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No. 184

## 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,  
November 18, 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.

### BRING TRANSPARENCY TO DRUG PRICES

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, families across southeast Wisconsin are concerned about the rising costs of healthcare, especially prescription drug costs. No parent should have to worry that they cannot afford insulin or an EpiPen for their child.

We must work together to bring transparency to drug prices, hold drug companies accountable, and empower

patients. The Stopping the Pharmaceutical Industry from Keeping drugs Expensive Act, or the SPIKE Act, is a nonpartisan bill addressing drug pricing.

The SPIKE Act holds drug companies accountable for their pricing of life-saving drugs. If a drug manufacturer of insulin or EpiPens drastically increases its price, the company must publicly justify its decision to do so.

As a cosponsor of the SPIKE Act, I will continue fighting to ensure this bill becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to bring the SPIKE Act to a vote.

### BRING USMCA TO A VOTE

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, November 30 marks 1 year since President Trump agreed with Mexico and Canada to create the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement, or USMCA.

USMCA is an improved trade agreement with Wisconsin's largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico. Mexico passed USMCA. Canada is ready to ratify it. They are waiting on us.

Generations of Wisconsinites have dedicated their lives to farming. Our farmers need our help. Our farmers need USMCA now more than ever.

Small dairy farms in Wisconsin are closing. Wisconsin farmers are struggling to cope with low milk prices and limited access to markets. USMCA opens dairy markets and allows farmers to sell their milk to Canada.

I have addressed this Chamber multiple times on the need to get USMCA across the finish line. Enough is enough. Bring USMCA to a vote.

### TAKE STEPS TO PREPARE BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, today, the House is voting on the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act. This is a nonpartisan bill to help families when disaster strikes.

In Wisconsin, we have seen our fair share of storms, tornadoes, and flooding. When a storm hits, resources and

assistance must be readily available. That is why this bill is so important. We must have a plan in place before the storm to avoid waste, fraud, and abuse.

This bill does that. Right now, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD, does not have a codified process in place to distribute assistance to communities in need. The bill requires HUD to have a clear process in place before disasters strike.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act. We cannot always know where a storm will strike or when it will hit, but we can take steps to be prepared and respond.

### CALL FOR SENATE TO ACT AFTER FRESNO MASS SHOOTING

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, it saddens me once again to hear another mass shooting has occurred in our country, this time in my district.

Last night, in Fresno, California, another senseless mass shooting occurred, where four people lost their lives and six more were injured. This happened at a family gathering in a neighborhood not far from the airport near Fresno, where 35 or more people were gathered.

Children were present at this meaningless act while they were watching a football game. While none of the children were harmed, certainly their lives will be changed forever as a result of the trauma they experienced last night.

I have reached out to local law enforcement, and we are ready to assist in any way possible. I have spoken with the mayor and the chief of police.

Certainly, our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families, but as a community and as a country,

□ 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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thoughts and prayers are just not enough. The daily tragedy of gun violence continues to inflict terror and violence on individuals and neighborhoods across our country, and that is a fact.

The threat to public safety is not normal, nor should it be seen as acceptable. It is unacceptable.

My office has been working with community leaders to identify resources for those affected, such as counseling, mental health support, victims' compensation, and community outreach.

This is in a neighborhood where a great deal of Southeast Asian families live. These are immigrants past and immigrants present. They came after the Vietnam war, where they stood shoulder to shoulder with Americans fighting in that conflict. They have been assimilating and contributing to our community in Fresno and throughout the valley.

Americans and members of our community deserve real action to keep them safe. In February, the House passed meaningful bipartisan gun safety legislation that Senator MITCH MCCONNELL refuses to bring up in the Senate. This legislation, combined with State and local efforts, would make a difference. It is not a silver bullet, clearly. Bad term. Let me take that back because there are way too many guns and too many bullets out there.

Republicans and Democrats have good and different ideas on how to deal with gun violence in America. Wouldn't it be refreshing if the President were to bring us together in a bipartisan effort to talk about violence in America and solutions on how we deal with violence in America because no community, no town, no hamlet, regardless of the size, is not impacted by the gun violence that takes place every day?

The fact remains that too many Americans in too many communities are forced to live in fear. I know. I live near this downtown community where, nightly, you can hear guns going off. Last night, one of the neighbors said they are fearful of even working on their car in front of their home or when people drive by.

Americans should not be forced to live in that kind of fear in their neighborhoods. It is not right. The Senate must allow a vote on a bipartisan, commonsense gun violence prevention program. The House acted on that legislation 260 days ago—260 days ago.

We must come together in our community in Fresno. I spoke with the mayor and talked about figuring out ways to bring our community together with local law enforcement agencies and community organizations to help us heal.

The question is, how many more American lives must be lost to senseless violence before action is taken? That is the question we must ask.

I will do everything I can to promote safety in our neighborhoods.

#### CELEBRATING MOVE OF USDA TO HEARTLAND

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, I had the pleasure of joining Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue in Kansas City to celebrate the relocation of two of USDA's research agencies to the heartland.

This move will save the country's taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in rent and upkeep over the next decade. It will place the agriculture resource center within a 3-hour drive of 19 land-grant colleges, creating synergies in efficiency and research, thus getting more research to our agriculture producers more quickly.

From Columbia, Missouri, to Kansas City, to Manhattan, Kansas, to Lincoln, Nebraska, over 300 animal and pet health-related companies dot the landscape. This area is already known worldwide as the animal health corridor and now accounts for over 50 percent of the total worldwide animal health, diagnostics, and pet food sales.

By relocating the Department of Agriculture's agriculture research agencies NIFA and ERS to the center of the animal health corridor, and with NBAF's construction in Manhattan, Kansas, near completion, the Kansas-Missouri partnership will truly be the world's leading corridor for agriculture research as well.

This relocation places USDA research where it belongs, in the heart of the world's agriculture industry and close to our land-grant colleges, which all fuel and modernize the agriculture industry.

I often brag that I represent the largest agriculture-producing congressional district in America, a brag that I am going to keep repeating until someone knocks me off that hill. But today, I want to emphasize how important agriculture is to metropolitan areas like Kansas City.

In the Kansas City metro area, agriculture, food, and food processing support over 100,000 jobs, or 7 percent of the entire workforce in the area. These industries provide a total economic contribution of over \$29 billion, roughly 22 percent of the local Kansas City metro economy.

As an example of the importance of agriculture to the area, I can point to the BNSF facility, where we export 10 million pounds of protein every week. Also, the DeLong Company elevator exports nearly 300,000 tons of soybeans and dried distillers grains yearly.

Guess what? All these commodities, all these products, are grown in my home district, the big First District of Kansas.

The Kansas City metro area is home to several international grain trading companies, including Bartlett Grain, ADM, Cargill, Grain Craft, Scoular Company, and many others. Seaboard Foods calls Kansas City its home as well.

A big thanks to Secretary Perdue for his leadership, for all he does for agriculture, for being a voice of hope to all agriculture producers, and for fighting to keep new markets open.

And a big thanks to President Trump for his leadership, for his faith in the heartland, and for making this bold move.

Kansas and Missouri will make this the agriculture research corridor for the world.

#### CELEBRATING KANSAS AS WORLD AIR CAPITAL

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, Kansas is known as the air capital of the world, manufacturing up to 70 percent of the world's embedded aircraft fleet, while creating nearly 50,000 jobs and approximately \$10 billion in economic output.

