provide some historical perspective on impeachment, and I will seek to do some of that today. This is by no means a full review of the history, but I think it is important to talk about some of the questions our Founders were wrestling with.

Our Founders grappled with many different questions as they debated the

Constitution itself, particularly the nature and the power of the Office of the President of the United States. As our Founders debated how to hold the President accountable during the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Elbridge Gerry said as follows regarding the issue of impeachment: “A good magistrate will not fear [impeachments]. A bad one ought to be kept in fear of them.”

Consistent with Gerry’s remarks, our Constitution provides an impeachment process for “Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.” At the time of the drafting, our Founders’ understanding of “high Crimes and Misdemeanors” was informed by centuries of English legal precedent.

We know, as Alexander Hamilton explained in Federalist No. 65, impeachment should stem from “abuse or violation of some public trust.” I will say it again: “abuse or violation of some public trust.” Informed by this history, Congress has consistently interpreted the phrase broadly to mean “serious violations of the public trust”—that was one understanding—and has explained that “the phrase refers to misconduct that damages the state and the operations of governmental institutions, and is not limited to criminal misconduct.” That is an important distinction—“not limited to criminal misconduct.”

There is no requirement for a President to engage in a quid pro quo. Any kind of quid pro quo arrangement is not required for impeachment, although it is certainly an impeachable offense to engage in that kind of conduct. Rather, our Constitution merely requires “abuse or violation of some public trust,” as Hamilton spoke to.

Since Special Counsel Mueller issued his report on Russian interference in the 2016 election and, more recently, as testimony has emerged about President Trump’s conduct toward Ukraine, I have attempted to assess how President Trump’s actions fit in our historical and current understanding of what “high Crimes and Misdemeanors” means.

This is an undertaking that must be done in a considered manner and after reviewing all of the relevant information that is available. But I am increasingly convinced that Speaker Pelosi was correct in calling for a formal impeachment inquiry into President Trump’s conduct. A failure by Congress to pursue impeachment in the face of grave offenses by the President would be insulting to our Constitution and insulting to our values.

Let’s talk about the Ukraine example for a moment. Over the past several weeks, our Nation has been confronted by credible and detailed press reports, as well as exhaustive testimony, in some cases lasting 8 hours, 9 hours, 10 hours at a time, just for one witness, and this testimony has come from both career diplomats and State Department officials indicating that the



President has been employing his personal attorney to manage a shadow diplomacy agenda focused on personal vendettas and unfounded conspiracy theories in Ukraine.

In a telephone call with President Zelensky of Ukraine, President Trump—immediately after the Ukrainian President raised the issue of purchasing Javelins to defend his country from Russian aggression—asked the Ukrainian President to “do us a favor though” by working with his lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, and launching an investigation into a discredited conspiracy theory regarding a DNC server in Ukraine. To say that theory is discredited is an understatement. It has been debunked, so said a former Homeland Security Advisor to President Trump, among others.

President Trump also asked President Zelensky “to look into” Joe Biden’s son and explained that “a lot of people want to find out” about Biden—a political rival who, of course, is running for President.

After a memorandum of the phone call was released to the public, the House Intelligence Committee released a text message from the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, who indicated that he thought it was “crazy [for the President] to withhold security assistance for help with a political campaign.”

Other officials have since come forward, some even resigning because of their serious concerns over the White House’s handling of Ukraine policy. Michael McKinley, a former senior adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State, testified that he resigned for two reasons: “the failure, in my view, of the State Department to offer support to Foreign Service employees caught up in the impeachment inquiry on Ukraine, and, second, by what appears to be the utilization of our ambassadors overseas to advance a domestic political objective.” That is what Mr. McKinley, who just left the State Department, said.

Our Founders had the foresight to ensure that the power of the President was not unlimited and that Congress could, if necessary, hold the Executive accountable for abuses of power through the impeachment process. Surely, not every instance of Presidential wrongdoing merits impeachment. Using the vast powers of impeachment in a cavalier fashion would be an insult to our Constitution.

This inquiry is not simply about President Trump’s abuse of power. This inquiry is about our democracy and the values that the Founders agreed should guide our Nation.

Impeachment is not what anyone in this town would prefer. It is what our Constitution demands—demands—when an Executive abuses his or her power in a manner that “damages the state and the operations of government institutions.” That is from an earlier impeachment in the 1860s.

As Hamilton said so long ago—but so prescient—when there is an “abuse or

violation of some public trust,” we are summoned—summoned—by our constitutional duty to act.

To fail to act would be a dereliction of that duty, thereby inviting this executive and future executives to abuse that public trust with impunity. We should never do that.

H.R. 3055

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, very briefly, I wanted to highlight a story that was in today’s Wall Street Journal, entitled “As Court Case Imperils Affordable Care Act, Some States Prepare Contingency Plans.” That is the headline. The subheadline is this: “Lawmakers explore ways to preserve coverage, benefits if the health law is struck down.”

This is the opening paragraph that I will read—it is not very long, but I want to read it—from the story today:

A federal appeals court decision that could strike down the Affordable Care Act as soon as this month has rattled officials in several states who are pursuing legislation to preserve some coverage in the absence of any Trump administration contingency plan.

Lawmakers in states including Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico and California have passed bills or are reviewing action aimed at dealing with the fallout if the ACA is overturned.

That is from the very beginning of the article. I will not go further, other than to say that this is a grave matter. If a Federal appeals court were to rule in favor of the moving party on appeal—or I should say the moving party at the beginning of the suit—and affirm the district court, what would happen if that were the case? The patient protection in the Affordable Care Act would be wiped out, and it would cause not just chaos but would take away protections from people like those who have protections for a pre-existing condition and would also take healthcare coverage away from millions, if not tens of millions.

This is a critically important matter, and it deserves and warrants the attention of Members of the Senate and the House as well.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

#### APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, thank you very much for the opportunity to speak to my colleagues on the Senate floor this evening.

I really come to talk about something that shouldn’t be momentous, shouldn’t be unusual, and should be routine around here. Unfortunately, as you and I have experienced, it is not routine. What is not routine is the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Congress getting its job done. Part of that job is the appropriations process, and it ought to be something we do every year on a routine basis.

Every city council, every county commission, and every school board in the State of Kansas every year passes a budget and determines the spending for that school board or that city council

or for that county commission. Yet, when we come to Washington, DC, over the years, it has become problematic and it has become difficult for us to do one of the basic things of a functioning government: to determine the amount of money to be spent, in broad terms, and then to fill in the spaces with what we should do for individual Agencies and Departments within that budget agreement.

We are poised for a vote tomorrow, a motion on cloture. What that means to folks in Kansas is this: Should we begin the process of debating, amending, and passing appropriations bills? I am here to urge my colleagues, both Republicans and Democrats, to vote yes on cloture, to bring us to the point in which we can have the debate.

I wouldn’t have thought when I came to the U.S. Senate that one of my primary tasks, at least as I saw it, would be to try to help this place function and have an appropriations process that is thoughtful, that establishes priorities, that allows every Member of the Senate to have input. That is something we ought to be able to accomplish without a lot of work, and I hope that we demonstrate that we can do that in the vote tomorrow.

The appropriations process has involved an Appropriations Committee of which you, Mr. President, and I serve on. Many of the bills have been considered and voted on. There will be four bills as a package in this motion to invoke cloture that will be presented to the full Senate tomorrow.

For the subcommittee that I chair—Commerce, Justice, Science—that appropriations bill will be a part of that cloture package. Agriculture, something hugely important to my constituents in Kansas and across the country, Interior, Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development—those four bills have passed unanimously out of the Senate Appropriations Committee in September. Every Republican on the committee and every Democrat on the committee voted in favor of them.

I know in my own circumstances, on the Commerce, Justice, Science bill, I worked closely—perhaps a better way to say it is that the ranking member of our subcommittee, the Senator from New Hampshire, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and I worked closely together—to try to find a path by which we could avoid those issues that would prevent us from finding an agreement that allowed our bill to move forward. I am pretty certain that occurred in the other three subcommittees.

Presented tomorrow is an opportunity for the Senate to take up 4 appropriations bills—4 out of 12—and those 4 are ones that were unanimously agreed to by the Appropriations Committee. I commend Chairman SHELBY and Vice Chairman LEAHY for their efforts in the full committee to bring us together to get us in a position where we have those four bills now, soon, I hope, to be pending in front of the Senate.

Why does this matter? There is a lot of work that has gone into trying to determine what those appropriations bills should say and should contain. Certainly, how much money we spend is important, but if you sidetrack the appropriations process, you eliminate the prioritization. We need to make decisions every year on behalf of the American people. Is there something that we should spend no money on? Last year it received money but not this year. It is not enough priority for us to spend enough money on this year. Are there things we are spending money on today, this year, that are about right, and are there a few things we should spend more money on?

That is a process that involves hearings. It involves witnesses. It involves testimony. It involves other Members, the U.S. Senators, and 100 of us have the opportunity to provide input as to how much money should be spent in those various areas of the appropriations bill. Are there things that are higher priorities, programs that work better than others?

We ought to care about this from a fiscal point of view—how much money we spend. Are we on a path to get us toward greater fiscal sanity, getting our books to balance? But at the same time, in the process of doing that, are we making decisions that determine that something is more important than something else because we know we shouldn't and can't spend money on everything?

That is what the appropriations process does. Maybe we didn't get it exactly right, but allowing the bills to come to the Senate floor allows 99 of my colleagues to join me in the ability to offer amendments to change those priorities. So every Member of the Senate, on behalf of their constituents back home in their home States, ought to care about an appropriations bill being on the Senate floor.

Perhaps, this is the point when I should say that if we fail to do this, what this normally will mean is that we have what we call a CR, or a continuing resolution, meaning that we are going to fund the Federal Government next year at the same levels and in the same way as we did this year.

That lacks any kind of common sense or a basis for making a good decision. Not everything is equal. Just because we spent something last year in this amount doesn't mean it is the right amount next year. If we have been doing continuing resolutions one year after another, what that means is decisions we made about spending 3 or 4 years ago remain the priorities for next year's spending.

We ought to avoid the continuing resolution. We ought to do our work. Tomorrow's vote puts us on a path to do that. Again, we are only on that path if the Members of the Senate decide that this is something we are going to proceed to accomplish.

Fiscal order, prioritization of spending—I also think that Congress over

the years has deferred too often to Federal Agencies and Departments. I tell my constituents that I know the American people are not satisfied with the nature of Congress as an institution and perhaps not satisfied with even their own Senator or U.S. Congressman or Congresswoman, but we are the closest thing that you have to the ability to make your will known and cause and effect in Washington, DC.

Someone can visit with me and someone can visit with every U.S. Senator and have a consequence here. It is through this process, if you allow us all to participate in the legislative process, that we can take our constituents' will and bring it to Washington, DC, on their behalf.

In the absence of that, it just means the Departments, the Cabinets, the Cabinet Secretaries, the Agency heads, the Bureau chiefs, and the people who work within the bureaucracy have more say if we don't do appropriations bills than elected officials representing Kansans and the people of 49 other States.

This is a way we can bring the people of the United States into decisions made in Washington, DC. When we defer, when we do a continuing resolution, it means it is more likely that no person within the bureaucracy has any reason to pay any attention to our interests. A constituent brings me a problem and says: Something is going on at the Department of Interior, and this is what we are seeing, and this is how it affects us. Could you help solve that problem? Can you get somebody's attention at the Department of Interior? Could you get somebody's attention at the Department of Commerce?

If we don't do appropriations bills, our ability to influence people at the Department of Commerce—the power of the purse strings—disappears. It means that we have less ability not only to determine how money is to be spent but to be able to tell an Agency head or a Cabinet Secretary: This makes no sense. What you are doing to folks back home is very damaging to them. Let us explain to you.

If human nature, being what it is, says that if you are the person or if you are the organization—in this case, the U.S. Senate—that determines how much money an Agency, Department, or Cabinet Secretary gets within their realm of authority, you are going to be much more likely to listen to a Member of Congress and help us solve problems on behalf of our constituents.

The appropriations process matters greatly. I think we are poised for the opportunity to demonstrate that this place can work, it can represent the American people, and we can allow all of our colleagues to have input in the appropriations process, which has been ongoing since last year.

I hope the conclusion tomorrow by my colleagues is that this is a worthy endeavor. The U.S. Senate ought to return to the days in which we did 12 appropriations bills on an annual basis

and allowed the American people their input in the appropriations process.

#### PROTOCOL TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OF 1949 ON THE ACCESSION OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor to express my support for ratifying the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of North Macedonia. In light of the Kremlin's ongoing aggression against the United States, against Ukraine, and against many of our democratic allies, today's vote sends an important signal that we are serious about standing up to Moscow. A strong NATO is critical to the security of the United States, and supporting NATO's expansion is one of the most important things this body can do to protect our Nation.

This historic vote would not be happening without the Prespa Agreement between Greece and North Macedonia, which resolved the two countries' name dispute and came into force in February. I want to acknowledge the hard work of these countries, as well as the tireless efforts of American diplomats, to make Prespa a reality.

North Macedonia has already made notable contributions to the security of the U.S. and of NATO. North Macedonia has deployed more than 4,000 troops to Iraq in support of U.S. efforts there, and in 2018, North Macedonia boosted its contribution to Afghanistan by 20 percent.

It actively supports the international counter-ISIS coalition and has also supported missions in Kosovo. This history of partnership with the U.S. on important security issues speaks strongly in favor of North Macedonia's inclusion in the Alliance.

NATO is strongest when all of its members contribute, and I am glad that North Macedonia is committed to hitting the target of spending 2 percent of its GDP on defense by 2024. The government has already made great progress towards that target, and we must hold them to that promise.

I also want to stress the importance of all NATO members spending 2 percent of GDP on defense. Our allies have increased their defense spending since 2014 in response to a clear and growing threat from the Kremlin. We must work to make sure that trend continues, and we must do it as partners, not as bullies.

We must also remember that belonging to NATO is about more than military capabilities. NATO was established as a club of democracies that abide by a certain set of principles. When the Clinton administration was considering new members, former Secretary of Defense William Perry laid out some criteria for inclusion in this group: individual liberty for citizens, democratic elections, the rule of law, economic and market-based reforms, resolution of territorial disputes with neighbors, and civilian control of the military.

North Macedonia has made progress on rule of law and democracy, but more work remains to perfect the system. NATO member states should not consider this process complete and must continue supporting North Macedonia's work to fully implement its reform commitments.

Finally, admitting North Macedonia into NATO is an important step towards fully integrating the Balkans into the international institutions that contribute to peace and stability in Europe. I hope that today's vote will provide momentum for North Macedonia to open EU accession talks as well. There is unfinished work for peace in the Balkans, and the United States must remain committed to the region to resolve these long-running challenges.

The Kremlin, of course, does not want to see stability in the Balkans. It does not want to see the spread of democracy and rule of law. It does not want countries like North Macedonia to experience the peace and prosperity that integration with the West brings. That is why Russia tried to stop the Prespa Agreement with disinformation and political manipulation, and why it has vocally opposed North Macedonia's NATO accession.

With today's vote, we can make clear that no country outside the Alliance gets a veto over who gets to join NATO, especially not Russia. We can show our support for a country that has partnered with us on important security missions and is making tough but necessary reforms. We can promote stability in a critical region of the world and reduce Kremlin influence there. Most importantly, we can protect our homeland by expanding an alliance that has proven invaluable to national security.

While it is a positive step that we are voting to ratify North Macedonia's NATO accession protocol, it is also an opportune moment to take a step back and consider the Senate's treaty power more broadly.

Article 2 of the Constitution endows the President and the Senate with shared power over treaties. The President, it states, "shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur." While the Constitution does not expressly dictate a procedure for terminating treaty relationships, Senators have long asserted that the shared treaty power extends to withdrawal and therefore also requires Senate approval.