Growing up just outside of Wichita, I was well aware of the impact and importance the aviation industry had in my State.

Today, as a U.S. Congressman, I have had the pleasure of seeing the evolution of the aerospace industry in Kansas and the continued impact this sector has on our district and the State.

This week, our office is celebrating America's superiority in the aerospace sector and Kansas' role in that industry. From the manufacturing of 747s by Spirit AeroSystems, to aviation safety research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University, to drone technology development at the Kansas State Polytechnic in Salina, communities across Kansas have benefited from the past, present, and future needs of the aerospace industry.

Since the industry's inception, the United States has been a world leader in aviation research and innovation. But other countries are rapidly gaining speed. It is essential that we maintain our competitive advantage, not only for continued economic growth in Kansas but for our national security and the sustained evolution of space and science technologies.

I have seen the impact this sector has had on my State, and I am proud to support the many people, businesses, and organizations involved in making the aerospace industry so dynamic and innovative.

□ 1215

#### THANKSGIVING WEEK

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, Thanksgiving is only a week away, and it is good to have a reminder for myself and everyone to take a moment to recognize the many blessings we enjoy as Americans.

Our Founding Fathers bestowed upon us a Constitution and a Bill of Rights unlike anything any other country has created. Americans enjoy not only freedom to worship our God, but to enjoy the protections of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This country has allowed a Kansas farm kid like me to live the American Dream, to not only go to college and to

medical school, but to raise a wonderful family and enjoy a successful career practicing medicine, serving in our Nation's military, and, now, serving our Nation and my hometown and my home State in our Capitol. America is a country of opportunity, self-determination, and the freedom to choose your own path.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO A GROUP OF HEROES

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a group of heroes who went above and beyond to save the life of one of my district office staff. It is important to note that my district office is located at the Corona City Hall, a detail that was vital in the events that transpired.

On November 4, 2019, at 1:50 p.m., a member of my staff experienced a medical event that required immediate attention. Jackie Lansing noticed the event and brought it to the attention of the other district staff, who responded quickly and calmly.

While Jackie provided immediate assistance to the staffer, Kathleen McGravan called 911. Danielle Shade hurried to a number of offices in city hall to find on-site medical personnel. At the same time, Shawna Rimke directed our intern, Noah Ritter, who had previously received CPR training, to administer chest compressions.

Shawna then ran to retrieve Cari Lee Smith, a volunteer at city hall who Shawna knew was also a Corona Fire Department volunteer. Cari assisted Noah in CPR compressions but quickly realized that she needed a defibrillator. She sprinted off to secure one of city hall's AEDs.

While this was taking place, Ryan Cortez, a Corona city employee and an off-duty EMT, was in a meeting with the City Manager's Office when he received an alert on the PulsePoint Respond app. This app notifies certified personnel of a medical emergency near them.

While Ryan rushed downstairs to respond, Cari and Noah administered the first AED shock. Upon revival, Ryan administered the second AED shock, which stabilized the staff member.

At 1:56 p.m. the firemen arrived. Ryan was able to explain to the firemen exactly what transpired as well as brief them on the AED readings.

I am very grateful to say that this member of my staff, who has been a dedicated and instrumental part of my team for many years, is recovering and doing well.

That day may have ended very differently if not for the quick actions of my staff and the lifesaving techniques administered by Noah Ritter, Cari Lee Smith, and Ryan Cortez. To those three individuals, the entire Calvert team sends their heartfelt gratitude.

#### 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 18 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. SHALALA) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send Your spirit of peace and calm, that all might have confidence in Your faithfulness to us, and that no matter what lies ahead, Your grace is abundantly available.

The issues of this day call upon all Americans to be mindful of the institutions of our government and their respective places in the experiment of constitutional democracy.

Bless the Members of this assembly that they would be mindful of the oath each has taken to uphold the Constitution and worthy of the call they have been given as Members of Congress. Their responsibilities are monumental; bless them with a surfeit of courage as their deliberations proceed.

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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

#### STOCKS AND JOBS SOAR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the October jobs report was strong. The unemployment rate remains near a 50-year low, at 3.6

percent, and 128,000 jobs were added. Employment of African Americans, Asian Americans, and Hispanics are at record highs.

I am grateful for President Donald Trump's actions to create jobs by reducing taxes and regulations. All Americans have benefited, with stocks achieving an all-time record high. The Dow Jones Average has risen to over 28,000, for the first time in history, on Friday.

With increased liquidity, jobs are created for small businesses and retirement accounts. The stock market, under President Donald Trump, has soared from 18,000 on election day to, now, over 28,000.

By creating jobs, lowering unemployment, and consistently working to promote opportunities, President Trump is continuing his record of keeping his promises. Baseless attacks on the President by Democrats and fake news try to conceal these successes, but President Trump is focused to work for American families and jobs.

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

#### 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, November 18, 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 November 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2099.  
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3889.

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 4:15 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1617

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 4 o'clock and 17 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.

### REFORMING DISASTER RECOVERY ACT OF 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3702) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide disaster assistance to States, Puerto Rico, units of general local government, and Indian tribes under a community development block grant disaster recovery 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. 3702

*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 “Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019”.

#### SEC. 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### “SEC. 123. CDBG-DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE.

“(a) AUTHORITY; USE.—The Secretary may provide assistance under this section to States, including Puerto Rico, units of general local government, and Indian tribes for necessary expenses for activities authorized under this title related to disaster relief, resiliency, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, mitigation, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas (as such term shall be defined by the Secretary by regulation) resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

“(b) ALLOCATION; COORDINATION.—

“(1) ALLOCATION FOR MITIGATION.—In determining the amount allocated under this section for any grantee, the Secretary shall include an additional amount for mitigation that is not less than 45 percent of the amount allocated for such grantee for unmet needs.

“(2) DEADLINES FOR ALLOCATION.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), after the enactment of an Act making funds available for assistance under this section, the Secretary shall allocate for grantees, based on the best available data all funds provided for assistance under this section within 60 days of the date of the enactment of such Act.

“(3) INAPPLICABILITY OF DEADLINES BASED ON INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION.—The deadlines under paragraph (2) for allocation of funds shall not apply in the case of funds made available for assistance under this section if Federal Emergency Management Agency has not made sufficient information available to the Secretary regarding relevant unmet recovery needs to make allocations in accordance with such deadlines. The Secretary shall notify the Congress of progress on or delay in receiving the necessary information within 60 days following declaration of such a major disaster and monthly thereafter until all necessary information is received.

“(4) OBLIGATION OF AMOUNTS BY THE SECRETARY.—Subject to subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall provide for the disbursement of the amounts allocated for a grantee, but shall require the grantee to be in substantial compliance with the requirements of this section before each such disbursement.

“(5) COORDINATION OF DISASTER BENEFITS AND DATA WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

“(A) COORDINATION OF DATA.—The Secretary shall coordinate with other agencies to obtain data on recovery needs, including the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and other agencies when necessary regarding disaster benefits.

“(B) COORDINATION WITH FEMA.—The Secretary shall share with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and make publicly available, all data collected, possessed, or analyzed during the course of a disaster recovery for which assistance is provided under this section including—

“(i) all data on damage caused by the disaster;

“(ii) information on how any Federal assistance provided in connection with the disaster is expended; and

“(iii) information regarding the effect of the disaster on education, transportation capabilities and dependence, housing needs, health care capacity, and displacement of persons.

“(C) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR DIRECT ASSISTANCE AND DUPLICATION OF BENEFITS.—

“(i) COMPLIANCE.—Funds made available under this subsection shall be used in accordance with section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), as amended by section 1210 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (Division D, Public Law 115-254), and such rules as may be prescribed under such section.

“(ii) PRIORITY.—Households having the lowest incomes shall be prioritized for assistance under this subsection until all unmet needs are satisfied for families having an income up to 120 percent of the median for the area.

“(D) TREATMENT OF DUPLICATIVE BENEFITS.—In any case in which a grantee provides assistance that duplicates benefits available to a person for the same purpose from another source, the grantee itself shall either (i) be subject to remedies for non-compliance under section 111, or (ii) bear responsibility for absorbing such cost of duplicative benefits and returning an amount equal to any duplicative benefits paid to the grantee’s funds available for use under this section or to the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund under section 124, unless the Secretary issues a public determination by publication in the Federal Register that it is not in the best interest of the Federal Government to pursue such remedies.

“(E) PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary and the grantee shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that personally identifiable information regarding recipients of assistance provided from funds made available under this section is not made publicly available by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or any agency with which information is shared pursuant to this paragraph.

“(c) PLAN FOR USE OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the allocation pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of all of the funds made available by an appropriations Act for assistance under this section and before the Secretary obligates

any of such funds for a grantee, the grantee shall submit a plan to the Secretary for approval detailing the proposed use of all funds, which shall include, at a minimum—

“(A) criteria for eligibility for each proposed use of funds, including eligibility limits on income and geography, and a description of how each proposed use of such funds will comply with all civil rights and fair housing laws and will address unmet needs relating to disaster relief, resiliency, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, mitigation, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas, including assistance to impacted households experiencing homelessness as defined by section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302) or at risk of homelessness as defined by section 401 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11360);

“(B) an agreement to share data, disaggregated by the smallest census tract, block group, or block possible for the data set, with Federal agencies and other providers of disaster relief, which shall include information the grantee has regarding the matters described in subsection (b)(4)(B);

“(C) identification of officials and offices responsible for administering such funds and processes and procedures for identifying and recovering duplicate benefits; and

“(D) a plan for ensuring compliance with the Fair Housing Act, which may include, at the election of the grantee, providing for partnerships with local fair housing organizations and funding set-aside for local fair housing organizations to handle complaints relating to assistance with amounts made available for use under this section.

“(2) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall, by regulation, specify criteria for approval of plans under paragraph (1), including approval of substantial amendments to such plans.

“(3) DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary shall disapprove a plan or substantial amendment to a plan if—

“(A) the plan or substantial amendment does not meet the approval criteria;

“(B) based on damage and unmet needs assessments of the Secretary and the Federal Emergency Management Administration or such other information as may be available, the plan or amendment does not address equitable allocation of resources—

“(i) between infrastructure and housing activities; and

“(ii) between homeowners, renters, and persons experiencing homelessness;

“(C) the plan or amendment does not provide an adequate plan for ensuring that funding provided under this section is used in compliance with the Fair Housing Act;

“(D) the plan or amendment does not prioritize the one-for-one replacement, with cost adjustment where appropriate, of damaged dwelling units in public housing, in projects receiving tax credits pursuant to section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or in projects assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q), under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), under the HOME Investment Partnerships Act (42 U.S.C. 12721 et seq), under the community development block grant program under this title, or by the Housing Trust Fund under section 1338 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4568); or

“(E) the plan or amendment does not provide a process to provide applicants—

“(i) notice by grantee of applicant’s right to appeal any adverse action or inaction;

“(ii) right to full discovery of applicant’s entire application file; and

“(iii) right to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction in the vicinage of the applicant’s residence at the time of the appeal.

“(4) PUBLIC CONSULTATION.—In developing the plan required under paragraph (1), a grantee shall, at a minimum—

“(A) consult with affected residents, stakeholders, local governments, and public housing authorities to assess needs;

“(B) publish the plan in accordance with the requirements set forth by the Secretary, including a requirement to prominently post the plan on the website of the grantee for not less than 14 days;

“(C) ensure equal access for individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency; and

“(D) publish the plan in a manner that affords citizens, affected local governments, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine the contents of the plan and provide feedback.

“(5) RESUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall permit a grantee to revise and resubmit a disapproved plan or plan amendment.

“(6) TIMING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a plan not later than 60 days after submission of the plan to the Secretary. The Secretary shall immediately notify the applicant of the Secretary’s decision.

“(B) DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary disapproves a plan, not later than 15 days after such disapproval the Secretary shall inform the applicant in writing of (A) the reasons for disapproval, and (B) actions that the applicant could take to meet the criteria for approval.

“(C) AMENDMENTS; RESUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall, for a period of not less than 45 days following the date of disapproval, permit amendments to, or the resubmission of, any plan that is disapproved. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a plan amendment not less than 30 days after receipt of such amendments or resubmission.

“(D) GRANT AGREEMENTS.—Subject to subsection (b)(3), the Secretary shall ensure that all grant agreements necessary for prompt disbursement of funds allocated to a grantee are executed within 60 days of approval of grantee’s plan.

“(d) FINANCIAL CONTROLS.—

“(1) COMPLIANCE SYSTEM.—The Secretary shall develop and maintain a system to ensure that each grantee has and will maintain for the life of the grant—

“(A) proficient financial controls and procurement processes;

“(B) adequate procedures to ensure that all eligible families and individuals are approved for assistance with amounts made available under this section and that recipients are provided the full amount of assistance for which they are eligible;

“(C) adequate procedures to prevent any duplication of benefits, as defined by section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), to ensure timely expenditure of funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds; and

“(D) adequate procedures to ensure the grantee will maintain comprehensive and publicly accessible websites that make available information regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with such funds, which information shall include—

“(i) full and unredacted copies of all requests for qualification for assistance or for procurement with such funds, however styled;

“(ii) all responses to such requests, subject to redactions necessary to protect personal or proprietary data;

“(iii) the identity of any entity that reviews, evaluates, scores, or otherwise influ-

ences or determines the disposition of such requests;

“(iv) all reports, however styled, containing the reviewing individual or entity’s scores, findings, and conclusions regarding such requests; and

“(v) any resulting contract, agreement, or other disposition of such requests; except that such procedures shall ensure that personally identifiable information regarding recipients of assistance provided from funds made available under this section shall not be made publicly available.

“(2) EVALUATION OF COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall provide, by regulation or guideline, a method for qualitatively and quantitatively evaluating compliance with the requirements under paragraph (1).

“(3) CERTIFICATION.—As a condition of making any grant, the Secretary shall certify in advance that the grantee has in place the processes and procedures required under subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (1).

“(e) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe receiving a grant under this section may use not less than 7 percent and not more than 10 percent of the amount of grant funds received, or within such other percentage as may be established pursuant to subparagraph (B), for administrative costs and shall document the use of funds for such purpose in accordance with such requirements as the Secretary shall establish.

“(B) DISCRETION TO ESTABLISH SLIDING SCALE.—The Secretary may establish a series of percentage limitations on the amount of grant funds received that may be used by a grantee for administrative costs, but only if—

“(i) such percentage limitations are based on the amount of grant funds received by a grantee;

“(ii) such series provides that the percentage that may be so used is lower for grantees receiving a greater amount of grant funds and such percentage that may be so used is higher for grantees receiving a lesser amount of grant funds; and

“(iii) in no case may a grantee so use more than 10 percent of grant funds received.