Regardless of whether the executive branch agrees with this position, what is completely unacceptable is that Senators are first learning about treaty withdrawals and threats to withdraw online or in the newspaper instead of through proactive outreach by and meaningful dialogue with the executive branch.

The stakes could not be higher. Among the three treaties President

Trump has pulled out of just this year is the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty—INF Treaty—a cornerstone of the nuclear nonproliferation regime with Russia. The Senate approved this; treaty in 1988 by a vote of 93–5.

Now, there are rumors swirling that the President will imminently pull out of the Open Skies Treaty, a multilateral arms control agreement that has been a critical element of U.S. and European security. The Senate approved that treaty in 1993 without any recorded opposition.

As with so many aspects of President Trump's foreign policy, withdrawal from Open Skies would be another gift to Vladimir Putin. Just last year, the United States conducted an extraordinary flight authorized under Open Skies and intended to reaffirm U.S. commitment to Ukraine and other partner nations. Further, when the Ukraine crisis first emerged, the United States used images collected by U.S. surveillance missions under the Open Skies Treaty to publically demonstrate that Russian forces had invaded Ukrainian territory. Withdrawing from the Open Skies Treaty would be perceived as casting us further doubt on the status of the U.S. commitment to Ukraine's security and would advance the Russian narrative that the United States is an unreliable partner in the region.

These withdrawals not only demonstrate a reckless approach to foreign policy—an approach that gratifies the Trump administration's short-term goals at the expense of our country's long-term interests—they also erode the Senate's prerogative on treaties. Given the constitutional mandate of shared responsibility for treaties between the Senate and President, along with a heightened standard for Senate advice and consent, it is inconceivable to think that unilateral treaty termination, absent any engagement whatsoever with the Senate, could be constitutionally sound, yet that is what this President is doing and what this Senate must reject.

It is in this context that we must face an unfortunate truth relevant to the continuing health of the NATO alliance, which is the constant threat that President Trump may suddenly pull the United States out of NATO altogether. It is a dangerous option the President has apparently raised with subordinates. If recent history is any guide, the fact that a U.S. withdrawal would be reckless, dangerous, and, as the former Supreme Allied Commander of NATO has said, "a geopolitical mistake of epic proportion," does not mean that the President will not pursue it.

With that in mind, it is unfortunate that Senator MCCONNELL refused to allow amendments to the North Macedonia Protocol. Had he allowed a more open process, I would have offered an amendment that would have conditioned Senate advice and consent on

the protocol to a requirement that the President not withdraw from NATO without Senate approval. While this step may not have been necessary previously, we must regretfully move in that direction to respond to President Trump and to protect against his ability and willingness to jeopardize U.S. national security through hasty and unilateral treaty withdrawals.

So, while I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting to ratify North Macedonia's NATO accession protocol, I must express my concern that the Senate has not yet taken any steps to prevent President Trump from pulling the United States out of NATO or other treaties absent any Senate input or approval.

Mr. CASEY. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the previously scheduled vote commence now.

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

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on treaties Calendar No. 5, Treaty Document No. 116–1, Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia.

Mitch McConnell, David Perdue, John Cornyn, John Thune, John Hoeven, John Boozman, Thom Tillis, Steve Daines, Roger F. Wicker, Pat Roberts, John Barrasso, Richard Burr, Shelley Moore Capito, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Massachusetts

(Ms. WARREN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 326 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Alexander	Ernst	Perdue
Baldwin	Feinstein	Peters
Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Blackburn	Gardner	Reed
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Risch
Blunt	Graham	Roberts
Boozman	Grassley	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Brown	Heinrich	Rounds
Burr	Hirono	Rubio
Cantwell	Hoeben	Sasse
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Carper	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Casey	Jones	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Smith
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	Markey	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Udall
Cruz	Menendez	Van Hollen
Daines	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Moran	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Enzi	Murray	Young

NAYS—2

Lee

Paul

NOT VOTING—14

Bennet	Kennedy	Stabenow
Booker	Klobuchar	Toomey
Harris	Murkowski	Warren
Hassan	Sanders	Whitehouse
Isakson	Schatz	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 2.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from North Dakota.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks, on Tuesday, October 22, the time until 12 noon be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. I further ask that all postcloture time on Treaties Calendar No. 5, Treaty Document No. 116-1, expire at 12 noon tomorrow and that the Senate vote on the ratification of the treaty.

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

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

##### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, unfortunately I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted in support of cloture.●

#### OCEAN PLASTIC POLLUTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, oceans, lakes, and rivers across our planet are filled with debris that litters shorelines and threatens public health, navigation safety, wildlife, and the environment. This debris causes serious damage to the health of ocean ecosystems and marine life and, due to ocean currents, often travels great distances and poses threats to nations that are not responsible for the mismanagement of such waste.

One of the most common forms of marine debris is plastic, which is abundant in our everyday lives, often in the form of single-use packaging. Countless seabirds, sea turtles, seals, and other marine animals are killed each year after ingesting plastic or getting entangled in it. And most commonly used plastics never fully degrade but, rather, break down into smaller and smaller pieces, known as microplastics, which pose unique problems of their own.

The negative health, environmental, and economic impacts of marine pollution, both to countries that discharge waste and to those on whose shorelines such waste washes up, are steadily mounting. Billions of pounds of plastic and other debris can be found in our oceans and waterways.

In the Senate version of the fiscal year 2020 Department of State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill, which was reported unanimously by the Appropriations Committee on September 26, the committee recommended funding to respond to this global threat. In this bill, the committee directs the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to redouble their diplomatic and programmatic support for regional and global efforts to address this urgent problem, including through grants, technical assistance, and new multilateral mechanisms, and provides \$10 million to support such efforts.

While the funding provided is minuscule compared to what is needed, the committee's intent is clear. The United States must increase its leadership and visibility on this issue and become more engaged in efforts to prevent and mitigate the impacts of marine debris. The committee recognizes that the United States cannot address this problem alone. Nothing connects countries of the world more than oceans and waterways, and strong international cooperation is necessary to guarantee their conservation for generations to

come. It is imperative that the United States increase its engagement both bilaterally and multilaterally to tackle this challenge.

It is not an understatement to say that what I am speaking about—the protection of the oceans, lakes, and rivers of our planet—is essential to our existence. I hope other Senators will join me, Senator WHITEHOUSE, and others who have taken up this cause in calling for additional resources to address ocean plastic pollution.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING AMELIA ISLAND KAYAK EXCURSIONS

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week it is my honor to recognize a small business that exemplifies family values and dedication to its community. I am proud to recognize Amelia Island Kayak Excursions of Fernandina Beach, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Established in 2013, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions is the product of the Bullington family's love of kayaking in the Amelia Island inlands. Six years ago, Mark Bullington and his two children, Amber and Aaron, decided to turn their hobby into their livelihood. Their love of Florida and commitment to responsible stewardship of the Earth led the Bullingtons to share their passion with visitors and their community.

Showcasing Florida's beauty, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions offers both kayak and boat expeditions throughout wildlife-rich Egan's Creek, Lofton's Creek, and more of Florida's coastal environment. Tours range from 2 to 5 hours, and overnight tours are offered for experienced kayakers. Additionally, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions offers private boat tours for small groups to observe the diverse local wildlife.

Since its founding, the tour guides of Amelia Island Kayak Excursions have continued to learn more about Florida's unique environment and community. Over the span of his career, Mark has logged more than 4,500 miles kayaking and canoeing, gaining extensive knowledge about the scenic ecosystem in the process. Amber not only leads tours but is also involved with the local business community through the Nassau County Chamber of Commerce and, in 2018, was recognized as the chamber's Ambassador of the Year. Aaron is certified through the University of Florida as a Florida Master Naturalist, a certification which lends itself easily to his role as tour guide.

As a well-established tour service, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions has become an essential part of the economic framework of Fernandina Beach. This business's influential role has not gone unnoticed. In 2017, Amelia Island

Kayak Excursions was recognized by the Nassau County Chamber of Commerce as the Small Business of the Year and received the Bold City Best Water Sports Award. In addition to its accomplishments, Amelia Island Kayak Excursions is dedicated to giving back to the community through engagement with local charities and corresponding fundraisers. To educate the next generation about Florida's wildlife, the Bullingtons have partnered with an after school program by gifting students a free kayak trip if they meet their academic goals.

Amelia Island Kayak Excursions is a great example of a community-oriented small business. I am proud to honor and congratulate Amelia Island Kayak Excursions for its hard work and dedication to the Floridian landscape. I wish the entire team at Amelia Island Kayak Excursions the best of luck and success in all of their future endeavors.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 18, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RASKIN) had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1196. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Barr Post Office Building".

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the enrolled bill was signed on October 18, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1815. An act to require the Security and Exchange Commission, when developing rules and regulations about disclosures to retail investors, to conduct investor testing, including a survey and interviews of retail investors, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3624. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of domestic and foreign employees of certain public companies, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 635. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, a Representative from the State of Maryland.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1815. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission, when developing rules and regulations about disclosures to retail investors, to conduct investor testing, including a survey and interviews of retail investors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3624. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the disclosure of the total number of domestic and foreign employees of certain public companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2644. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2838. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3417-EM in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico having exceeded the \$5,000,000 limit for a single emergency declaration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2839. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3870" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2840. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3872" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2841. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3871" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2842. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3869" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2843. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Huntsville, AL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0530)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2844. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Haleyville, AL and Hamilton, AL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0502)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2845. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Fairmont, MN" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0471)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2846. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mattoon/Charleston, IL; and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Monticello, IL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0529)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2847. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class C Airspace; Lafayette, LA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0676)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2848. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes Q-121 and Q-156; Miles City, MT" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0267)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2849. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference

Amendments” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0627)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2850. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mount Pleasant, IA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0472)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2851. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; St. James, MN” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0550)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2852. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Lake of the Ozarks, Lake Ozark, MO” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0769)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2853. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone for Hurricane Dorian; Coast Guard Maryland-National Capital Region Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0775)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2854. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Unionport (Bruckner Expressway) Bridge, Westchester Creek, Bronx, NY” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-1060)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2855. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Sector Upper Mississippi River Annual and Recurring Safety Zones Update” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2018-1009)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2856. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Cape Fear River, Wilmington, NC” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0302)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2857. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Fireworks Display, Indian River Bay, DE” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0509)) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2858. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; New Jersey Intracoastal Waterway, Atlantic City, NJ” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0719)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2859. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Incline Village Wedding Fireworks Display, Crystal Bay, Incline” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0678)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2860. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; 2019 Monte Labor Day Fireworks Display, Carnelian Bay, Carnelian Bay, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0730)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2861. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Missouri River, mile marker 117 to 116.5 Chamois, MO” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0760)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2862. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Kanawha River, Charleston, WV” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0734)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2863. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Newtown Creek, New York, NY” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0725)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2864. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; R/V POLARCUS ALIMA, Cook Inlet, Homer, Alaska” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0774)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2865. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Saint Simons Sound, GA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0794)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2866. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Neches River, Beaumont, TX” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0614)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2867. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; San Juan Harbor, San Juan, PR” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0686)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2868. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Delaware River, Philadelphia, PA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0784)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2869. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Delaware Bay and River, PA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0782)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2870. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; Tennessee River, Florence, AL” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0768)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2871. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; North Atlantic Ocean, Ocean City, MD” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0634)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2872. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; Battle of the Bridges, Intracoastal Waterway; Venice, FL” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0508)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2873. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Wilmington River, Savannah, GA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0756)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2874. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States;



Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer from NC to MA" (RIN0648-GAR-A005) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2875. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Final Rule; 2019 Closure of the Closed Area I Scallop Access Area to General Category Individual Fishing Quota Scallop Vessels" (RIN0648-XX004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2876. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Final Rule; 2019 Closure of the Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop Management Area to the Limited Access General Category Fishery" (RIN0648-XG998) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2877. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery; 2019 Illex Squid Quota Harvested" (RIN0648-XX007) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2878. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Common Pool Measures for Fishing Year 2019" (RIN0648-XG900) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2879. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer from NC to VA" (RIN0648-GAR-A004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2880. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; 2019 Bigeye Tuna Longline Fishery Closure" (RIN0648-XP002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2881. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Closure of the General Category June through August 2019

Fishery" (RIN0648-XT013) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2882. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2019-2020 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments for March and April 2019" (RIN0648-BI94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2883. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Inseason Adjustment to 2019 International Pacific Halibut Commission Fishery Regulations" (RIN0648-WCR-A001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2884. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2019-2020 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments for June 2019" (RIN0648-BJ11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2885. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off the West Coast States; the Highly Migratory Species Fishery; Closure" (RIN0648-WCR-A002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2886. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason Quota Transfer (Reserve Category to Harpoon Category)" (RIN0648-XT010) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2887. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Closure of the Harpoon Category Fishery for 2019" (RIN0648-XT011) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2888. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Closure of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Angling Category Northern Area Trophy Fishery" (RIN0648-XT001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2889. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason General Category Retention Limit Adjustment (Remainder of June through August 2019 Subquota Period)" (RIN0648-XT007) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2890. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason Quota Transfer (Reserve Category to Harpoon Category)" (RIN0648-XT008) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2891. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Angling Category Retention Limit Adjustment" (RIN0648-XH007) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2892. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Temporary Rule; Inseason General Category Retention Limit Adjustment (June through August 2019 Subquota Period)" (RIN0648-HMS-A001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2893. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Closure of the Angling Category Gulf of Mexico Trophy Fishery" (RIN0648-XG950) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2894. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Temporary Rule; Swordfish General Commercial Permit Retention Limit Inseason Adjustment for Northwest Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and U.S. Caribbean Regions from July 1 through December 31, 2019" (RIN0648-XT002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2895. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Shark and Hammerhead Shark Management Groups in the Atlantic; Retention Limit Adjustment" (RIN0648-XT012) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2896. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Shark and Hammerhead Shark Management Groups Retention Limit Adjustment” (RIN0648-XT003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2897. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XY003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2898. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XH070) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2899. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Dusky Rockfish in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XH071) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2900. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Other Rockfish in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XY004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2901. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XY009) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2902. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reapportionment of the 2019 Gulf of Alaska Halibut Prohibited Species Catch Limits for Trawl Gear Categories” (RIN0648-XH099) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2903. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Blackspotted/Rougheye Rockfish in the Western and Central Aleutian Districts of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XY005) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2904. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XY002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2905. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Sablefish in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XH079) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2906. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Flatfish Exchange in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XH046) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2907. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XH059) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2908. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Kamchatka Flounder in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XH066) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2909. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Commercial Harvest Closure for the Snowy Grouper in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XS006) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2910. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, De-

partment of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2019 Gulf Recreational Private and For-Hire Seasons for Red Snapper” (RIN0648-XG837) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2911. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Greenland Turbot in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XG984) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2912. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Commercial Harvest Closure for the Golden Tilefish Commercial Hook-and-line Component in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XS003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2913. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Commercial Harvest Closure for the Blueline Tilefish in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XS005) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2914. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2019 Recreational Harvest Closure for the Golden Tilefish in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XS001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2915. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2018-2019 Commercial Harvest Closure for the Yellowtail Snapper in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XH054) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2916. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2019 Commercial Harvest Closure for the Other Jacks Complex in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XS002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2917. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Commercial Trip Limit Reduction for Spanish Mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone” (RIN0648-XG732) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24,

2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2918. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2019 Gulf of Mexico Commercial Greater Amberjack Season Closure and Quota Reduction” (RIN0648-XG771) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2919. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG720) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2920. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Pot Catcher/Processors in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XG699) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2921. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG733) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2922. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Trawl Catcher Vessels in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG721) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2923. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XG688) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2924. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2019 and 2020 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Correcting Amendment” (RIN0648-XG471) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2925. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fish-

eries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG013) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2926. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XY035) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2927. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Several Groundfish Species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XY034) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2928. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG714) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2929. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-line or Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XG698) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2930. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater than or Equal to 60 feet Length Overall Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XG701) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2931. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Non-American Fisheries Act Crab Vessels Operating as Catcher Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XG731) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25,

2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2932. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2019 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Total Allowable Catch Amounts” (RIN0648-XG685) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2933. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Temporary Rule to Establish Management Measures for Red Grouper in the Gulf of Mexico” (RIN0648-BI63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2934. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Limits in Purse Seine and Longline Fisheries; Fishing Restrictions in Purse Seine Fisheries” (RIN0648-BI78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2935. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Rule to Implement Abbreviated Framework Amendment 2 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region” (RIN0648-BI56) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2936. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Specifications” (RIN0648-XG657) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2937. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Commercial Shark Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason Quota Transfer for Blacktip Shark, Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks, and Hammerhead Shark Management Groups in the Gulf of Mexico Region” (RIN0648-XT016) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2938. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic

Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason General Category Quota Transfer and Closure (September 2019 Subquota Period)" (RIN0648-XT018) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2939. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Annual Specifications" (RIN0648-XG972) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2940. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; Revised 2019 Summer Flounder Specifications" (RIN0648-XG898) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2941. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Adjustment of Georges Bank and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder Annual Catch Limits" (RIN0648-XG833) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2942. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Small-Mesh Multispecies Fishery, Inseason Adjustment to the Northern Red Hake Possession Limit" (RIN0648-XX010) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2943. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Flatfish Exchange in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" (RIN0648-XY033) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 9, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

S. 2132. A bill to promote security and provide justice for United States victims of international terrorism.

## 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 Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2648. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benchmarking process for the Medicare Shared Savings Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2649. A bill to amend the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2650. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2651. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide inscriptions for spouses and children on certain headstones and markers furnished by the Secretary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 2652. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide that only citizens or nationals of the United States may operate trains within the United States that originate in Mexico; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2653. A bill to prohibit funding for heads of state meetings and multilateral summits at any Trump Organization-owned property; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2654. A bill to prohibit the obligation or expenditure of Federal funds for certain agreements relating to the 46th G7 Summit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 366. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 367. A resolution condemning the horrific attack in Dayton, Ohio, and expressing support and prayers for all those impacted by that tragedy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. Res. 368. A resolution to authorize the production of records by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Con. Res. 27. A concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situ-

ated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 27

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 27, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S. 34

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 34, a bill to require a report on the continuing participation of Cambodia in the Generalized System of Preferences.

S. 211

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, and for other purposes.

S. 229

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 229, a bill to provide advance appropriations authority for certain accounts of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education of the Department of the Interior and the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services, and for other purposes.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 947

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 947, a bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in

uranium mining, and for other purposes.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) 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. 1180

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1180, a bill to extend the full Federal medical assistance percentage to urban Indian organizations.

S. 1253

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1253, a bill to apply requirements relating to delivery sales of cigarettes to delivery sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1300, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 1392

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1392, a bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of suicide prevention coordinators of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1399

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1399, a bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Services Act to revise and extend nursing workforce development programs.

S. 1421

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1421, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a "Ghost Army" that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from California

(Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors 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. 1657

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1657, a bill to provide assistance to combat the escalating burden of Lyme disease and other tick and vector-borne diseases and disorders.

S. 1728

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1728, a bill to require the United States Postal Service to sell the Alzheimer's semipostal stamp for 6 additional years.

S. 1757

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1757, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1822

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1822, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules relating to the collection of data with respect to the availability of broadband services, and for other purposes.

S. 1827

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude corporations operating prisons from the definition of taxable REIT subsidiary.

S. 1838

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

S. 1908

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1908, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) 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. 2015

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2015, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to develop a plain language disclosure form for borrowers of Federal student loans, and for other purposes.

S. 2042

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2080

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2080, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 2085

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2085, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

S. 2108

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2108, a bill to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers, and for other purposes.

S. 2168

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2168, a bill to establish a student loan forgiveness plan for certain borrowers who are employed at a qualified farm or ranch.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2260

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2260, a bill to provide for the improvement of domestic infrastructure in order to prevent marine debris, and for other purposes.

S. 2303

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2303, a bill to allow United States citizens and legal residents to travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 2434

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 2491

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2491, a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes.

S. 2496

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the Medicare and disability insurance benefits waiting periods for disabled individuals.

S. 2539

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2539, a bill to modify and reauthorize the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 2570

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 2602

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2602, a bill to exclude vehicles to be used solely for competition from certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2624

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2624, a bill to prohibit arms sales to Turkey.

S. 2641

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2641, a bill to promote United States national security and prevent the resurgence of ISIS, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 21, a joint resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States relative to the line item veto, a limitation on the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve, and requiring a vote of two-thirds of the membership of both Houses of Congress on any legislation raising or imposing new taxes or fees.

S.J. RES. 56

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of 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".

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2650. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2650

*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 "Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN OPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 2 of part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting after section 1860D-11 (42 U.S.C. 1395w-111) the following new section:

#### "MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN OPTION

"SEC. 1860D-11A. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, for each year (beginning with 2021), in addition to any plans offered under section 1860D-11, the Secretary shall offer one or more Medicare operated prescription drug plans (as defined in subsection (d)) with a service area that consists of the entire United States and shall enter into negotiations in accordance with subsection (c) with pharmaceutical manufacturers to reduce the purchase cost of covered part D drugs for eligible part D individuals who enroll in such a plan.

"(b) ENROLLMENT.—Notwithstanding subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 1860D-1(b)(1), a Medicare operated prescription drug plan offered under this section shall serve as the default prescription drug plan for all part D enrollees unless another prescription drug plan is selected.

"(c) NEGOTIATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 1860D-11(i), for purposes of offering a Medicare operated prescription drug plan under this section, the Secretary shall negotiate with pharmaceutical manufacturers with respect to the purchase price of covered part D drugs in a Medicare operated prescription drug plan and shall encourage the use of more affordable therapeutic equivalents to the extent such practices do not override medical necessity as determined by the prescribing physician. To the extent practicable and consistent with the previous sentence, the Secretary shall implement negotiation and incentive strategies similar to those used by other Federal purchasers of prescription drugs to reduce the purchase cost of covered Part D drugs, and other strategies, as described in subsection (f), which may include the use of a pricing scale based on an international price index.

"(d) MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN DEFINED.—For purposes of this part, the term 'Medicare operated prescription drug plan' means a comprehensive prescription drug plan that offers qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices described in section 1860D-2(a)(1)(A). Such a plan may offer supplemental prescription drug coverage in the same manner as other qualified prescription drug coverage offered by other prescription drug plans.

"(e) MONTHLY BENEFICIARY PREMIUM.—

"(1) QUALIFIED PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.—The monthly beneficiary premium for qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices described in section 1860D-2(a)(1)(A) to be charged under a Medicare operated prescription drug plan shall be uniform nationally. Such premium for months in 2021 and each succeeding year shall be based on the average monthly per capita actuarial cost of offering the Medicare operated prescription drug plan for the year involved, including administrative expenses.

"(2) SUPPLEMENTAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.—Insofar as a Medicare operated prescription drug plan offers supplemental prescription drug coverage, the Secretary may adjust the amount of the premium charged under paragraph (1).

"(f) USE OF NEGOTIATION AND BENEFIT DESIGN INCENTIVES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the operation of a Medicare operated prescription drug plan and in negotiating with respect to the purchase price of covered part D drugs in such plan, the Secretary shall reward value, increase appropriate use of drugs, and ensure patient safety and access to medications.

"(2) ROLE OF AHRQ.—The Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality,



in coordination with the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, shall be responsible for assessing the clinical benefit of covered part D drugs and making recommendations to the Secretary regarding the negotiated prices of covered drugs and any appropriate tiering or incentive strategies under the plan. In conducting such assessments and making such recommendations, the Director shall carry out the following activities:

“(A) Consider the comparable international price of such drugs based upon the median retail list price of such drug (which shall be, as practicable, the volume-weighted price for comparable units and dosage forms) among a category of at least the following peer reference countries: Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Japan, Australia, and Germany.

“(B) Consider safety concerns and post-market data, including those identified by the Food and Drug Administration and from national health registries.

“(C) Use available data and evaluations, including from research supported by the National Institutes of Health, with priority given to randomized controlled trials, to examine clinical effectiveness, comparative effectiveness, safety, and enhanced compliance with a drug regimen.

“(D) Use the same classes of drugs developed by United States Pharmacopeia for this part.

“(E) Consider evaluations made by—

“(i) the Director under section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003;

“(ii) other Federal entities, such as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

“(iii) other private and public entities, which may include the Drug Effectiveness Review Project and Medicaid programs.

“(F) Consider recommendations made by the advisory committee pursuant to paragraph (3)(F).

“(G) Recommend to the Secretary those drugs in a class that provide a greater clinical benefit, including fewer safety concerns or less risk of side-effects, than another drug in the same class.

“(3) USE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and appoint an advisory committee (in this paragraph referred to as the ‘advisory committee’)—

“(i) to review petitions from drug manufacturers, health care provider organizations, patient groups, and other entities regarding negotiated prices; and

“(ii) to recommend any changes in order to further negotiations with respect to such prices.

“(B) COMPOSITION.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the advisory committee shall be composed of 9 members and shall include representatives of physicians, pharmacists, consumers, and others with expertise in evaluating prescription drugs. The Secretary shall select members based on their knowledge of pharmaceuticals and the Medicare population. Members shall be deemed to be special Government employees for purposes of applying the conflict of interest provisions under section 208 of title 18, United States Code, and no waiver of such provisions for such a member shall be permitted.

“(C) BANNED INDIVIDUALS.—

“(i) DRUG COMPANY LOBBYISTS.—No former registered drug manufacturer lobbyist—

“(I) may be appointed to the advisory committee; or

“(II) may be employed by the advisory committee during the 6-year period beginning on the date on which the registered lobbyist terminates its registration in accordance with section 4(d) of the Lobbying Dis-

closure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603(d)) or the agent terminates its status, as applicable.

“(ii) SENIOR EXECUTIVES OF LAW-BREAKING COMPANIES.—No former senior executive of a covered entity (as defined in clause (iii))—

“(I) may be appointed to the Advisory Committee; or

“(II) may be employed by the Advisory Committee during the 6-year period beginning on the later of—

“(aa) the date of the settlement described in item (aa) of clause (iii)(II); or

“(bb) the date on which the enforcement action described in item (bb) of such clause has concluded.

“(iii) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered entity’ means any entity that is—

“(I) a drug manufacturer; and

“(II)(aa) operating under Federal settlement including a Federal consent decree; or

“(bb) the subject of an enforcement action in a court of the United States or by an agency.

“(D) CONSULTATION.—The advisory committee shall consult, as necessary, with physicians who are specialists in treating the disease for which a drug is being considered.

“(E) REQUEST FOR STUDIES.—The advisory committee may request the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality or an academic or research institution to study and make a report on a petition described in subparagraph (A)(i) in order to assess cost-effectiveness, clinical effectiveness, comparative effectiveness, safety, and compliance with a drug regimen.

“(F) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The advisory committee shall make recommendations to the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality regarding the appropriate price at which to begin negotiations on a part D drug pursuant to this section.

“(G) LIMITATIONS ON REVIEW OF MANUFACTURER PETITIONS.—The advisory committee shall not review a petition of a drug manufacturer under subparagraph (A)(i) with respect to a covered part D drug unless the petition is accompanied by the following:

“(i) Raw data from clinical trials on the safety and effectiveness of the drug.

“(ii) Any data from clinical trials conducted using active controls on the drug or drugs that are the current standard of care.

“(iii) Any available data on comparative effectiveness of the drug.

“(iv) Any other information the Secretary requires for the advisory committee to complete its review.

“(g) INFORMING BENEFICIARIES.—The Secretary shall take steps to inform part D eligible individuals not previously enrolled in a Medicare operated drug plan (including such individuals who are newly eligible to enroll under this part) regarding the enrollment of such individual in a Medicare operated drug plan in accordance with this section, including providing information in the annual handbook and adding information to the official public Medicare website related to prescription drug coverage available through this part.

“(h) APPLICATION OF ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS.—Except as specifically provided in this section, any Medicare operated drug plan shall meet the same requirements as apply to any other prescription drug plan, including the requirements of section 1860D-4(b)(1) relating to assuring pharmacy access.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1860D-3(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-103(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) AVAILABILITY OF THE MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.—A Medicare operated prescription drug plan (as defined in section 1860D-11A(d)) shall be offered na-

tionally in accordance with section 1860D-11A.”.

(2)(A) Section 1860D-3 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-103) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) PROVISIONS ONLY APPLICABLE IN 2006 THROUGH 2020.—The provisions of this section shall only apply with respect to 2006 through 2020.”.

(B) Section 1860D-11(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-111(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) NO AUTHORITY FOR FALLBACK PLANS AFTER 2020.—A fallback prescription drug plan shall not be available after December 31, 2020.”.

(3) Section 1860D-13(c)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-113(c)(3)) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “AND MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS” after “FALLBACK PLANS”; and

(B) by inserting “or a Medicare operated prescription drug plan” after “a fallback prescription drug plan”.

(4) Section 1860D-16(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-116(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) payments for expenses incurred with respect to the operation of Medicare operated prescription drug plans under section 1860D-11A.”.

(5) Section 1860D-41(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-151(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(19) MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.—The term ‘Medicare operated prescription drug plan’ has the meaning given such term in section 1860D-11A(d).”.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to supersede any other negotiation authority granted to the Secretary under Federal law with respect to prescription drug prices.

### SEC. 3. IMPROVED APPEALS PROCESS UNDER THE MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.

Section 1860D-4(h) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1305w-104(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) APPEALS PROCESS FOR MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a well-defined process for appeals for denials of benefits under this part under the Medicare operated prescription drug plan (as defined in section 1860D-11A(d)). Such process shall be efficient, impose minimal administrative burdens, and ensure the timely procurement of medications. Medical necessity shall be based on professional medical judgment, the medical condition of the beneficiary, and other medical evidence.