“(2) LIMITATIONS ON USE.—Amounts from a grant under this section may not be used for activities—

“(A) that are reimbursable, or for which funds are made available, by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act or the National Flood Insurance Program; or

“(B) for which funds are made available by the Army Corps of Engineers.

“(3) HUD ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—

“(A) LIMITATION.—Of any funds made available for use under this section by any single appropriations Act, the Secretary may use 1 percent of any such amount exceeding \$1,000,000,000 for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of amounts made available for use under this section.

“(B) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Any amounts made available for use in accordance with subparagraph (A)—

“(i) shall be transferred to the account for Program Office Salaries and Expenses—Community Planning and Development for the Department;

“(ii) shall remain available until expended; and

“(iii) may be used for administering any funds appropriated to the Department for any disaster and related purposes in any prior or future Act, notwithstanding the dis-

aster for which such funds were appropriated.

“(4) INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Of any funds made available for use in accordance with paragraph (3)(A), 15 percent shall be transferred to the Office of the Inspector General for necessary costs of audits, reviews, oversight, evaluation, and investigations relating to amounts made available for use under this section.

“(5) CAPACITY BUILDING.—Of any funds made available for use under this section, not more than 0.1 percent or \$15,000,000, whichever is less, shall be made available to the Secretary for capacity building and technical assistance, including assistance regarding contracting and procurement processes, to support grantees and subgrantees receiving funds under this section.

“(6) MITIGATION PLANNING.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall require each grantee to use a fixed percentage of any grant funds for comprehensive mitigation planning.

“(B) AMOUNT.—Such fixed percentage shall not be less than 15 percent, except that the Secretary may by regulation establish a lower percentage for grantees receiving a grant exceeding \$1,000,000,000.

“(C) COORDINATION.—Each grantee shall ensure that such comprehensive mitigation plans are coordinated and aligned with existing comprehensive, land use, transportation, and economic development plans, and specifically analyze multiple types of hazard exposures and risks. Each grantee shall coordinate and align such mitigation planning with other mitigation projects funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, and other agencies as appropriate.

“(D) USE OF FUNDS.—Such funds may be used for the purchase of data and development or updating of risk mapping for all relevant hazards.

“(E) PRIORITY.—Grantees shall prioritize the expenditure of mitigation dollars for programs and projects primarily benefitting persons of low and moderate income with the greatest risk of harm from natural hazards.

“(7) BUILDING SAFETY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—After consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Secretary shall provide that no funds made available under this section shall be used for installation, substantial rehabilitation, reconstruction, or new construction of infrastructure or residential, commercial, or public buildings in hazard-prone areas, unless construction complies with paragraph (8) and with the latest published editions of relevant national consensus-based codes, and specifications and standards referenced therein, except that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a grantee from requiring higher standards.

“(B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed as a requirement for a grantee to adopt the latest published editions of relevant national consensus-based codes, specifications, and standards.

“(C) COMPLIANCE.—Compliance with this paragraph may be certified by a registered design professional.

“(D) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the following definitions shall apply:

“(i) HAZARD-PRONE AREAS.—The term ‘hazard-prone areas’ means areas identified by the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator, at risk from natural hazards that threaten property damage or health, safety, and welfare, such as floods (including

special flood hazard areas), wildfires (including Wildland-Urban Interface areas), earthquakes, tornados, and high winds. The Secretary may consider future risks and the likelihood such risks may pose to protecting property and health, safety, and general welfare when making the determination of or modification to hazard-prone areas.

“(ii) LATEST PUBLISHED EDITIONS.—The term ‘latest published editions’ means, with respect to relevant national consensus-based codes, and specifications and standards referenced therein, the two most recent published editions, including, if any, amendments made by State, local, tribal, or territorial governments during the adoption process, that incorporate the latest natural hazard-resistant designs and establish criteria for the design, construction, and maintenance of structures and facilities that may be eligible for assistance under this section for the purposes of protecting the health, safety, and general welfare of a buildings’s users against disasters.

“(8) FLOOD RISK MITIGATION.—

“(A) REQUIREMENTS.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall require that any structure that is located in an area having special flood hazards and that is newly constructed, for which substantial damage is repaired, or that is substantially improved, using amounts made available under this section, shall be elevated with the lowest floor, including the basement, at least two feet above the base flood level, except that critical facilities, including hospitals, nursing homes, and other public facilities providing social and economic lifelines, as defined by the Secretary, shall be elevated at least 3 feet above the base flood elevation (or higher if required under paragraph (7)).

“(B) ALTERNATIVE MITIGATION.—In the case of existing structures consisting of multifamily housing and row houses, the Secretary shall seek consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall provide for alternative forms of mitigation (apart from elevation), and shall exempt from the requirement under subparagraph (A) any such structure that meets the standards for such an alternative form of mitigation.

“(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the terms ‘area having special flood hazards’, ‘newly constructed’, ‘substantial damage’, ‘substantial improvement’, and ‘base flood level’ have the same meanings as under the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

“(f) ADMINISTRATION.—In administering any amounts made available for assistance under this section, the Secretary—

“(1) may not allow a grantee to use any such amounts for any purpose other than the purpose approved by the Secretary in the plan or amended plan submitted under subsection (c)(1) to the Secretary for use of such amounts;

“(2) may not permit a grantee to amend a plan to retroactively approve a beneficiary’s use of funds for an eligible activity other than an activity for which the funds were originally approved in the plan; and

“(3) shall prohibit a grantee from delegating, by contract or otherwise, the responsibility for inherent government functions.

“(g) TRAINING FOR GRANT MANAGEMENT FOR SUBGRANTEES.—The Secretary shall require each grantee to provide ongoing training to all staff and subgrantees.

“(h) PROCUREMENT PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES FOR GRANTEEES.—

“(1) GRANTEE PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES.—In procuring property or services to be paid for in whole or in part with amounts from a grant under this section, a grantee shall—

“(A) follow its own procurement processes and procedures, but only if the Secretary makes a determination that such processes and procedures comply with the requirements under paragraph (2); or

“(B) comply with such processes and procedures as the Secretary shall, by regulation, establish for purposes of this section.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements under this paragraph with respect to the procurement processes and procedures of a grantee are that such processes and procedures shall—

“(A) provide for full and open competition and require cost or price analysis;

“(B) include requirements for procurement policies and procedures for subgrantees;

“(C) specify methods of procurement and their applicability, but not allow cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost or percentage-of-construction-cost methods of procurement;

“(D) include standards of conduct governing employees engaged in the award or administration of contracts; and

“(E) ensure that all purchase orders and contracts include any clauses required by Federal Statute, Executive Order, or implementing regulation.

“(3) NONCOMPLIANCE.—In the case of a grantee for which the Secretary finds pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) that its procurement processes and procedures do not comply with paragraph (2), the Secretary shall—

“(A) provide the grantee with specific written notice of the elements of noncompliance and the changes necessary to such processes and procedures to provide for compliance;

“(B) provide the grantee a reasonable period of time to come into compliance; and

“(C) during such period allow the grantee to proceed with procuring property and services paid for in whole or in part with amounts from a grant under this section in compliance with the procurement processes and procedures of the grantee, but only if the Secretary determines that the grantee is making a good faith effort to effectuate compliance with the requirements of paragraph (2).