“(B) CONSULTATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF PROCESS.—In developing the appeals process under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consult with consumer and patient groups, as well as other key stakeholders, to ensure the goals described in subparagraph (A) are achieved.”.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

## SENATE RESOLUTION 366—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RED RIBBON WEEK DURING THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 23 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2019

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RISCH, and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

## S. RES. 366

Whereas the National Family Partnership started the Red Ribbon Campaign in 1988—

(1) to preserve the memory of Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration who—

(A) served the Drug Enforcement Administration for 11 years; and

(B) was murdered in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

(2) to commemorate the service of Special Agent Camarena to the Drug Enforcement Administration and the people of the United States; and

(3) to further the cause for which Special Agent Camarena gave his life;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign is the most longstanding drug prevention program in the United States, bringing drug awareness to millions of people in the United States each year;

Whereas Red Ribbon Week is celebrated every year during the period of October 23 through October 31 by—

(1) State Governors and attorneys general;

(2) the National Family Partnership;

(3) parent-teacher associations;

(4) Boys and Girls Clubs of America;

(5) the Young Marines;

(6) the Drug Enforcement Administration; and

(7) hundreds of other organizations throughout the United States;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote the creation of drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education programs, parental involvement, and community-wide support;

Whereas, according to the 2018 National Drug Threat Assessment, drug poisoning deaths are the leading cause of injury death in the United States, outnumbering deaths by firearms, motor vehicle crashes, suicide, and homicide;

Whereas approximately 69,000 people died from drug overdoses in the United States in 2018;

Whereas reducing the demand for controlled substances would—

(1) curtail lethal addictions and overdoses; and

(2) reduce the violence associated with drug trafficking;

Whereas, although public awareness of illicit drug use is increasing, emerging drug threats and growing epidemics continue to demand attention;

Whereas a majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get those drugs from family, friends, and the home medicine cabinet;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration hosts a National Take Back Day twice a year, on the last Saturdays of October and April, for the public to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs that can lead to accidental poisoning, overdose, or abuse;

Whereas the number of people reporting heroin use during the past 12 months doubled between 2002 and 2018, from 404,000 to 808,000;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the number of deaths attributable to methamphetamine has risen every year since 2008 to a high of approximately 12,815 in 2018;

Whereas cocaine availability and use in the United States continued to rise between 2016 and 2018, with total deaths attributable to cocaine exceeding 14,600 in 2018, the highest recorded total in the 21st century;

Whereas fentanyl and the analogues of fentanyl have been devastating communities and families at an unprecedented rate, claiming more than 32,000 lives in 2018;

Whereas the presence of fentanyl poses hazards to police officers and law enforcement agents; and

Whereas parents, young people, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions and faith-based organizations, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the United States will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during the week-long celebration of Red Ribbon Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31, 2019;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to wear and display red ribbons during Red Ribbon Week to symbolize their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles;

(3) encourages children, teens, and other individuals to choose to live drug-free lives; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to promote the creation of drug-free communities; and

(B) to participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 367—CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC ATTACK IN DAYTON, OHIO, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ALL THOSE IMPACTED BY THAT TRAGEDY

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

## S. RES. 367

Whereas, on August 4, 2019, a mass shooting took place in Dayton, Ohio;

Whereas the people of the United States mourn the 9 innocent lives lost in that unthinkable tragedy: Megan Betts, Monica Brickhouse, Nicholas Cumer, Derrick Fudge, Thomas McNichols, Lois Oglesby, Saeed Saleh, Logan Turner, and Beatrice Warren-Curtis;

Whereas the people of the United States express gratitude for the heroic actions of the men and women of the Dayton Police Department who courageously responded to the shooting and saved countless lives;

Whereas the people of the United States express appreciation and gratitude for the first responders who responded quickly to the shooting and the professionals and volunteers who cared for the injured;

Whereas the people of the United States continue to pray for the individuals who were wounded in the attack and continue to recover;

Whereas the people of the United States commit to supporting communities and local businesses that have been devastated by gun

violence to help the communities and businesses recover and rebuild;

Whereas the entire Dayton community united in support of the victims and their families; and

Whereas the shooting in Dayton, Ohio, occurred approximately 13 hours after a mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, and the people of the United States mourn the 22 innocent lives lost in that tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the senseless attack that took place in Dayton, Ohio, on Sunday, August 4, 2019;

(2) honors the memory of the victims who were killed;

(3) expresses hope for a full and speedy recovery and pledges continued support for the individuals injured in the attack;

(4) offers heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the Dayton community and the families, friends, and loved ones affected by the tragedy;

(5) commits to seeking solutions to reduce gun violence, mass shootings, and acts of domestic terrorism in the United States; and

(6) honors the selfless and dedicated service of—

(A) the medical professionals and other individuals who cared for the victims in the community of Montgomery County, Ohio;

(B) the emergency response teams and law enforcement officials who responded to the call of duty; and

(C) the law enforcement officials who continue to investigate the attack.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 368—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

## S. RES. 368

Whereas, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs conducted an investigation into China's impact on the U.S. education system;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received a request from the U.S. Department of Education for access to records of the Subcommittee's investigation;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate is needed for the promotion of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to the U.S. Department of Education and other regulatory agencies, law enforcement officials, and entities or individuals duly authorized by Federal or State governments, records of the Subcommittee's investigation into China's impact on the U.S. education system.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. SCHUMER, I send to the desk a resolution on documentary production by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs recently conducted an investigation into China's impact on the U.S. education system. The Subcommittee has now received a request from the U.S. Department of Education seeking access to records that the Subcommittee obtained during the investigation.

In keeping with the Senate's practice under its rules, this resolution would authorize the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, acting jointly, to provide records, obtained by the Subcommittee in the course of its investigation, in response to this request and requests from other Federal or State government entities and officials with a legitimate need for the records.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 27—PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE CATAFALQUE SITUATED IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER IN CONNECTION WITH MEMORIAL SERVICES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOUSE WING OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND**

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 27

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Architect of the Capitol is authorized and directed to transfer the catafalque which is situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center to the House Wing of the Capitol so that such catafalque may be used in connection with services to be conducted there for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.*

**AUTHORIZING THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 368, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 368) to authorize the production of records by the Permanent Sub-

committee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. HOEVEN. I ask unanimous consent 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. 368) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.  
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### **GRANT REPORTING EFFICIENCY AND AGREEMENTS TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019**

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 200, H.R. 150.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 150) to modernize Federal grant reporting, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

#### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency Act of 2019" or the "GREAT Act".

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Purposes.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

Sec. 4. Data standards for grant reporting.

Sec. 5. Single Audit Act.

Sec. 6. Consolidation of assistance-related information; publication of public information as open data.

Sec. 7. Evaluation of nonproprietary identifiers.

Sec. 8. Rule of construction.

Sec. 9. No additional funds authorized.

#### **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) modernize reporting by recipients of Federal grants and cooperative agreements by creating and imposing data standards for the information that those recipients are required by law to report to the Federal Government;

(2) implement the recommendation by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget contained in the report submitted under section 5(b)(6) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) relating to the development of a "comprehensive taxonomy of standard definitions for core data elements required for managing Federal financial assistance awards";

(3) reduce burden and compliance costs of recipients of Federal grants and cooperative agreements by enabling technology solutions, existing or yet to be developed, for use in both the public and private sectors to better manage the data that recipients already provide to the Federal Government; and

(4) strengthen oversight and management of Federal grants and cooperative agreements by agencies by consolidating the collection and display of and access to open data that has been standardized and, where appropriate, increasing transparency to the public.

#### **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act, the terms "agency", "Director", "Federal award", and "Secretary" have the meanings given those terms in section 6401 of title 31, United States Code, as added by section 4(a) of this Act.

#### **SEC. 4. DATA STANDARDS FOR GRANT REPORTING.**

(a) **AMENDMENT.**—Subtitle V of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 63 the following:

#### **"CHAPTER 64—DATA STANDARDS FOR GRANT REPORTING**

"Sec.

"6401. Definitions.

"6402. Data standards for grant reporting.

"6403. Guidance applying data standards for grant reporting.

"6404. Agency requirements.

#### **"§ 6401. Definitions**

"In this chapter:

"(1) **AGENCY.**—The term 'agency' has the meaning given the term in section 552(f) of title 5.

"(2) **CORE DATA ELEMENTS.**—The term 'core data elements' means data elements relating to financial management, administration, or management that—

"(A) are not program-specific in nature or program-specific outcome measures, as defined in section 1115(h) of this title; and

"(B) are required by agencies for all or the vast majority of recipients of Federal awards for purposes of reporting.

"(3) **DIRECTOR.**—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

"(4) **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.**—The term 'Executive department' has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 5.

"(5) **FEDERAL AWARD.**—The term 'Federal award'—

"(A) means the transfer of anything of value for a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States, including financial assistance and Government facilities, services, and property;

"(B) includes a grant, a subgrant, a cooperative agreement, or any other transaction; and

"(C) does not include a transaction or agreement—

"(i) that provides for conventional public information services or procurement of property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Government; or

"(ii) that provides only—

"(I) direct Government cash assistance to an individual;

"(II) a subsidy;

"(III) a loan;

"(IV) a loan guarantee; or

"(V) insurance.

"(6) **SECRETARY.**—The term 'Secretary' means the head of the standard-setting agency.

"(7) **STANDARD-SETTING AGENCY.**—The term 'standard-setting agency' means the Executive department designated under section 6402(a)(1).

"(8) **STATE.**—The term 'State' means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

#### **"§ 6402. Data standards for grant reporting**

"(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

"(1) **DESIGNATION OF STANDARD-SETTING AGENCY.**—The Director shall designate the Executive department that administers the greatest number of programs under which Federal awards are issued in a calendar year as the standard-setting agency.

“(2) **ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Secretary and the Director shall establish Governmentwide data standards for information reported by recipients of Federal awards.

“(3) **DATA ELEMENTS.**—The data standards established under paragraph (2) shall include, at a minimum—

“(A) standard definitions for data elements required for managing Federal awards; and

“(B) unique identifiers for Federal awards and recipients of Federal awards that can be consistently applied Governmentwide.

“(b) **SCOPE.**—The data standards established under subsection (a)—

“(1) shall include core data elements;

“(2) may cover information required by law to be reported to any agency by recipients of Federal awards, including audit-related information reported under chapter 75 of this title; and

“(3) may not be used by the Director or any agency to require the collection of any data not otherwise required under Federal law.

“(c) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The data standards established under subsection (a) shall, to the extent reasonable and practicable—

“(1) render information reported by recipients of Federal awards fully searchable and machine-readable;

“(2) be nonproprietary;

“(3) incorporate standards developed and maintained by voluntary consensus standards bodies;

“(4) be consistent with and implement applicable accounting and reporting principles; and

“(5) incorporate the data standards established under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

“(d) **CONSULTATION.**—In establishing the data standards under subsection (a), the Secretary and the Director shall consult with—

“(1) the Secretary of the Treasury to ensure that the data standards established under subsection (a) incorporate the data standards established under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note);

“(2) the head of each agency that issues Federal awards;

“(3) recipients of Federal awards and organizations representing recipients of Federal awards;

“(4) private sector experts;

“(5) members of the public, including privacy experts, privacy advocates, auditors, and industry stakeholders; and

“(6) State and local governments.

**“§6403. Guidance applying data standards for grant reporting**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this chapter—

“(1) the Secretary and the Director shall jointly issue guidance to all agencies directing the agencies to apply the data standards established under section 6402(a) to all applicable reporting by recipients of Federal awards; and

“(2) the Director shall prescribe guidance applying the data standards established under section 6402(a) to audit-related information reported under chapter 75 of this title.

“(b) **GUIDANCE.**—The guidance issued under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) to the extent reasonable and practicable—

“(A) minimize the disruption of existing reporting practices of, and not increase the reporting burden on, agencies or recipients of Federal awards; and

“(B) explore opportunities to implement modern technologies in reporting relating to Federal awards;

“(2) allow the Director to permit exceptions for classes of Federal awards, including exceptions for Federal awards granted to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations consistent with

the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), if the Director publishes a list of those exceptions and submits the list to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives; and

“(3) take into consideration the consultation required under section 6402(d).

“(c) **UPDATING GUIDANCE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not less frequently than once every 10 years, the Director shall update the guidance issued under subsection (a).

“(2) **PROCEDURES.**—In updating guidance under paragraph (1), the Director shall, to the maximum extent practicable, follow the procedures for the development of the data standards and guidance prescribed under this section and section 6402.

**“§6404. Agency requirements**

“Not later than 1 year after the date on which guidance is issued or updated under subsection (b) or (c), respectively, of section 6403, the head of each agency shall—

“(1) ensure that all of the Federal awards that the agency issues use data standards for all future information collection requests; and

“(2) amend existing information collection requests under chapter 35 of title 44 (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’) to comply with the data standards established under section 6402 of this chapter, in accordance with the guidance issued by the Secretary and the Director under section 6403 of this chapter.”

(b) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of chapters for subtitle V of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 63 the following:

**“64. Data standards for grant reporting ..... 6401”.**

**SEC. 5. SINGLE AUDIT ACT.**

(a) **AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) **AUDIT REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 7502(h) of title 31, United States Code, is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “in an electronic form in accordance with the data standards established under chapter 64 and” after “the reporting package,”.

(2) **REGULATIONS.**—Section 7505 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) Such guidance shall require audit-related information reported under this chapter to be reported in an electronic form in accordance with the data standards established under chapter 64.”.

(b) **GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue guidance requiring audit-related information reported under chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code, to be reported in an electronic form consistent with the data standards established under chapter 64 of that title, as added by section 4(a) of this Act.

**SEC. 6. CONSOLIDATION OF ASSISTANCE-RELATED INFORMATION; PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AS OPEN DATA.**

(a) **COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.**—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Director shall, using the data standards established under chapter 64 of title 31, United States Code, as added by section 4(a) of this Act, enable the collection, public display, and maintenance of Federal award information as a Governmentwide data set, subject to reasonable restrictions established by the Director to ensure protection of personally identifiable information and otherwise sensitive information.

(b) **PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.**—The Secretary and the Director shall require the publication of data reported by recipients of Federal awards that is collected from all agencies on a single public portal, which may be an existing

Governmentwide website, as determined appropriate by the Director.

(c) **FOIA.**—Nothing in this section shall require the disclosure to the public of information that would be exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”).

**SEC. 7. EVALUATION OF NONPROPRIETARY IDENTIFIERS.**

(a) **DETERMINATION REQUIRED.**—The Director and the Secretary shall determine whether to use nonproprietary identifiers described in section 6402(a)(3)(B) of title 31, United States Code, as added by section 4(a) of this Act.

(b) **FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED.**—In making the determination under subsection (a), the Director and the Secretary shall consider factors such as accessibility and cost to recipients of Federal awards, agencies that issue Federal awards, private sector experts, and members of the public, including privacy experts, privacy advocates, transparency experts, and transparency advocates.

(c) **PUBLICATION AND REPORT ON DETERMINATION.**—Not later than the earlier of 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act or the date on which the Director and the Secretary establish data standards under section 6402(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code, as added by section 4(a) of this Act, the Director and the Secretary shall publish and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a report explaining the reasoning for the determination made under subsection (a).

**SEC. 8. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to require the collection of data that is not otherwise required under any Federal law, rule, or regulation.

**SEC. 9. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.**

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

Mr. HOEVEN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

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

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 150), as amended, was passed.

**ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019**

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, October 22; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to

executive session and resume consideration of Treaties Calendar No. 5, Treaty Document No. 116-1, under the previous order; and, finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the caucus meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Mr. HOEVEN. 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 6:19 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 10 a.m.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE PUEBLO OF LAGUNA FEAST DAYS

**HON. DEBRA A. HAALAND**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Pueblo of Laguna for hosting annual Village Feast Days. I speak in honor of the Pueblo of Laguna, our tribal members and traditions. With Laguna Village's Saint Joseph Feast Day, celebrated on the 19th day of March and September. With Seam Village's Feast Day celebrated on July 26th. With Mesita Village's Feast Day celebrated on August 15th. With Encinal Village's Feast Day celebrated on September 8th. With Pagueate Village's Feast Day celebrated on September 25th. With Paraje Village's Feast Day celebrated on October 17th. Laguna Pueblo has six distinct villages, and they each celebrate respective feast days; expect for the September Saint Joseph's Feast day where all villages celebrate together.

Pueblo Feast Days commemorate the Catholic Saints that were given to each New Mexico pueblo when the Franciscan Priests descended upon the Pueblos beginning in the late 1500s. The Pueblo of Laguna feast is among the largest of Pueblo feast days in the Southwestern United States where thousands of people travel across New Mexico and the United States to attend. The Pueblo is located approximately forty miles west of Albuquerque.

The ancestors of the Pueblo of Laguna have occupied the region since at least 1300 A.D. When the Pueblo Indians migrated to the Rio Grande Valley from places such as Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde and Bears Eats. Laguna is Spanish for "lago" or "lake" which is in reference to a small lake that was once located within the Pueblo. The Keres language is the Indigenous language that members of Laguna speak.