“(i) TREATMENT OF CDBG ALLOCATIONS.—Amounts made available for use under this section shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster formula allocations made pursuant to section 106 of this title (42 U.S.C. 5306).

“(j) WAIVERS.—

“(1) AUTHORITY.—Subject to the other provisions of this section, in administering amounts made available for use under this section, the Secretary may waive, or specify alternative requirements for, any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with the obligation by the Secretary or the use by the recipient of such funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, non-discrimination, labor standards, and the environment and except for the requirements of this section), if the Secretary makes a public finding that good cause exists for the waiver or alternative requirement and such waiver or alternative requirement would not be inconsistent with the overall purpose of this title.

“(2) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION.—Any waiver of or alternative requirement pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not take effect before the expiration of the 5-day period beginning upon the publication of notice in the Federal Register of such waiver or alternative requirement.

“(3) LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME USE.—The requirements in this Act that apply to grants made under section 106 of this title (except those related to the allocation) apply equally to grants under this section unless modified by a waiver or alternative requirement pursuant to paragraph (1). Notwith-

standing the preceding sentence, the Secretary may not grant a waiver to reduce the percentage of funds that must be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income to less than 70 percent, unless the Secretary specifically finds that there is compelling need to further reduce the percentage requirement and that funds are not necessary to address the housing needs of low- and moderate-income residents.

“(4) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not waive any provision of this section pursuant to the authority under paragraph (1).

“(k) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—

“(1) ADOPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (j)(1), recipients of funds provided under this section that use such funds to supplement Federal assistance provided under section 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 408(c)(4), 428, or 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) may adopt, without review or public comment, any environmental review, approval, or permit performed by a Federal agency, and such adoption shall satisfy the responsibilities of the recipient with respect to such environmental review, approval, or permit under section 104(g)(1) of this title (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)(1)).

“(2) RELEASE OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding section 104(g)(2) of this title (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)(2)), the Secretary may, upon receipt of a request for release of funds and certification, immediately approve the release of funds for an activity or project assisted with amounts made available for use under this section if the recipient has adopted an environmental review, approval or permit under paragraph (1) or the activity or project is categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

“(1) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION; AUDITS AND OVERSIGHT.—

“(1) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—For each major disaster for which assistance is made available under this section, the Secretary shall collect information from grantees regarding all recovery activities so assisted, including information on applicants and recipients of assistance, and shall make such information available to the public and to the Inspector General for the Department of Housing and Urban Development on a monthly basis using uniform data collection practices, and shall provide a monthly update to the Congress regarding compliance with this section. Information collected and reported by grantees and the Secretary shall be disaggregated by program, race, income, geography, and all protected classes of individuals under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Fair Housing Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other civil rights and non-discrimination protections, with respect to the smallest census tract, block group, or block possible for the data set.

“(2) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary may make full and unredacted information available to academic and research institutions for the purpose of research into the equitable distribution of recovery funds, adherence to civil rights protections, and other areas.

“(3) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall take such actions and make such redactions as may be necessary to ensure that personally identifiable information regarding recipients of assistance provided from funds made available under this section shall not be made publicly available.

“(4) AUDITS AND OVERSIGHT.—In conducting audits, reviews, oversight, evaluation, and investigations, in addition to activities designed to prevent and detect waste, fraud,

and abuse, the Inspector General shall review programs of grantees under this section for providing disaster relief and recovery assistance to ensure such programs fulfill their agreed-upon purposes and serve all eligible applicants for disaster relief or recovery assistance.

“(m) BEST PRACTICES.—

“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall direct the Office Community Planning and Development to collaborate with the Office of Policy Development and Research to identify best practices for grantees on issues including developing the action plan under subsection (c) and substantive amendments, establishing financial controls, building grantee technical and administrative capacity, procurement, compliance with Fair Housing Act statute and regulations, and use of grant funds as local match for other sources of federal funding. The Secretary shall publish a compilation of such identified best practices and share with all relevant grantees to facilitate a more efficient and effective disaster recovery process. The compilation shall include guidelines for housing and economic revitalization programs, including mitigation, with sufficient model language on program design for grantees to incorporate into action plans. The compilation shall include standards for at least form of application, determining unmet need, and income eligibility.

“(2) PROMULGATION.—After publication of the final compilation, the Secretary shall issue either Federal regulations, as part of the final rule for the above authorization or as a separate rule, or a Federal Register notice that establishes the requirements which grantees must follow in order to qualify for expedited review and approval. Such guidance shall establish standard language for inclusion in action plans under subsection (c) and for establishing standardized programs and activities recognized by the Secretary. Use of best practices shall not preclude grantees from standard requirements for public comment, community engagement, and online posting of the action plan. Use of promulgated best practices shall allow for an expedited review process, under which the Secretary will approve or disapprove such programs within 30 days. The Secretary shall publish the draft compilation of best practices on its website and allow the public 60 days to submit comments. The Secretary shall review all public comments and publish a final compilation within one year from the date of enactment. The Secretary may revise the requirements for best practices at any time after a public comment period of at least 60 days.

“(n) PLAN PRE-CERTIFICATION FOR UNITS OF GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program under this subsection to provide for units of general local government to pre-certify as eligible grantees for assistance under this section. The objective of such program shall be to—

“(A) allow grantees that have consistently demonstrated the ability to administer funds responsibly and equitably in similar disasters to utilize in subsequent years plans which are substantially similar to those the Department has previously approved; and

“(B) facilitate the re-use of a plan or its substantially similar equivalent by a pre-certified grantee for whom the plan has previously been approved and executed upon.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for pre-certification under the program under this subsection a unit of general local government shall—

“(A) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary compliance with the requirements of this section; and

“(B) have previously submitted a plan or its substantially similar equivalent and received assistance thereunder as a grantee or subgrantee under this section, or with amounts made available for the Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery account, in connection with two or more major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

“(3) APPROVAL OF PLANS.—

“(A) EXPEDITED APPROVAL PROCESSES.—The Secretary shall establish and maintain processes for expediting approval of plans for units of general local government that are pre-certified under this subsection.

“(B) EFFECT OF PRE-CERTIFICATION.—Pre-certification pursuant to this subsection shall not—

“(i) establish any entitlement to, or priority or preference for, allocation of funds made available under this section; or

“(ii) exempt any grantee from complying with any of the requirements under, or established pursuant to, subsection (c) or (d).

“(4) DURATION.—Pre-certification under this subsection shall be effective for a term of 10 years.

“(o) DEPOSIT OF UNUSED AMOUNTS IN FUND.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If any amounts made available for assistance under this section to grantees remain unexpended upon the earlier of—

“(A) the date that the grantee of such amounts notifies the Secretary that the grantee has completed all activities identified in the grantee's plan for use of such amounts that was approved by the Secretary in connection with such grant; or

“(B) the expiration of the 6-year period beginning upon the Secretary obligating such amounts to the grantee, as such period may be extended pursuant to paragraph (2); the Secretary may, subject to authority provided in advance by appropriations Acts, transfer such unexpended amounts to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit into the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund established under section 124, except that the Secretary may, by regulation, permit the grantee to retain amounts needed to close out the grant.

“(2) EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR USE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The period under paragraph (1)(B) shall be extended by not more than 4 years if, before the expiration of such 6-year period, the Secretary waives this requirement and submits a written justification for such waiver to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that specifies the period of such extension.

“(B) INSULAR AREA.—For any amounts made available for assistance under this section to a grantee that is an insular area as specified in section 107(b)(1), the Secretary may extend the waiver period under subparagraph (A) by not more than an additional 4 years, and shall provide additional technical assistance to help increase capacity within the insular area receiving such extension. If the Secretary extends the waiver period pursuant to this subparagraph, the Secretary shall submit a written justification for such extension to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that specifies the period of such extension.

“(p) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

“(1) GRANTEE.—The term ‘grantee’ means a recipient of funds made available under this section after its enactment.

“(2) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR.—The term ‘substantially similar’ means, with respect to a plan, a plan previously approved by the

Department, administered successfully by the grantee, and relating to disasters of the same type.

“(3) OTHER TERMS.—Within one year of enactment of this section, the Department shall issue rules to define the following terms:

“(A) Unmet needs.

“(B) Most impacted and distressed.

“(C) Substantial compliance.

“(D) Full and open competition.

“(E) Cost plus a percentage of cost.

“(F) Percentage of construction cost.

**“SEC. 124. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY RESERVE FUND.**

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States an account to be known as the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund (in this section referred to as the ‘Fund’).

“(b) AMOUNTS.—The Fund shall consist of any amounts appropriated to or deposited into the Fund, including amounts deposited into the Fund pursuant to section 123(o).

“(c) USE.—Amounts in the Fund shall be available, pursuant to the occurrence of a major disaster declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, only for providing technical assistance and capacity building in connection with section 123 for grantees under such section that have been allocated assistance under such section in connection with such disaster to facilitate planning required under such section and increase capacity to administer assistance provided under such section, including for technical assistance and training building and fire officials, builders, contractors and subcontractors, architects, and other design and construction professionals regarding the latest published editions of national consensus-based codes, specifications, and standards (as such term is defined in section 123(e)(7)).”

(b) REGULATIONS.—

(1) PROPOSED RULE.—Not later than the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall issue proposed rules to carry out sections 123 and 124 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as added by the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section, and shall provide a 90-day period for submission of public comments on such proposed rule.

(2) FINAL RULE.—Not later than the expiration of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall issue final regulations to carry out sections 123 and 124 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as added by the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman from Missouri opposed to the bill?

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I am in support of the bill. However, this is the jurisdiction of the Financial Services Committee. I am the vice ranking member, and I am willing to yield time. I think we will be speaking in both opposition and in support of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Accordingly, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER) will control the time in opposition.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 10 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), and I ask unanimous consent that she may control that time.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 25 years, the House has failed to formally codify the vital disaster recovery program called the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery, CDBG-DR, program.

Today, we in this body have it within our power, through this important vote, to at least resolve many of the problems, delays, and inefficiencies for disaster victims. H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act, is a solidly bipartisan solution to the persistent long-term disaster recovery crisis that directly impacts all of our districts.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my cosponsor, Mrs. WAGNER, for her steadfast commitment to making meaningful reforms to the delivery of Federal disaster recovery resources to those who need it the most.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Chairwoman WATERS for her tireless leadership of the Financial Services Committee. It is due to her visionary leadership that our committee has moved so much legislation on a bipartisan basis, including this piece of legislation.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member MCHENRY—the bill came out of the Financial Services Committee unanimously—Leader HOYER, Leader MCCARTHY, and Democratic and Republican staff.

I would like to thank the Office of the Inspector General of Housing and Urban Development; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Dr. Ben Carson; Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair DEFAZIO and Ranking Member SAM GRAVES; Appropriations Chair LOWEY and Ranking Member KAY GRANGER; and, of course, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, who has been a steadfast supporter; Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo; Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis;

and Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

H.R. 3702 codifies, for the first time, the requirements and policy objectives of the CDBG-DR program. In the wake of increasing threats from severe weather events, this is a critical long-term reform for Federal public policy on disaster recovery.

As but one example, Houston had three record-breaking floods in a 3-year period, the last one being Hurricane Harvey. A major component of the Federal response to each of these floods is CDBG-DR, a program administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the past 26 years.

According to findings by HUD's inspector general, this important lifeline to recovery for so many stricken communities needs to be amended, not ended. This bears repeating. HUD believes that this legislation is going to help mend some of the problems, and HUD does not desire to see us end the CDBG-DR program.

The HUD OIG recommended codification of the CDBG-DR program requirements to achieve four essential objectives.

The first, the creation of a permanent framework for future disasters; this bill does that.

Reduction of the existing volume of Federal Register notices; this bill does that.

Standardization of the rules for all grantees; this bill does that.

Timely disbursement and closing of grants; this bill does that as well.

The bill incorporates 21st century mitigation resiliency standards championed by Majority Leader HOYER, whom I thank, Mr. Speaker, for his thoughtful contributions to the legislation and for his commitment to bringing this important measure to the floor today.

Finally, the bill reflects many hours of constructive input from the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure as well as Appropriations.

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

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, November 13, 2019.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,

Chairwoman, Committee on Financial Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN WATERS: I write concerning H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019. There are certain provisions in this legislation that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure ("Committee"). Since a committee report was not filed on this bill this Congress, our sequential referral request will not be adjudicated. However, H.R. 3702 closely resembles H.R. 4557, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2017, introduced in the 115th Congress and for which the Committee did receive a sequential referral.

According to House Rule X(1)(r), the Committee's jurisdiction includes emergency management, specifically "Federal management of emergencies and natural disasters." As part of this jurisdiction, the Committee has authority over the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), and activities relating to the full cycle of emergency management—preparing for, protecting against, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against all hazards—whether natural or man-made. Also falling under the jurisdiction of the Committee are:

"Flood control and improvement of rivers and harbors";

"Construction or maintenance of roads and post roads";

"Public works for the benefit of navigation, including bridges and dams";

"Roads and the safety thereof";

"Transportation, including . . . transportation infrastructure"; and

Economic development programs.

H.R. 3702 authorizes the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program, which was first funded in 1993. The authority for the CDBG-DR program has historically been a construct of appropriations bills. This legislation would formally authorize in statute for the first time a disaster program in HUD to provide assistance for "disaster relief, resiliency, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, mitigation, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas (as such term shall be defined by the Secretary by regulation) resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act." In the past, the CDBG-DR program has only been available for some declared disasters and activated via appropriations bills when disasters have been of such a magnitude that Congress has determined such additional funding may be needed.

The current Federal authorities for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters were established in the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-288) and subsequently updated by the Stafford Act. Prior to the establishment of FEMA in 1979, such programs and activities were scattered throughout the Federal government. When FEMA was moved into the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2002, the authorities and activities of FEMA were dispersed throughout the Department. During these reorganizations, the Committee's jurisdiction flowed with the subject matter of emergency management regardless of where and how such authorities were dispersed. Then, Congress enacted the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (P.L. 109-295) in 2006, restoring FEMA and establishing it as the Federal agency with the primary mission "to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the Nation from all hazards, including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, by leading and supporting the Nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation" (6 U.S.C. 313).

Given that the CDBG-DR program could directly impact FEMA's mission and programs, and potentially conflict with FEMA's delivery of disaster assistance and administration of recovery programs, codifying this major disaster assistance program, regardless of what department or agency it is under, should fall within the Committee's jurisdiction over the "Federal management of emergencies and natural disasters."