The Pueblo of Laguna feast days are times for members of the Pueblo of Laguna to celebrate our culture, heritage, art and traditions by members gathering on the pueblo village plaza for traditions by members gathering on the pueblo village plaza for traditional dances and opening our homes to visitors to share in traditional food. Feast days are open to the public, where visitors are given the opportunity to understand the Laguna peoples' traditions by observing ceremonial dances, cultural activities and purchasing arts and crafts.

The importance of understanding all native cultures cannot be understated. Diverse cultural understanding is in furtherance of a better-informed people and nation. Knowledge of Native American culture tears down racial and cultural barriers and promotes an inclusive society. An inclusive society is necessary to national progress and the prosperity of the people of the United States. Inclusion allows people to come together in support of each other,

promoting the well being of all people regardless of cultural and racial background.

Madam Speaker, today I request to honor the Pueblo of Laguna for hosting their annual Feast Days which are essential to the future of our community and the overall strength and resilience of all Native American people. I thank and honor the Pueblo of Laguna for their hard work and dedication to protecting their culture and traditions, which will stand for generations to come.

**MARTY SEROTER**

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Gibbsboro, New Jersey resident Marty Seroter, Camden County Town Hall Veteran Honoree.

After graduating from High School, in the late 1960s, Mr. Marty Seroter proudly enlisted and served in the United States Army. During his time of service, Mr. Seroter was stationed in Germany where he earned the rank of Specialist E-4 and as a musician, gladly served in the United States Army Band.

Following his return stateside, Mr. Seroter continued to serve his community through his career with Camden County as a Clerk Driver and Messenger for more than two decades. Through his distinguished career and lifetime of public service, and as an American Legion Post Bugler, Mr. Seroter actively participates in countless events performing Taps for formal County ceremonies, such as the Pearl Harbor Day services held annually on the Battleship New Jersey in the City of Camden and the County Memorial Day ceremony held to honor veterans and those interred at Potter's Field.

As a dedicated public servant, today and for the past 30 years, Mr. Seroter continues his service as an active member of the American Legion Post 371 Honor Guard. Serving his community and fellow veterans at the American Legion Post, Mr. Seroter presently oversees the Legion Hall rentals and manages the canteen and continues to participate in the Presentation of the Colors and Taps at formal ceremonies as the Post Bugler.

In recognition of his valiant and distinguished service to our nation, Mr. Seroter was awarded and has humbly received the National Defense Service Medal for his honorable active service as a member of the Armed Forces.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Marty Seroter of Gibbsboro, New Jersey who is a constant reminder of the sacrifices that our men and women of the Armed Forces make to protect and defend the liberty and freedom of all Americans.

### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ANNA MARIE TEODOSIO

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Anna Marie Teodosio who peacefully entered into eternal life on October 16, 2019 while surrounded by her loving family.

Anna was born to Mary and Giuseppe Tiano on February 5, 1928 in Derby, Connecticut. She grew up in Derby along with two sisters and eight brothers and attended Derby High School.

Anna eventually met the love of her life, Alexander "Al" Teodosio, at a local dance celebrating the end of World War II. After a long courtship, Al and Anna were married on August 19, 1950 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Derby, Connecticut. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Brooklyn, New York and eventually Akron, Ohio, where they began their family. Their love grew and flourished throughout an adventurous sixty-five year marriage.

Anna was a true inspiration and a beautiful human spirit to all that knew and loved her. Her passions were embracing her faith, spending time with family and friends, reading, playing Scrabble and card games, cooking, and rooting for Notre Dame football. She especially treasured preparing large traditional Italian Sunday afternoon dinners for her ever-growing family.

Anna, with her beloved husband Al, raised five loving children: MaryAnne Cort (Bill), Thomas Teodosio (Linda), Carol Anne Peter (Dave), Robert Teodosio (Tina), and Alex Teodosio (Stephanie).

She is survived by nine grandchildren, Christine Klaben, Kathleen Klaben (Dave Nulanz), Ellen Karns, Joseph Cort (Melissa), David Cort, Christopher Teodosio (Katherine), Alexandra Teodosio, Nicholas Teodosio and Joseph Teodosio. She is also survived by six great grandchildren, Emily Cort, Clara Cort, Charles Nulanz, Alice Karns, Charlotte Teodosio and Ava Teodosio; and by her beloved brother, William Tiano along with many close friends who knew her to be compassionate and caring through her faith and in her service to others. Anna was preceded in death by her parents; nine siblings; son, Alan; and granddaughter, Andrea Teodosio.

I am very proud to be a friend of Anna's son, Judge Thomas Teodosio, and her daughter-in-law, Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio. Anna touched many lives, and I extend my deepest sympathies to all who knew and loved her. She will be greatly missed.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



# INTRODUCTION OF THE COMBATING IMPLICIT BIAS IN EDUCATION ACT

## HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Combating Implicit Bias in Education Act. My bill would create a \$30 million grant program for schools to train teachers, principals and other personnel on implicit bias with respect to actual or perceived race, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, ethnicity and socioeconomic status.

This year, a report by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that students of color with disabilities received far more severe and frequent punishment than their white counterparts. In December, the U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos eliminated the Obama Administration's guidance seeking to curb exclusionary discipline, undermining key steps toward dismantling discriminatory discipline practices in classrooms.

In 2017, the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality released a report finding that people disproportionately think of Black girls as more adult-like and less innocent compared to their white peers. This bias has been linked to harsher treatment of Black girls in schools. Students experiencing implicit bias and even outright discrimination face far greater expulsion and suspension rates, fueling the school-to-prison pipeline and widening the student achievement gap.

This bill aims to reduce the effect of implicit bias on school discipline, academic achievement and academic attainment through research-based training for education personnel, and provides teachers with necessary tools to provide equal educational and constructive behavioral feedback.

Under my bill, the Institute of Education Sciences under the Department of Education would be tasked with evaluating and reporting on the effectiveness of the training.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

## HONORING ROSEMARY PARGA DURAN

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. RoseMary Parga Duran as she retires from her position as Superintendent of Merced City School District. Throughout her 43 years in education, Dr. Parga Duran has made a positive impact on countless Merced schools and students.

Dr. Parga Duran earned her associate degree from Merced College and completed her bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno (Fresno State). After graduating from Fresno State in 1977, she returned to Merced County to begin her teaching career at Planada Elementary School. Later in her career, she received a master's degree from California State University, Stanislaus

and a doctorate from the University of Southern California.

In 1985, she started her career with Merced City School District as a teacher and would later become an assistant principal, principal, and in 2002 was named the district's Associate Superintendent of Educational Services. Six years later, Dr. Parga Duran became Merced City School District's first female superintendent.

As the leader of Merced County's largest school district, Dr. Parga Duran has worked tirelessly to address the challenges facing the 18 schools in the district. She began her job as superintendent during the great recession and led the district through this period without any employee layoffs, while keeping the district's budget fiscally solvent. Dr. Parga Duran was an advocate for the successful passage of Measure M, a bond which provided funds for school campuses to modernize and receive necessary safety upgrades.

Under Dr. Parga Duran's leadership, Merced City School District received two Golden Bell Awards from the California School Boards Association for their STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) and preschool programs. She also oversaw the opening of Rivera Middle School and their STEAM Center. It is evident that Dr. Parga Duran's contributions to Merced City School District will continue to have an impact on our educators and future generations of leaders long after her retirement.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career and accomplishments of Dr. RoseMary Parga Duran. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor her and the positive impact she has made in the lives of students and staff as she celebrates her retirement. I wish Dr. Parga Duran, her family, and Merced City School District the best as she retires at the end of this year.

## RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL CALIGIURI FOR HIS GROUNDBREAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD OF MEDICINE

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of Dr. Michael Caligiuri who has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine's Class of 2018, one of the single highest honors in the field of medicine and healthcare.

Dr. Caligiuri spent his formative years in Kenmore, New York, where he attended St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. He then enrolled at the University at Buffalo to earn his undergraduate degree, and subsequently attended Stanford College for Medical School where he obtained his M.D.

Dr. Caligiuri utilized his education to the best of his ability to become a leader in his profession. He served as the CEO of The James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, and he also directed The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center for fourteen years. In addition, he is the Immediate Past President of the American Association for Cancer Research, of which he was recently named a fellow.

Dr. Caligiuri has served as chairperson, or in other advisory capacities, for countless research organizations in addition to conducting several of his own research protocols. His groundbreaking research focused on the development and activation of human natural killer cells and their modulation to help treat diseases like leukemia and brain cancer. Since these discoveries, over one thousand patients with cancer have been treated with clinical protocols that were conceived in Dr. Caligiuri's laboratory.

In 2018, Dr. Caligiuri was named the President of the City of Hope in Los Angeles, a leading cancer research and treatment center. He conducted rigorous research and combined that with an inclusive leadership style to connect other healthcare institutions together in order to ensure the highest quality patient experience and care.

Dr. Caligiuri's breakthrough discoveries in NK leukemia and cutaneous T cell lymphoma has helped get him elected to the National Academy of Medicine, which according to The New York Times is, "the United States' most esteemed and authoritative adviser on issues of health and medicine, and its reports can transform medical thinking around the world".

The incredible distinction of election to the National Academy of Medicine has only been awarded to just over two thousand medical experts since 1970. Members are elected based on their professional achievement and commitment to service, and they do their selfless and consequential work without any compensation. No more than eighty members are elected annually. This speaks to Dr. Caligiuri's passion for healthcare, commitment to community service, and his overall talent as a medical professional. Complimenting the extraordinary accomplishments achieved during his career, Dr. Caligiuri is also a loving husband and a devoted father of three children.

Today we recognize Dr. Michael Caligiuri for becoming an innovative and influential leader both in the United States and around the world in not only engaging in exemplary research and treatment practices, but also advocating for the many people whose lives have been affected by the devastating reality of cancer.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 561; "nay" on Roll Call No. 562; "yea" on Roll Call No. 563; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 564.

## HONORING ARMY PFC. NATHAN P. BROWN

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Army Pfc. Nathan P.

Brown, who was tragically killed on Easter Sunday, April 11, 2004, when a rocket-propelled grenade hit his Humvee in Samarra, Iraq, about 60 miles north of Baghdad, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Nathan was a lifelong resident of South Glens Falls, New York. He enlisted in the New York Army National Guard immediately after graduating from South Glens Falls High School in 2002, in the aftermath of 9/11. Nathan was posthumously awarded The Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the New York Medal of Valor for his bravery.

Friends and family of Nathan remember him as a generous and positive person, a brave soldier, and a beloved member of the community.

Next week, he will be inducted into The South Glens Falls Bulldog Pride Hall of Fame, in recognition of his sacrifice and commitment. This honor is a testament to Nathan's selfless pride for his country. Nathan gave the ultimate sacrifice, and for that we all owe him a debt of gratitude.

I am proud to stand and honor Army Pfc. Nathan P. Brown, a beloved member of the South Glens Falls Community, and a shining example of those who give their lives to protect our country and its interests. Please join me in recognizing Nathan Brown for his service, and in honor of his legacy.

#### HONORING GREG M. CONGER

#### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Greg M. Conger and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. Mr. Conger has been a voice for working Californians by organizing and advocating for workers' rights. He has changed the relationship between employees and management forever. Greg M. Conger served as the President of UFCW Local 324, with 23,000 members in Orange County and the Long Beach area in Southern California.

Mr. Conger started as a meat cutting apprentice with Local 551 in 1976. This is where he started volunteering for various union committees and campaigns. In 1984, he was hired as a Union Representative. His efforts did not go unnoticed and one year later he was promoted to Executive Assistant to the President and worked on contract negotiations.

Mr. Conger was a senior strategist and top-level negotiator during the Southern California supermarket strike and lockouts that ran between October 2003 and February 2004. Over the course of the dispute, Mr. Conger worked to boost the morale of his members and even volunteered to be arrested twice in acts of civil disobedience. His leadership and commitment to the working community attracted the attention of the UFCW International Union, which elected him as an International Vice President in April 2004.

In September 2003, Mr. Conger became President of Local 324. After just five weeks in his new role, he led Local 324 during the 141-day strike and lock-out—the longest and costliest retail strike in American history. Mr. Conger and UFCW Local 324 changed the relationship between employees and management

forever by empowering workers to stand up for themselves in the face of intense pressure. He was at the forefront of the dynamic movement that sought to build successes of recent years.

Today, we celebrate not only his advocacy and success, but his future. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Greg M. Conger for his commitment to serving the community by being the greater voice for our workers.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 24, 2019 during roll call no. 541, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3190, BURMA Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### RECOGNIZING WESTERN REGION DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR KARRIE SCHINDLER

#### HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karrie Schindler who has been selected as the Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability's Western Region Direct Support Professional of the Year. Ms. Schindler has dedicated her life to lifting-up and improving the lives of individuals in our community with autism. She is a beacon of compassion and dedicates her time to providing in-home care to those with disabilities so they can lead self-directed lives in their communities.

Since 2013, Ms. Schindler has provided Home and Community Habilitation care to a special woman named Maryann. Throughout the years, Ms. Schindler has helped Maryann live a full and active life and engage with her community.

Sadly, in December 2018, Maryann's mother unexpectedly passed away. Following this tragedy, Maryann was forced to move to Florida, away from the community she loved and the support system she had fostered throughout her years with Ms. Schindler.

Late one January night, Ms. Schindler received a call from Maryann that she was at the airport and didn't know what to do. Without hesitation, Ms. Schindler sprang into action. She drove straight to the Pittsburgh airport to pick Maryann up. It wasn't long before Ms. Schindler and her family made the decision to become Life Sharing providers and welcome Maryann into their home permanently.

Madam Speaker, Karrie Schindler has demonstrated extraordinary selflessness and compassion in her work with Maryann. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Schindler on her selection as the Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability's Western Region Direct Support Professional of the Year.

HONORING SIOBHAN McVAY AS A RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

#### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Siobhan McVay of Delran High School in Delran, New Jersey, as a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Each year, the PAEMST recognizes outstanding K–12 teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science. Recipients of the award are widely respected by their peers, displaying strong expertise in STEM education, and having made a lasting positive impact on their students. Only 108 teachers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories receive this selective recognition each year.

I commend Mr. McVay for his fine work as an educator and mentor to his students, building important skills that will help them succeed in a rapidly developing world. STEM education is a building block to an increasingly complex economy that relies on a strong technological skill set. Today's students with strong STEM backgrounds will be those that discover a cure for cancer, help to bring an end to climate change, and gets an American on Mars. The important skills that Mr. McVay's students develop from his instruction will bring important individual achievements, and will aid our nation in the future.

I'm proud to say that we have excellent quality teachers in New Jersey like Mr. McVay, and I look forward to seeing his important work develop in the growth and success of his students.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF GRACE QUINN GOODPASTURE

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Grace Quinn Goodpasture for being selected as a recipient of a Student-Athlete-Scholarship from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Grace attends the Steward School in Ashland, Virginia, where she played 4 years of Varsity Soccer, lettering all four years. She was also a member of the Varsity Cross Country and Dive team, lettering in those as well. She says community service is a core value of her family and has always been a part of her life. She has earned her Gold Award in the Girl Scouts and was a Senate Page for the Virginia Senate. Her spirit of service should inspire all of us.

I commend her on receiving this recognition for her distinguished scholastic, leadership, and sportsmanship. This recognition of her work in the community, in the classroom, and

on the athletic field is a testament to her commitment to hard work and service to others. She is an example of the leaders that we will need to guide our nation and the Virginia Commonwealth in the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Grace Goodpasture for her achievements in her community. May God bless Grace and her family.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 8TH DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN'S FIRST RESPONDERS OF THE YEAR

#### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today during First Responders Appreciation Month to recognize ten first responders from Wisconsin's 8th District who received the Wisconsin State Assembly's First Responder of the Year award. The Assembly selected and recognized the nominees below for their heroic actions, professional achievement, body of work, and length of service within the field of public safety:

The late Mitchell Lundgaard, Appleton Fire Department; Joseph Wesoloski, Ashwaubenon Department of Public Safety; Dan Rettler, Black Creek Fire Department; Lt. Jeff Engelbrecht, Green Bay Police Department; Sgt. William Tedlie, Greenville Police Department; Chief Al Tlachac, Luxemburg Community Fire Department; Chief Rick Badgley, Peshtigo Police Department; TJ Schrank, Riverview Volunteer Fire Department; Mary Beck, Shawano County Dispatch Center; and Sgt. Brandon Leschke, Weyauwega Police Department and Weyauwega Area Fire Department.

First responders represent the best and bravest in our communities. These heroes selflessly give their time and skills to protect and serve others. I am proud to represent men and women with such a commitment to their communities and who prioritize the welfare of others before their own. Their unwavering devotion to fostering safe and strong communities is truly inspiring.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in thanking these first responders for their service and dedication to protecting our communities.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 27, 2019 during roll call no. 553, On Passage, S.J. Res. 54, Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 554, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3722, Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 555, On Motion to Table, H. Res. 603, Raising a question

of the privileges of the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### COST ESTIMATE TO H.R. 4617

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate for H.R. 4617 from the Congressional Budget Office. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the filing of the Committee report.

U.S. CONGRESS,

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,

Washington, DC, October 21, 2019.

Hon. ZOE LOFGREN,

Chairperson, Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CHAIRPERSON: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 4617, the SHIELD Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford.

Sincerely,

MARK P. HADLEY

(For Phillip L. Swagel, Director).

Enclosure.

H.R. 4617, THE SHIELD ACT—OCTOBER 16, 2019

[By fiscal year, millions of dollars]

	2020	2020–2024	2020–2029
Direct Spending (Outlays) ..	*	*	*
Revenues .....	*	*	*
Increase or Decrease (–) ..			
in the Deficit .....	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays) .....	*	2	**

\* = between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.

\*\* = not estimated.

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes.

Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030? No.

Mandate Effects:

Contains intergovernmental mandate? No.

Contains private-sector mandate? Yes, Under Threshold.

H.R. 4617 would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971. Most provisions in the bill are related to prohibiting the participation of foreign nationals in election-related activities, and making additional campaign expenditures and advertising purchases subject to public disclosure.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 4617 would cost \$2 million over the 2020–2024 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Those amounts would cover additional administrative costs for the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to ensure compliance with the bill. In 2019, the FEC received an appropriation of \$71 million.

Violators of the bill's reporting requirements could be subject to civil and criminal penalties, so enacting H.R. 4617 could increase collections of fines. Civil fines are recorded in the budget as revenues. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited in the Crime Victims Fund, and subsequently spent without further appropriation. CBO estimates that any additional collections would not be significant in any year and over the 2020–2029 period because of the relatively small number of additional cases likely to be affected.

H.R. 4617 would impose private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) on candidates for federal office, campaign committees, political entities, and advertising platforms, among other entities. CBO expects that the aggregate cost of the mandates would be small because compliance with some of the mandates would not impose costs or because the affected entities already perform similar disclosure and reporting activities. For such entities, the new duties would impose only small incremental costs. Therefore, CBO estimates that the cost of the mandates would not exceed the private-sector threshold established in UMRA (\$164 million in 2019, adjusted annually for inflation).

Title I would:

Require political campaigns to report contacts by foreign entities offering contributions or election coordination to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the FEC and to establish a policy requiring staff to report such contacts and to notify staff of that policy.

Expand the types of communication subject to existing disclosure rules under the Federal Election Campaign Act and require disclaimers on internet and digital communications.

Require online platforms that sell political advertisements and meet minimum traffic thresholds to maintain a public database of qualified political advertisements.

Require television and radio broadcasters and online platforms to make reasonable efforts to ensure that campaign communications are not purchased by a foreign national.

Title II would prohibit foreign nationals from:

Participating in the decision making process of any election-related activity.

Contributing to super political action committees (PACs) or campaigns concerning a state or local ballot initiative or referendum.

Making campaign or advocacy expenditures for digital, broadcast, and internet communications.

Title II would impose additional private-sector mandates by requiring corporations and labor organizations that make campaign contributions to certify that no foreign nationals participated in the decision making process related to those contributions and by requiring corporate PACs to certify that they are not under foreign control.

H.R. 4617 would impose no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Matthew Pickford (for federal costs) and Andrew Laughlin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 15, 2019 during roll call no. 556, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 2385, To permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational materials for the Veterans Legacy Program. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 557,

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 95, Homeless Veteran Families Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING PATRICIA LEE AS A RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Lee of Lumberton Middle School in Lumberton, New Jersey, as a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Each year, the PAEMST recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science. Recipients of the award are widely respected by their peers, displaying strong expertise in STEM education, and having made a lasting positive impact on their students. Only 108 teachers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories receive this selective recognition each year.

I commend Ms. Lee for her fine work as an educator and mentor to her students, building important skills that will help them succeed in a rapidly developing world. STEM education is a building block to an increasingly complex economy that relies on a strong technological skill set. Today's students with strong STEM backgrounds will be those that discover a cure for cancer, help to bring an end to climate change, and gets an American on Mars. The important skills that Ms. Lee's students develop from her instruction will bring important individual achievements, and will aid our nation in the future.

I'm proud to say that we have excellent quality teachers in New Jersey like Ms. Lee, and I look forward to seeing her important work develop in the growth and success of her students.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 565, 566, and 567 on October 18, 2019. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted: on roll call vote number 565, I would have voted NO; on roll call vote number 566, I would have voted NO; on roll call vote number 567, I would have voted YES.

HONORING THE SARANAC LABORATORY FOR BEING DESIGNATED A MILESTONES IN MICROBIOLOGY SITE BY THE SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Saranac Laboratory for being designated a Milestones in Microbiology site by the Society for Microbiology. I am proud to represent a district that has made such historic impacts on science and medicine.

Saranac Lake is host to many important historical sites including the Saranac Laboratory. Dr. Edward Livingston Trudeau was a physician operating out of New York City when he contracted tuberculosis. He found that the climate in the North Country significantly improved his health so he moved to Saranac Lake, where he established the Adirondack Cottage Sanitarium at Saranac Lake for treatment of tuberculosis. Dr. Trudeau used his own home to study tuberculosis until it was burned down by some of the equipment. With his partners, Trudeau immediately began planning a state of the art laboratory to continue his work. Saranac Laboratory was finished in 1894 and was the only lab in the country specifically designed to study tuberculosis. Experiments were conducted there until its closure in 1935. After changing hands several times, Historic Saranac Lake faithfully restored it and opened it to the public as a museum in 2009.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to thank the Historic Saranac Lake Board of Directors for their hard work. Their success in preserving the rich history of Saranac Lake has led to this well-deserved recognition. As we look back on and celebrate the achievements of previous generations, I encourage everyone to support the North Country's next generation of scientists and entrepreneurs.

### IN RECOGNITION OF ARNOLD "BUD" STERN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Arnold "Bud" Stern of New London, Wisconsin on celebrating his 100th birthday.

Born on November 3, 1919, Bud grew up in New London, Wisconsin and graduated from New London High School. He then attended St. Louis University and studied nursing. Upon the completion of his degree, he moved to Nevada and worked at the Hoover Dam as an industrial nurse. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Bud entered the armed services and was deployed overseas.

Bud served as a surgical nurse during World War II. His assignment was to set up field hospitals where he assisted in abdominal repair surgeries. Field hospitals were mobile medical care units typically erected near the front lines of battle. Operating teams were

often used to reinforce other medical units and treat soldiers who suffered non-transportable injuries. Nurses in World War II were a part of every link in the chain of evacuation established in each theater of war, and contributed to the low post-injury mortality rate among American military forces.

To commemorate Bud's milestone birthday, the community of New London is hosting a celebration on October 27th in his honor. Friends of the New London Public Museum and the New London Heritage Historical Society captured Bud's memories of living in New London and his service in World War II in a video to be played at the event. The Mayor of New London, Gary Henke, recognized Bud by issuing a proclamation declaring November 3 as Arnold "Bud" Stern Day.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in thanking Arnold "Bud" Stern for his service and wishing him a happy and healthy 100th birthday.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. A. DONALD MCEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 26, 2019 during roll call no. 549, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 591, Providing for consideration of S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 550, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 591, Providing for consideration of S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 551, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 3525, U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 552, On Passage, H.R. 3525, U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF MAUREEN FRESCHET, UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE SAN MATEO CITY COUNCIL

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Maureen Freschet as she retires from the San Mateo City Council after eight years of noteworthy service to the people of San Mateo. This service follows many years in other positions of public benefit throughout the county.

Maureen has deep roots in San Mateo. Her grandparents immigrated from Italy in the 1920's and Maureen is justly proud of her Italian-American heritage. On one occasion in recent years, she spoke movingly from the

council dais about the evolution of San Mateo through the eyes of an immigrant family. She recounted the older stores and businesses that made San Mateo, in the eyes of its residents in the 1920's, 30's, 40's and 50's, a place where neighborhoods and neighbors mixed freely as everyone raised families and watched generations grow through peacetime and wars.

Many of these memories served her well as she sat on the city's planning commission and also guided her decisions as a councilmember. During her tenure, she supported the redevelopment of Bay Meadows race track into a thriving commercial, residential and transit hub. The city straightened out a convoluted intersection at Highway 92 and El Camino Real, began a \$1 billion + project to add to the sewer treatment system, saw an explosion of jobs and amenities downtown, witnessed the rebirth of its major shopping center, and undertook transformational work at 25th Avenue and the Caltrain line.

As the economy recovered, she encouraged high technology companies to settle into downtown San Mateo and advocated for restaurants and in favor of a lively downtown at nighttime and on the weekends. While many contributed to these successes, few were as vocal as Maureen Freschet in making the point: Downtown San Mateo is a destination that is fun, safe and lively from morning to night.

She's an active member of the San Mateo Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. She was the President of the Belmont Chamber of Commerce during her 23 years as a government and community relations officer for Notre Dame de Namur University, in Belmont. If there was a public event or civic engagement that needed attention in either city, Maureen Freschet was present, energetic, often a leader, and always a beneficial force for community improvement.

Many of Maureen's most visible contributions will never have her name on them. Due to her service on the county's transportation authority, she was involved in major projects to improve traffic and transit. As people move through the community, and despite traffic woes created by a 2 percent unemployment rate and high technology job growth that is essentially engulfing our community, travelers have Maureen to thank in part for recent and coming improvements that will benefit them for generations to come.

Maureen is an enthusiastic supporter of San Mateo's adopted Army unit, the 101st Airborne "Screaming Eagles," and worked tirelessly to welcome them on the 50th anniversary of their adoption by San Mateo. She spearheaded the effort to create a memorial in Central Park to honor San Mateo's fallen military and local public safety heroes.

Her dedication to law enforcement is multifaceted. She served on the county's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission and on the Executive Board of the Service League. She is also a staunch opponent of human trafficking and made numerous presentations on this important subject.

Maureen raised her two daughters, Nicole and Kristen, as a single mother. She is now known as "Nini," to her grandson, Carson. Out of all the titles she's earned over the years, this one is her most cherished. She also

earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services Administration and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Notre Dame de Namur in Belmont.

For decades, Maureen Freschet has been the quintessential pillar of the community. In America's democratic tradition, no leader can honestly say, "Only I can lead us or all will perish." No one is irreplaceable. That being said, in San Mateo, Maureen is close. She wishes to spend more time with her husband, Andy, and her family. I commend her for keeping her priorities straight. However, exemplary citizenship is inspiring to us all. Maureen will likely roar at times with her private voice, continue to lead by personal example, and thus inspire all who know her to remain engaged in the awesome task of governing this great nation.

#### HONORING THE KNOWLES TEACHER INITIATIVE FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. ANDY KIM**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Knowles Teacher Initiative of Moorestown, New Jersey, for their 20 years of work developing teachers that transform math and science education for students across the United States.

Established in 1999 by Janet H. and C. Harry Knowles, the Knowles Teacher Initiative supports a network of math and science teachers nationwide in expanding innovative practices and teaching expertise. Through their programs like the Knowles Teaching Fellows Program and the Knowles Senior Fellows Program, Knowles brings in early-career high school math and science teachers to aid in their professional development and create a lasting network of highly qualified educators across the country.

Over their 20 years serving our nation's teachers, Knowles has supported more than 400 Fellows who have taught math and science to more than 250,000 students. There is no doubt that the Knowles Teacher Initiative has made a lasting impact in not only the lives of the educators that took part in their fellowships, but also the students that have benefited from the high-quality instruction stemming from Knowles programs.

I commend the Knowles Teacher Initiative for the important work they have done to help to provide development opportunities for our nation's math and science teachers. I'm proud to support their work and look forward to many impactful years to come.

#### HONORING THE RETURN OF THE REMAINDER OF THE TULUWAT TO THE WIYOT TRIBE

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the long-awaited return of

the remainder of Tuluwat to the Wiyot Tribe. This transfer of land from the City of Eureka is an exceptional gesture that recognizes the sacredness of the island to the tribe, which considers it the center of the universe.

Also known as Indian Island, the 280-acre island was home to the Wiyot people, which held its annual World Renewal Ceremony there for many hundreds of years. In the winter of 1860, white settlers coordinated attacks on Wiyot women, children, and elders while the men were away. As many as 250 unarmed Wiyot people were massacred. Indian Island was later diked and drained and a boatyard and lumber mills were built there, leaving behind a toxic legacy.

In 2000, the Wiyot Tribe purchased a 1.5-acre parcel of the island. Four years later, the City of Eureka transferred 67 acres to the tribe. In 2014, the Wiyot Tribe restored the World Renewal Ceremony to that part of the island. In December 2018, the Eureka City Council voted to repatriate the rest of its land on Tuluwat to the Wiyot Tribe. The Wiyot Tribe has worked for years to clean up toxins on the island, as well as to protect shell middens and other important sites and resources from erosion.

The Wiyot Tribe will continue to use the site for ceremonies, including at the Etipidolh Village site, and work to remove invasive *Spartina densiflora* on the island's wetlands.

Madam Speaker, the repatriation of Tuluwat from the City of Eureka to the Wiyot Tribe has profound importance to the Wiyot people, whose ancestors suffered greatly during the early white settlement of the region. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historic agreement that continues to try to heal the harms of the past.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD MCEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 16, 2019 during roll call no. 558, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 629, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3624) Outsourcing Accountability Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 559, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 629, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3624) Outsourcing Accountability Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 560, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.J. Res. 77, Opposing the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN CUM-  
MINGS FROM THE AMERICAN  
DENTAL ASSOCIATION

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the loss of my colleague, Congressman Elijah Cummings. He was a true leader in Congress and had the respect of his colleagues. I feel honored for having the opportunity to work with him as his Co-chair of the Congressional Oral Health Caucus. As a former dentist, I appreciated Congressman Cummings for being an advocate for oral health and advancing many important issues in a bipartisan manner. He will be missed in the halls of Congress and I send my deepest condolences to his family.

On behalf of the American Dental Association, I would like to include in the RECORD the following statement which recognizes Congressman Cummings for his dedication to oral health:

The American Dental Association (ADA) would like to offer its sincerest condolences to the colleagues, family, friends and constituents of Representatives Elijah Cummings. Representative Cummings dedicated his life of service to uplifting and empowering the people he was sworn to represent in Congress.

Since 1996, Congressman Cummings has proudly represented Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where we have discussed many of the complex challenges of health care in his state. Rep. Cummings understood the significance between oral health and general well-being for overall health.