There are even more potential conflicts impacting the Committee's jurisdiction given the breadth of the projects and activities CDBG-DR can fund. In addition to CDBG-DR funds being used for disaster relief and long-term recovery, they can also be

used for the restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization. These activities include rebuilding homes, repairing roads and bridges, rebuilding or replacing water and wastewater facilities, repairing public buildings, and economic development. HUD could potentially establish requirements for these activities funded through CDBG-DR that conflict with the requirements and policies the Committee establishes through our water resources and surface transportation bills.

It is critical to ensure that our Federal emergency management programs are coordinated, accountable, and effective, and that oversight of these programs is clear. Without the lead Committee on Federal emergency management—the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—effectively able to carry out oversight of a disaster program, the potential result is conflicting requirements and guidance issued under different disaster programs with little obligation to coordinate with each other. The result could be new hurdles to recipients of Federal assistance and aid at a time when we've seen a significant increase in disasters impacting so many communities across our Nation. Because of this, I also ask your cooperation in working to ensure that future bills related to CDBG-DR are also referred to the Committee.

At this time however, in order to expedite floor consideration of H.R. 3702, the Committee agrees to forgo action on the bill. This is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill would not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. I also request that you urge the Speaker to name members of this Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest on H.R. 3702 into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. I look forward to working with the Committee on Financial Services as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
*Chair.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
Washington, DC, November 18, 2019.

Hon. PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
*Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to acknowledge your letter dated November 13, 2019, concerning H.R. 3702, the "Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019." Noting that H.R. 3702 differs substantially from H.R. 4557, introduced in the 115th Congress, the Committee on Financial Services confirms our mutual understanding that foregoing action on H.R. 3702 does not prejudice any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation, nor does it prejudice your committee from seeking the appointment of conferees on the bill or such legislation.

The Committee on Financial Services further acknowledges your request for appointment of outside conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for any provisions within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction should this bill or similar language be considered in a conference with the Senate.

Pursuant to your request, I will ensure that this exchange of letters is included in

the Committee report to H.R. 3702 and the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation.

Sincerely,

MAXINE WATERS,  
*Chairwoman.*

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

I rise in opposition to H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act.

It gives me no pleasure to be in opposition to it, but, Mr. Speaker, we all come to our conclusions based on the best information we have available to us and our personal experience.

My home State of North Carolina has been victimized by four hurricanes in 4 years, and our State and local officials have seen up close how the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program administered by HUD works. The answer is, not well at all.

Instead of fundamentally reforming the way we fund disaster recovery, this bill essentially takes a broken process and makes it permanent. Simply put, this bill would enshrine into law a regulatory quagmire.

Since 2017, Congress has appropriated roughly \$37 billion to CDBG-DR. Unfortunately, HUD's grant compliance and certification process for this program are so needlessly complicated that States are forced to divert money intended for victims of natural disasters just to navigate the program and interact with HUD.

This is really key: A huge gap between disaster response and long-term disaster recovery is the result.

Long waits between disaster relief and long-term recovery efforts increase the chance that people will not return to their homes or communities or reopen their businesses, the lifeblood of small towns and rural communities.

Under the current framework, the one this bill would codify, disaster victims must make a tough choice. Do they wait forever for HUD to begin disbursing these funds? Do they abandon their homes and businesses? Do they take out a loan they will have to pay back? Or do they begin the rebuilding process on their own, forsaking help from the Federal Government that their neighbors who wait to begin the rebuilding process will eventually get?

Mr. Speaker, victims should not have to make this choice. There should be continuity between the immediate recovery resources that come from FEMA and long-term recovery funds that help rebuild communities.

Delays caused by the current framework—the months-long Federal Register notice process, the onerous grant program requirements, the additional authorities this bill gives the Secretary of HUD to reject grantees' action plans—ensure that there will be a long wait between immediate disaster relief and long-term recovery.

Should we accept this fundamentally broken process as the best? The answer, of course, is we shouldn't. Instead, let's work together to fundamentally fix how we get funds to our com-

munities and families in need. Let's work to ensure taxpayer dollars are going where they are needed most and in a timely manner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in opposing this legislation and working to overhaul our disaster relief efforts in a commonsense way.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act, which I introduced with Congressman AL GREEN.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I want to take a moment to thank Congressman GREEN and the majority leader, Mr. HOYER, and so many others who have been great partners in this endeavor—again, unanimous votes out of the Financial Services Committee in both the 115th and the 116th Congresses. I appreciate their willingness to make sure that disaster relief is being spent on the most vulnerable victims of natural disasters.

When natural disasters strike, the Federal Government plays a critical role in delivering emergency aid. Taxpayer dollars spent on disaster relief must be allocated wisely and efficiently. Every disaster relief dollar diverted to an ineffective or wasteful use is a dollar that is not going to help people in need.

Last Congress, the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations began a bipartisan effort to improve the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program. Today's legislation is a product of that strong bipartisan work.

The Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program helps communities start the recovery process and assists neighborhoods with limited resources in rebuilding critical infrastructure after a catastrophic event.

□ 1630

According to numerous IG reports and a hearing that the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee held in 2018, major issues have been identified with the CDBG-DR program. Slow reimbursement of disaster-related funding, delays in funding for our low- to moderate-income citizens, and the potential duplication of benefits were just some of the identified difficulties.

While FEMA and other government agencies provide immediate resources to victims of disasters, it is HUD that often distributes the most aid through the CDBG disaster recovery program. Although HUD has become a primary provider of disaster assistance since 1993, this program is not codified in statute.

HUD uses more than 60 Federal Register notices to issue clarifying guidance waivers and alternative requirements to oversee at least 113 active disaster recovery program grants, which

total—are you ready for this, Mr. Speaker?—more than \$47 billion of taxpayer money as of last year.

Codifying the CDBG-DR program would provide a framework for future disasters, reduce the overreliance on Federal Register notices for each disaster, and speed delivery of disaster assistance to grantees and disaster victims.

The CDBG-DR program must be codified and reformed to increase oversight and accountability and ensure that disaster relief dollars go directly and expeditiously to those who need them the most. Codification provides proper controls that protect against waste, fraud, and abuse.

In testimony before the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee last Congress, the acting inspector general of HUD noted that \$11.5 billion of CDBG-DR funds appropriated for disasters, going all the way back for almost nearly a decade, remain unspent.

H.R. 3702 sets up a mechanism to recapture future unused CDBG-DR funds, an accountability mechanism that we desperately need to put in reserves for future disasters. We must do a better job recouping this lost money for future disasters. And, most importantly, this will help ensure disaster funds are getting to those who need them most when they need it.

H.R. 3702 also helps to eliminate the duplication of benefits that can occur in the wake of government response to a natural disaster under our current multiagency system. It helps protect taxpayer dollars from being improperly allocated, from waste, fraud, and abuse, as was laid out by the inspector general.

It is about time, Mr. Speaker, that Congress makes this disaster relief program accountable to the people we serve and to American taxpayers in every State.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the honorable majority leader of the House.

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GREEN and Mrs. WAGNER for their efforts in a bipartisan way. I thank the committee for reporting it overwhelmingly—in fact, I think unanimously—out of committee. And I thank Chairwoman WATERS of the Financial Services Committee for her leadership in advancing this important bill.

In 2017, damage from natural disasters, such as Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, cost our country and its territories \$300 billion—in 1 year alone.