As Co-chair of the Oral Health Caucus, Rep. Cummings was dedicated to increasing awareness of oral health care and to funding emerging dental research. Americans will forever be thankful for his support of initiatives that address oral health equity, including the Action for Dental Health Act. He was a staunch supporter and promoter of oral health as a part of overall health policy. Rep. Cummings knew that greater access to dental care needed to include education and awareness and made it a priority to help initiate Maryland's first statewide oral health literacy campaign.

Rep. Cummings often said that "Our children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see." We admired his dedication to ensuring that our next generations have access to quality health care and education. Congress lost a true advocate for the people today. His willingness to work and fight for those who need him most is the biggest loss to our nation.

The ADA will sincerely miss the wisdom and dedication of Congressman Cummings to make real and lasting change with the continued commitment and collaboration of the oral health community. We will remain saddened yet dedicated to help make that lasting change as part of his legacy.

Sincerest condolences,

CHAD P. GEHANI, D.D.S.,

*President of the American Dental Association.*

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to circumstances beyond my control.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 565; "yea" on Roll Call No. 566; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 567.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALFRED  
JACKSON "A.J." POWELL

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Alfred Jackson "A.J." Powell.

A.J., as he was affectionately known by his family and friends, was a longtime resident of Quitman, Georgia. He graduated from Dixie High School and went on to study at the University of Georgia, earning a degree in Agriculture. Upon graduation, A.J. enlisted in the Army Air Corps, where he served our country honorably as a meteorologist and Ordinance Officer, ultimately achieving the rank of Captain.

A.J. had a broad and meaningful impact on his community in Quitman, Georgia. After returning from military service, he paired his love for agriculture with his experience in the Army to serve veterans in his community. He organized the first Veterans' Farm Training program in the county, serving as an agriculture teacher for groups of veterans, and later was promoted by the State Department of Education to Supervisor for the Veterans Agriculture Program for all the counties in South Georgia.

After leaving the Department of Education, A.J. opened Powell's Farm Supply, becoming a leading innovator in agricultural infrared photography and liquid fertilizer products. He raised beef cattle on his farm, Crooked Creek, and was actively involved in the agriculture community, assuming roles ranging from President of the Georgia Seedsmen's Association to President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Throughout his life, A.J. served his community in a variety of capacities. Among his greatest joys was serving in his church, Quitman First Baptist Church, where he was an active member, serving many roles, including as a Sunday school teacher and the Chairman of Deacons. First and foremost, A.J. was a man of integrity who was well known for his faith in Jesus and his love for others. He lived out Joshua 24: 15, "... as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

A.J. will be forever remembered as a man of faith, diligence, and integrity. Most importantly, he will be remembered as a loyal and faithful husband to his beloved wife, Mary; father to his three children, Beth, Jay and Lisa; grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, and friend. A.J. will be dearly missed, but his legacy will be felt for generations to come. On behalf of the people of Georgia, I hope you will join me in celebrating his wonderful life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD MCEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 25, 2019 during roll call no. 542, On Ordering the Previous Question on the Amendment and the Resolution, H. Res. 577, Providing for consideration of H.R. 2203, the Homeland Security Improvement Act; H.R. 3525, the US Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act; and H. Res. 576, expressing the sense of the House with respect to the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019, made to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 543, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 577, Providing for consideration of H.R. 2203, the Homeland Security Improvement Act; H.R. 3525, the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act; and H. Res. 576, expressing the sense of the House with respect to the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019, made to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 544, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 1595, SAFE Banking Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 545, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 2203, Homeland Security Improvement Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 546, On Passage, H.R. 2203, Homeland Security Improvement Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 547, On Motion to Table, H. Res. 590, Raising a question of the privileges of the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 548, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 576, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the whistleblower complaint of August 12, 2019, made to the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING MICHAEL DUNLEA AS A  
RECIPIENT OF THE PRESI-  
DENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCEL-  
LENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND  
SCIENCE TEACHING

**HON. ANDY KIM**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Dunlea of Tabernacle Elementary School in Tabernacle, New Jersey, as a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Each year, the PAEMST recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science. Recipients of the award are



widely respected by their peers, displaying strong expertise in STEM education, and having made a lasting positive impact on their students. Only 108 teachers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories receive this selective recognition each year.

I commend Mr. Dunlea for his fine work as an educator and mentor to his students, building important skills that will help them succeed in a rapidly developing world. STEM education is a building block to an increasingly complex economy that relies on a strong technological skill set. Today's students with strong STEM backgrounds will be those that discover a cure for cancer, help to bring an end to climate change, and get an American on Mars. The important skills that Mr. Dunlea's students develop from his instruction will bring important individual achievements, and will aid our nation in the future.

I'm proud to say that we have excellent quality teachers in New Jersey like Mr. Dunlea, and I look forward to seeing his important work develop in the growth and success of his students.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
JERRY EPSTEIN

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, to celebrate the life of Mr. Jerry Epstein, who passed away at the age of 96 on September 2, 2019 in Los Angeles, California. Jerry was an integral part of the development of Los Angeles County through his involvement in real estate, construction, and philanthropic causes.

Born on August 29, 1923 as the only child of Meyer and Tilda Epstein, Jerry was raised in the Bronx and Mount Vernon, New York. Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Jerry enlisted in the military, serving as an enlisted man and commissioned officer in the United States Army and Air Force. He flew in B-17 and B-29 bombers and served on active duty during multiple island invasions in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

After the war, Jerry enrolled at Emory University, where he met the love of his life, Pat. They were married on December 26, 1948 and celebrated more than 66 years together before she passed on July 22, 2015.

In 1949 Jerry and Pat moved to Los Angeles, where Jerry initially worked for Pat's family business. In 1952, Jerry became involved in real estate, including the development and management of multi-family rental apartments, as well as the initial creation and development of Marina del Rey, now the largest pleasure boat harbor community in the world.

Jerry took pride in his service on several local and state public bodies focused on transportation infrastructure and public building construction. He was appointed to the Los Angeles County Economy and Efficiency Commission in the 1970s and was the first chairman of the Energy Commission for the City and County of Los Angeles. Jerry also served as a chairman of the California Transportation Commission and vice chair of the California High-Speed Rail Authority.

As a trustee of Saint John's Hospital and Health Center Foundation in Santa Monica for more than 40 years, Jerry felt great pleasure working with the compassionate sisters, doctors, nurses and staff treating and healing patients. Jerry was also chair of the Development Committee that oversaw the \$500 million reconstruction of Saint John's after the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Philanthropic causes played a big role in Jerry's life—he and Pat were honored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Boys and Girls Club of Venice, Big Brothers of America, Portals, and Saint John's Hospital; they also supported many charities, including the Lucille and Edward R. Roybal Foundation, the Jewish Federation, and Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles.

Jerry's impact on the communities he helped build from the ground up is indelible. Congresswoman ROYBAL-ALLARD and I are blessed to have known and worked with Jerry on issues of importance in Southern California. May his commitment to service inspire those of us working toward a brighter future.

HONORING WILLIAM M. MOONEY,  
JR.

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor William M. Mooney, Jr. as he prepares for his retirement from the Westchester County Association (WCA), where he currently serves as President and CEO.

First elected to head the Westchester County Association in 2004, Bill Mooney has distinguished himself as one of the premier advocates for the Lower Hudson Valley's business and banking communities. Under Bill's steadfast leadership, the WCA transformed from a network of business interests to a formidable organization focused on fostering economic growth and development in Westchester County and beyond.

Counted among Bill's numerous accomplishments are helping to launch The Blueprint for Westchester, a groundbreaking campaign that resulted in the repurposing, reactivation, and redevelopment of millions of square feet of underutilized space in Westchester County. With Bill at the helm, the WCA also managed a \$9.8 million federal workforce development grant—the largest such grant in the history of Westchester County—resulting in hundreds of jobs for Hudson Valley residents.

Beyond his prowess as a business leader, Bill has always been dedicated to giving back to the community. Bill's philanthropic efforts have directly benefitted the United Way of Westchester and Putnam Counties, the American Heart Walk, the Westchester Partnership for Economic Development, the Red Cross of Rockland County, and countless other nonprofits and educational organizations.

Bill Mooney has dedicated his career to making Westchester County a desirable place in which to live and work. Bill's achievements have left an indelible mark on the lives of so many, and his legacy will be remembered long after he leaves the WCA. Thanks to his tireless efforts, William M. Mooney, Jr.'s prediction that Westchester County's best days lie ahead seems certain to come true.

HONORING CHRISTINE CARPENTER  
AS IOWA'S CANCER CHAMPION  
OF THE YEAR

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor breast cancer survivors across Iowa. I want to recognize Christine Carpenter as a champion and advocate for Iowa women with breast cancer.

Christine was diagnosed with breast cancer 26 years ago—and won. She took her experience with breast cancer and turned into a mission. She is now a leading voice with the Iowa Breast Cancer Advocacy Network, a valuable member of the Iowa Beyond Pink Team, and a frequent face here on Capitol Hill.

I've had the chance to meet with Christine as she fights for research funding and advocates for legal changes that will better serve Iowans, and all women, with breast cancer. If you or a loved one in Iowa have experienced breast cancer, you've likely either met Christine or benefited from the work she's done. She helped ensure that those on Medicaid receive treatment for breast and cervical cancers—even if they didn't qualify under the standard programs. Through her persistent advocacy, Christine was able to protect Iowan women who are most in need.

Christine is the right woman to have on your side and fierce advocate for breast cancer survivors. That is why it is no surprise that Christine was awarded the Iowa Cancer Champion of the Year 2019. Christine's "Iowa-Nice" approach has ensured that all our federally elected officials from Iowa are supporting important breast cancer reform legislation.

In honor of Christine and Iowans with breast cancer, I am calling on my House colleagues to sign onto the Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act. This legislation will waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility and the 5-month waiting period of Social Security Disability Insurance for those with metastatic breast cancer. Metastatic breast cancer is when that cancer has spread beyond the breast and into other organs. Devastatingly, it cannot be cured. It is estimated that nearly 160,000 women in the United States have this terminal form of breast cancer. As we work toward a cure, it is important we provide these women and their families with the financial peace of mind they need in this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO MONTGOMERY  
MAYOR TODD STRANGE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Todd Strange, the 56th mayor of Montgomery, Alabama, on his decade of service to his city, his state and to the people of Alabama. Mayor Strange's outstanding career has been characterized by his commitment to restoring and ensuring Montgomery's economic vitality, his unique sense of humor and, most importantly, his deep and

unwavering love for his city. Since taking office on March 23, 2009, Mayor Strange has been a strong and able leader, who has consistently put people over politics, and has remained resistant to the divisions commonplace in today's political climate. He leaves the City of Montgomery a better place for his excellent leadership.

Long interested in the complexities and practical applications of politics, Mayor Strange graduated from Murphy High School in Mobile, Alabama before continuing on to earn his B.A. in Political Science from Montevallo University. After graduating, Mayor Strange took the opportunity to try his own hand at politics, serving as chairman of the Montgomery County Commission and as Director of the Alabama Department of Commerce. During this time, Mayor Strange was instrumental in coordinating efforts that resulted in substantial job growth and economic revitalization throughout the city, including working with many partners to bring the Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Facility of Alabama to Montgomery.

Over the course of his career, Mayor Strange also worked in the private sector, ably taking on leadership roles in the automotive and telecommunications fields. Mayor Strange served as President, CEO and Co-owner of Blount-Strange Automotive Group, where he oversaw hundreds of employees, and held several leadership roles within South Central Bell Company (now AT&T). He further served as Senior Vice President of Administration of Blount International, Ltd. and President and CEO of Blount Development Corporation.

Mayor Strange first came into office winning a special election after his predecessor, Mayor Bobby Bright, was elected to the United States House of Representatives. His election came on the heels of the economic recession, evident in the city's operating budget. Over the following six years, Mayor Strange worked diligently to continue revitalization in his city, making use of major sporting events, conferences, new jobs and economic development to drive revenue. By 2015, the City of Montgomery closed out the fiscal year with over twenty million in the coffers.

Further, during his time as mayor, Mayor Strange made use of new technologies to cut costs and keep the city safe, implementing a Smart City Initiative, which makes use of artificial intelligence to assess roads for paving projects. The initiative utilizes cutting edge surveillance and sanitation technology in order to streamline efficiency; and uses in-house software technology to keep costs in check. The project symbolizes Mayor Strange's commitment to finding practical, cost-effective solutions that make use of all that modern technology has to offer, in order for the city to run as smoothly as possible.

Mayor Strange has served as Chairman of the Montgomery Business Committee for the Arts, Chairman of the Capital City Club and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the City of Montevallo. He was formerly the Chairman of the University of Montevallo National Alumni Association, the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce, the President of the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind Foundation, the Board Chairman of the Montgomery Riverfront Development Committee and the Chairman of the Montgomery Riverfront Alliance. A testament to his enduring legacy and impact,

Mayor Strange has been honored with myriad awards and recognition, including: The Business and Professional Women Boss of the Year Award, the March of Dimes River Region Citizen of the Year Award, the Auburn University at Montgomery Outstanding Community Leader Award and Time Magazine's Quality Dealer Award for Alabama.

Throughout his long and impressive career, Mayor Strange has been blessed to be supported by his wife Linda, his two daughters, Jennifer and Elizabeth and his grandchildren. The strength provided by his family has allowed Mayor Strange his remarkable professional successes and, certainly, his commitment to honoring family values has carried over to his service as mayor.

On a personal note, I have greatly enjoyed working with Mayor Strange on the federal issues that matter most to Montgomery and the River Region. I'm especially proud of the work that our community and, especially, the work that Mayor Strange and his office have done to make the 187th Air National Guard home to the new F-35 Lightning II Jets, resulting in the creation of hundreds of jobs and tens of millions of dollars in economic investment. As we usher in this new era for the City of Montgomery, I know that Mayor Strange's legacy will be the foundation upon which others will lead. While he may be retiring from his service as Mayor, I know he will still be an active, lifelong advocate on behalf of the people of the City of Montgomery and the River Region.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Todd Strange for his outstanding service as mayor of the City of Montgomery.

#### HONORING JASON ROSS

#### HON. JOHN RATCLIFFE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. RATCLIFFE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank a truly great American, my District Chief of Staff, Jason Ross. After five years of dedication to our country and the communities of Texas' Fourth Congressional District, Jason is departing from my office to return to the private sector with a record of extraordinary achievement and the gratitude of thousands of Texans whom he has served faithfully.

Madam Speaker, I don't have the words to accurately or adequately convey my gratitude for Jason's commitment, dedication, devotion and loyalty to this endeavor over the past five years.

Since Day 1 in January 2015, I have trusted Jason with charting a course for our district operations to the more than 700,000 Texans across 18 counties. Now, almost 5 years later, there has never been a single day where I have not been rewarded for that decision.

Along the way, I've been witness to and credited for so many great and wonderful things that have transpired in our district—but always knowing that the credit belongs to and has resulted from the work of everyone on staff, under Jason's inspiring leadership.

Personally, I could never have expected or deserved a better supporter, defender, confidant and friend than Jason Ross.

I was once told that if the only prayer you ever say in your life is "thank you," but if you say it with genuine praise and glory to God, then you've both said and prayed enough. So, on behalf of Texas' Fourth Congressional District, I would like to formally honor Jason Ross on his years of dedicated service to our constituents and this nation by saying . . .

Thank you, Jason.

#### TRIBUTE TO GREGORY GARCIA

#### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mr. Gregory Garcia who passed away on Friday, October 4, 2019. Mr. Garcia dedicated his life to community and education. He is survived by wife of 42 years, Margaret; his daughters Christine, Gina, and Glinda; son Gregory Anthony; and his sister Leila Ramos. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Greg Garcia was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, graduating from Central Catholic High School in 1958. A proud alumni of Texas A&M University, he graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business. There, he actively participated in the Corps of Cadets.

After extensive work in the private sector for 20 years, he heard the call to return and serve the alma mater that he so loved. Mr. Garcia was incredibly active in our community and his involvement was only matched by his desire to make San Antonio the best it can possibly be.

During his time with the Texas A&M University System, he served as Vice Chancellor of Governmental Relations. He partnered with his dear friends, the late Senator Frank Madla, in establishing a university on San Antonio's Southside. He has since been recognized as a founding father of Texas A&M University—San Antonio.

Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I acknowledge the passing of Mr. Gregory Garcia. San Antonio and its Southside communities mourn the loss of a great pillar who dedicated his life to the service of others. I thank Mr. Garcia for everything he has done for San Antonians, the entire state of Texas, and for his fellow Aggies.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2019*

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on October 18, 2019, to attend a funeral in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted no on Roll Call No. 565; no on Roll Call No. 566; and yes on Roll Call No. 567.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference.

This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

#### OCTOBER 23

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on the Navy's "Spectrum of Conflict" strategic framework.

SVC-217

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine improving American economic competitiveness through water resources infrastructure.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

To hold hearings to examine United States policy and assistance in Syria.

SD-124

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation

To hold hearings to examine successes and unfinished business in the Western Balkans.

SD-419

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

To hold hearings to examine marijuana and America's health, focusing on questions and issues for policy makers.

SD-215

#### OCTOBER 24

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Vice Admiral Charles A. Richard, USN, to be Admiral and Commander, United States Strategic Command, Department of Defense.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine data ownership, focusing on exploring implications for data privacy rights and data valuation.

SD-538

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management

To hold a joint hearing to examine E-Rulemaking comment systems.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 2511, to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, and the nominations of Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Steven J. Menashi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Jodi W. Dishman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Karen Spencer Marston, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Richard Earnest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Sarah E. Pitlyk, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Anuraag Singhal, to be United States District Judge for the Southern

District of Florida, Daniel Mack Traynor, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, and David M. DeVillers, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Department of Justice.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine anti-corruption initiatives to fight emerging methods of foreign bribery.

RHOB-2128

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine treating substance misuse in America, focusing on scams, shortfalls, and solutions.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

#### OCTOBER 29

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lisa W. Hershman, of Indiana, to be Chief Management Officer, Dana S. Deasy, of Virginia, to be Chief Information Officer, and Robert John Sander, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

#### OCTOBER 30

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

To hold hearings to examine the use of technology and innovation to increase water security and enable economic development in the West.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations.

SVC-217

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine promoting the useful arts, focusing on how Congress can prevent the issuance of poor quality patents.

SD-226

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5907–5929*

**Measures Introduced:** Seven bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2648–2654, S. Res. 366–368, and S. Con. Res. 27. **Page S5922**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 2132, to promote security and provide justice for United States victims of international terrorism, with amendments. **Page S5922**

**Measures Passed:**

*Providing for the Use of the Catafalque:* Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 27, providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.

**Pages S5909, S5927**

*Authorizing the Production of Records by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations:* Senate agreed to S. Res. 368, to authorize the production of records by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. **Pages S5926–27, S5927**

*Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency Act:* Senate passed H.R. 150, to modernize Federal grant reporting, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

**Pages S5927–28**

**Treaty on the Republic of North Macedonia—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia (Treaty Doc. 116–1), taking action on the following motion and amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S5909–16**

Pending:

McConnell Amendment No. 946, to change the enactment date. **Page S5909**

McConnell Amendment No. 947 (to Amendment No. 946), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5909**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 326), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the treaty. **Pages S5915–16**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the treaty, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, and the time until 12 noon be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that all post-cloture time on the treaty expire at 12 noon, and Senate vote on ratification of the treaty. **Page S5916**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5917**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S5917**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Pages S5909, S5917**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S5917–22**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5922–24**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5924–26**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S5916–17**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—326) **Page S5916**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:19 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S5928–29.)

### Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 11 public bills, H.R. 4767–4777; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 647–649 were introduced. **Pages H8297–98**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H8298–H8300**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2514, to make reforms to the Federal Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering laws, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–245, Part 1);

H.R. 4617, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–246, Part 1); and

H. Res. 646, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2513) to ensure that persons who form corporations or limited liability companies in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations or limited liability companies, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting United States corporations and limited liability companies for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations and limited liability companies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–247).

**Page H8297**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Gomez to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8263**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Pages H8264**

**Communication from the Clerk—Office of Congressional Ethics:** Pursuant to section 1(k) of House Resolution 895, One Hundred Tenth Congress, and section 104(c) of House Resolution 6, One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, the Clerk transmitted to the Speaker that the following individuals each have signed an agreement not to be a candidate for the office of Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress for purposes of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 until at least 3 years after they are no longer a member of the board or staff of the Office of Congressional Ethics: David Skaggs, Allison Hayward, Belinda Pinckney, Karan English, James Eagen, Michael Barnes, Paul Vinovich, Lynn Westmoreland, Omar

Ashmawy, Jeffrey Brown, William Cable, Annie Cho, Helen Eisner, Mary Flanagan, Samuel McHale, Gabrielle Piper, Sean Quinn, Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman, and Paul Solis. **Page H8265**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:11 p.m. and reconvened at 3:29 p.m. **Page H8265–66**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2019:** H.R. 4406, amended, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the small business development centers program, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 375 yeas to 25 nays, Roll No. 569;

**Pages H8266–68, H8280–81**

**Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2019:** H.R. 4405, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program;

**Pages H8268–74**

**SCORE for Small Business Act of 2019:** H.R. 4407, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 389 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 570; and

**Pages H8274–77, H8281**

**Establishing Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within the Small Business Administration:** H.R. 4387, to establish Growth Accelerator Fund Competition within the Small Business Administration.

**Pages H8277–78**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 4:26 p.m. and reconvened at 6:22 p.m. **Page H8278**

**Question of Privilege:** Representative Biggs rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. Upon examination of the resolution, the Chair determined that the resolution qualified. Subsequently, the House agreed to the Hoyer motion to table H. Res. 647, condemning and censuring Adam Schiff, Representative of California's 28th Congressional District, by a yeas-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 185 nays, Roll No. 568. **Pages H8279–80**

**Providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a representative of the State of Maryland:** The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and agree to S. Con. Res. 27, providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol

for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a representative of the State of Maryland. **Page H8282**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 2258 was held at the desk. S. 2635 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. S. Con. Res. 27 was held at the desk.

**Pages H8265, H8296**

**Senate Messages:** Message received from the Senate today and message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8277.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8279–80, H8280–81, and H8281. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2019

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2513, the “Corporate Transparency Act of 2019”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2513, the “Corporate Transparency Act of 2019”. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part B of the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Carolyn B. Maloney of New York, McHenry, Burgess, and Davidson of Ohio.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine the status of the Consolidated Audit Trail, 10 a.m., SD–538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Science, Oceans, Fisheries, and Weather, to hold hearings to examine research and innovation, focusing on ensuring America’s economic and strategic leadership, 2:15 p.m., SD–562.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* to hold hearings to examine international efforts to increase energy efficiency and opportunities to advance energy efficiency in the United States, 10 a.m., SD–366.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the impact of Turkey’s offensive in northeast Syria, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joshua A. Deahl, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Deborah J. Israel and Andrea L. Hertzfeld, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Robert Anthony Dixon, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine sanctuary jurisdictions, focusing on the impact on public safety and victims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

#### House

*Committee on Agriculture,* Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled “Realizing the Conservation Benefits of Precision Agriculture”, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Armed Services,* Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Ship and Submarine Maintenance: Cost and Schedule Challenges”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Labor,* Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, hearing entitled “Long Over Due: Exploring the Pregnant Workers’ Fairness Act (H.R. 2694)”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* Full Committee, hearing entitled “The End of Affordable Housing? A Review of the Trump Administration’s Plans to Change Housing Finance in America”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “An Examination of the Decline of Minority Depository Institutions and the Impact on Underserved Communities”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.



*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, begin hearing entitled “Human Rights in South Asia: Views from the State Department and the Region”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, continue hearing entitled “Human Rights in South Asia: Views from the State Department and the Region”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment, hearing entitled “Protecting the Good Friday Agreement from Brexit”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Innovation, hearing entitled “Preparing for the Future: An Assessment of Emerging Cyber Threats”, 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Securing America’s Elections Part II: Oversight of Government Agencies”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Full Committee, hearing on legislation to amend the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act or ‘PROMESA,’ and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing entitled “No More Standoffs: Protecting Federal Employees and Ending the Culture of Anti-Government Attacks and Abuse”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Reform*, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Metro: Report Card for America’s Subway”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Rules*, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4617, the “Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act”, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, hearing entitled “Native 8(a) Contracting: Emerging Issues”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency, hearing entitled “An Assessment of Federal Recovery Efforts from Recent Disasters”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on H.R. 4360, the “VA Overpayment Accountability Act”; H.R. 592, the “Protect Veterans from Financial Fraud Act of 2019”; H.R. 1030, the “Veteran Spouses Equal Treatment Act”; H.R. 4165, the “Improving Benefits for Underserved Veterans Act”; H.R. 4183, the “Identifying Barriers and Best Practices Study Act”; H.R. 628, the “WINGMAN Act”; H.R. 1424, the “Fallen Warrior Battlefield Cross Memorial Act”; H.R. 1911, the “SFC Brian Woods Gold Star and Military Survivors Act”; legislation to extend increased dependency and indemnity compensation paid to surviving spouses of veterans who die from ALS; and legislation to permit appellants to appear before the Board of Veterans’ Appeals via picture and voice transmission from locations outside the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), 10:30 a.m., HVC-210.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3398, the “Pathways to Health Careers Act of 2019”; H.R. 3, the “Lower Drug Costs Act Now Act of

2019”; H.R. 4650, the “Medicare Dental Act of 2019”; H.R. 4665, the “Medicare Vision Act of 2019”; and H.R. 4618, the “Medicare Hearing Act of 2019”, 9:30 a.m., 110 Longworth.

*Select Committee on the Climate Crisis*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: Natural Solutions to Cutting Pollution and Building Resilience”, 2 p.m., 1302 Longworth.

### Joint Meetings

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: to hold hearings to examine reform in Armenia, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

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## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of October 22 through October 25, 2019

### Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia (Treaty Doc. 116-1), post-cloture, and vote on ratification of the treaty at 12 noon.

Following disposition of the treaty, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Andrew P. Bremberg, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Appropriations*: October 23, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine United States policy and assistance in Syria, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

*Committee on Armed Services*: October 23, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to receive a closed briefing on the Navy’s “Spectrum of Conflict” strategic framework, 10 a.m., SVC-217.

October 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Vice Admiral Charles A. Richard, USN, to be Admiral and Commander, United States Strategic Command, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*: October 22, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the status of the Consolidated Audit Trail, 10 a.m., SD-538.

October 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine data ownership, focusing on exploring implications for data privacy rights and data valuation, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation*: October 22, Subcommittee on Science, Oceans, Fisheries, and

Weather, to hold hearings to examine research and innovation, focusing on ensuring America's economic and strategic leadership, 2:15 p.m., SD-562.

October 23, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* October 22, to hold hearings to examine international efforts to increase energy efficiency and opportunities to advance energy efficiency in the United States, 10 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* October 23, to hold hearings to examine improving American economic competitiveness through water resources infrastructure, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* October 24, to hold hearings to examine treating substance misuse in America, focusing on scams, shortfalls, and solutions, 10:30 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* October 22, to hold hearings to examine the impact of Turkey's offensive in northeast Syria, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

October 23, Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation, to hold hearings to examine successes and unfinished business in the Western Balkans, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* October 22, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joshua A. Deahl, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Deborah J. Israel and Andrea L. Hertzfeld, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Robert Anthony Dixon, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-342.

October 24, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, with the Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold a joint hearing to examine E-Rulemaking comment systems, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* October 22, to hold hearings to examine sanctuary jurisdictions, focusing on the impact on public safety and victims, 10 a.m., SD-226.

October 24, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2511, to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, and the nominations of Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Steven J. Menashi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Jodi W. Dishman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Karen Spencer Marston, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Richard Earnest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Sarah E. Pitlyk, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Anuraag Singhal, to be United States

District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Daniel Mack Traynor, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, and David M. DeVillers, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* October 22, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

October 24, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

*United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control:* October 23, to hold hearings to examine marijuana and America's health, focusing on questions and issues for policy makers, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

## House Committees

*Committee on Armed Services,* October 23, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled "TBA", 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn. This hearing is closed.

*Committee on Education and Labor,* October 23, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions; and Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, joint hearing entitled "The Future of Work: Preserving Worker Protections in the Modern Economy", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* October 23, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Sabotage: The Trump Administration's Attack on Health Care", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

October 23, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled "Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Solutions for Planes, Trains and Everything Beyond Automobiles", 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

October 24, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, hearing entitled "Reauthorizing Brand USA and the U.S. SAFE WEB Act", 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* October 23, Full Committee, hearing entitled "An Examination of Facebook and Its Impact on the Financial Services and Housing Sectors", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* October 23, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Betrayal of our Syrian Kurdish Partners: How Will American Foreign Policy and Leadership Recover?", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

October 23, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade, hearing entitled "The Trump Administration's FY 2020 Budget and U.S. Policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* October 23, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2932, the "Homeland Security for Children Act"; H.R. 3469, the "Covert Testing and Risk Mitigation Improvement Act of 2019"; H.R. 3787, the "DHS Countering Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator Act"; H.R. 4237, the "Advancing Cybersecurity Diagnostics and Mitigation Act"; H.R. 4402, the "Inland Waters Security Review Act"; H.R. 4713, the "Department of Homeland Security Office of Civil Rights and

Civil Liberties Authorization Act”; H.R. 4727, the “Department of Homeland Security Mentor Protégé Program Act of 2019”; H.R. 4739, the “Synthetic Opioid Exposure Prevention and Training Act”; H.R. 4737, the “Department of Homeland Security Climate Change Research Act”; H.R. 4753, the “Drone Origin Security Enhancement Act”; H.R. 4761, the “DHS Opioid Detention Resilience Act of 2019”; and legislation on the National Commission on Online Platforms and Homeland Security Act, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, October 23, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4, the “Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019”; and H.R. 565, the “AMIGOS Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, October 23, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 934, the “Health Benefits for Miners Act of 2019”; H.R. 935, the “Miners Pension Protection Act”; and H.R. 2579, the “Hardrock Leasing and Reclamation Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Reform*, October 23, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “Examining the Oil Industry’s Efforts to Suppress the Truth about Climate Change”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

October 23, Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled “The Trump Administration’s Syria Policy: Perspectives from the Field”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, October 23, Subcommittee on Environment; and Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, joint hearing entitled “Space

Weather: Advancing Research, Monitoring, and Forecasting Capabilities”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, October 23, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Prison to Proprietorship: Entrepreneurship Opportunities for the Formerly Incarcerated”, 11:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, October 23, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “The Pebble Mine Project: Process and Potential Impacts”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, October 23, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Protecting Benefits for All Servicemembers”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, October 23, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4742, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on nicotine used in vaping, etc.; H.R. 4716, the “Inhaler Coverage and Access Now Act”; H.R. 1922, the “Restoring Access to Medication Act of 2019”; and H.R. 3708, the “Primary Care Enhancement Act of 2019”, 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

### Joint Meetings

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: October 22, to hold hearings to examine reform in Armenia, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

October 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine anti-corruption initiatives to fight emerging methods of foreign bribery, 10 a.m., 2128, Rayburn Building.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Tuesday, October 22

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of the Republic of North Macedonia (Treaty Doc.116–1), post-cloture, and vote on ratification of the treaty at 12 noon.

Following disposition of the treaty, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Andrew P. Bremberg, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador.

*(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)*

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Tuesday, October 22

## House Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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# Congressional Record

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