We know that these storms are becoming more frequent and more severe, resulting from a change in climate. Sadly, our future will look more and

more like 2017 as the climate crisis worsens. That is why, after visiting Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Florida Keys in the fall of 2017, I helped lead a bipartisan effort to ensure that Federal disaster relief funding is used to help communities rebuild to 21st century standards.

In my view, if we fail to help communities rebuild stronger, they will be just as vulnerable to future disasters as they were before. Not only is that an unwise path to follow, it is a waste of taxpayer dollars. That is why I am glad that this bill includes important provisions for climate resilience, hazard mitigation, and helping communities rebuild to 21st century standards.

I am proud to bring this bill to the floor and hope that it will pass with broad, bipartisan support. This bill authorizes, for the first time, a community development block grant disaster recovery program.

The program has been in use through appropriations since 1993 to help communities affected by natural disasters, but it has never been formally authorized. That means that the Department of Housing and Urban Development must go through extra hurdles before distributing these emergency funds, which can delay assistance getting to the communities that need it.

Mr. GREEN recognizes that, Mrs. WAGNER recognizes that, and, frankly, it is the unanimous view of the committee that this was a step to take. With this legislation, that process will be streamlined, and we can do our part to make the process of rebuilding after a natural disaster faster and better.

I thank the chair and the sponsors of the bill for making commonsense changes to help align it with some of the reforms we have made to the Stafford Act following the 2017 hurricanes.

Importantly, the bill conditions the receipt of CDBG disaster funding on the adoption of the latest building codes and standards for those communities that want to rebuild in hazard zone areas, such as flood zones. That will ensure that homes, schools, hospitals, and other infrastructure are rebuilt stronger and more resilient, making them safer for their occupants and, as I said, protecting taxpayer dollars that aren't being used to rebuild these buildings and infrastructure.

I was pleased that, when we adopted the amendments to the Stafford Act, Mr. MCCARTHY, the then-majority leader, and I were the cosponsors of that legislation. I am pleased that Mr. MCCARTHY and I have worked together to try to make this program stronger and better.

I have talked to my friend GARRET GRAVES, who knows a lot about this stuff, and he has a bill himself. I am going to look carefully at that bill and try to work with him to make sure that we do, in fact, do what I think everybody on this floor wants: make these programs work, not only for those who are damaged, not only for the communities that are ravaged by

natural disasters, but also for the taxpayers.

None of us want to defend programs that don't work, don't work quickly, aren't paid on time or correctly. Nobody wants to defend that. But we have worked closely—when I say “we,” my office has worked closely with the homebuilders to make sure that the homebuilders thought this was a program that they could work with. They do.

So I urge my colleagues, in a bipartisan fashion, let us not once again snatch partisanship from bipartisanism moving progress. So often we do that. It is a shame, particularly when a bill is reported out of committee unanimously.

Is this perfect? It may not be perfect. I don't know whether GARRET GRAVES' bill is perfect. I know he knows a lot about the subject, and I am working to talk to him.

But let's pass this bill, not necessarily in lieu of other pieces of legislation that can improve this process, but pass this bill as a step towards progress, a step towards a more rational policy, and a step towards making sure that we apply our moneys in a rational, effective way for our citizens, for our communities, and for our country.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Texas, the gentlewoman from Missouri, and everybody working on this.

We have had one of the most intense periods of disasters in American history in recent years: Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, Michael, and Florence pounding Texas, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. We have seen impacts in South Carolina and Georgia, as well.

But there is not another State that has been as disaster-impacted as south Louisiana, there is not another State: Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike, Isaac. We have had record-high water in the Mississippi River 2011, 2016, 2018, and, this year, 2019. There is not a more impacted State, which means there is not a more experienced State in terms of dealing with disasters.

Number one, Mr. Speaker, the committee in this Congress that has jurisdiction over disasters is the Transportation Committee, and the Transportation Committee had no consideration of this bill whatsoever—none.

We made some major reforms just last year in the Disaster Recovery Reform Act that made major changes in how we handle disasters.

You see people out there advocating this legislation who do not represent disaster victims, and I don't mean that in a mean way. I am just telling you that the folks who have actually dealt with disasters understand this is flawed, and let me explain why.

In the immediate aftermath of disasters, what happens is the only funds that are available are FEMA funds. You have FEMA funds that are available for disaster response and direct assistance to individuals.

So you may be able to get some immediate money, you may be able to get some immediate housing assistance, hotels, or other things, just an immediate small downpayment, then you get a loan from the SBA, a second agency we are bringing into it.

Maybe then you pursue your FEMA claim through flood insurance with a different division of FEMA. And, at some point in the future, you may get these funds, maybe—maybe—appropriated by Congress, and this is for the long-term recovery.

Now, let me give you the timeline under this bill.

They have 60 days to actually allocate the funds, whatever that means. The funds that Congress appropriated is based upon an allocation.

You have 90 days to file a plan. You have another 60 days, I believe it is, for consideration of the plan after it is submitted, for plan approval, and then another 60 days for the grants.

And then you still have the certification of the State's program. You still have the actual hiring of a contractor. You have accepting applications, approving applications, and actually giving the grants.

Mr. Speaker, you are talking about a year after a disaster, at least, under this bill.

Further, in my home State of Louisiana, where we have received \$1.7 billion from a 1,000-year storm in 2017, we ended up having to give a contractor \$350 million to hand out \$1.2 billion. That is, roughly, a 22 percent administrative cost, money that should be going to disaster victims. This doesn't make sense. It just doesn't make sense.

One of the reasons I am so frustrated is because we had a bipartisan agreement with leadership that this bill was going to move in tandem with another bill, voted out of the Transportation Committee unanimously in March.

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. It passed out of the Transportation Committee—I will say it again, the committee with disaster experience, with disaster jurisdiction—passed out of that committee unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of the day, what we all need to be focused on is the disaster victims. That is what we need to be doing. We need to be focused on the disaster victims and focused on getting assistance to them, not victimizing the disaster victims through our own government inefficiency—and I am concerned that that is exactly what this bill does.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, let me give you a statistic to prove my point.

We had a hearing a few months ago where we had the Economic Develop-

ment Administration, through the Department of Commerce, come testify. They told us in the meeting that, within 1 year, the disaster funds that were given to them for disaster recovery activities, within 1 year, 79 percent of the money was out the door.

Comparatively—to look at how HUD has handled this program, and this bill does nothing to fix it—comparatively, HUD has only given out 79 percent of the program after 6 years for 50 percent of the grants that were issued. They still have money sitting around for Hurricane Sandy.

This is not helping disaster victims. I urge opposition.

□ 1645

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the chair of the Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3702, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019. I want to thank the bill's bipartisan sponsors: Mr. GREEN, and Mrs. WAGNER, and also Chairwoman WATERS, and Ranking Member MCHENRY for their leadership.

I approach this as a Representative of a disaster-prone State. Citizens in my State of North Carolina have a special reason to appreciate this bill. We have been hit hard by national disasters. Hurricanes Matthew and Florence made landfall in 2016 and 2018, just 2 years apart.

The storms upended lives, destroyed homes and businesses, and caused billions of dollars in damages. Many communities in my State are still recovering more than 3 years after these storms.

As the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, I have worked with colleagues in our delegation, and colleagues from other impacted States and territories, to secure tens of billions of dollars for HUD's CDBG-DR program. We have worked on this for years. We know the need for this legislation.

These flexible funds help facilitate long-term recovery. They can be used to repair and rebuild housing, to improve infrastructure, and to revitalize local economies. Unfortunately, Congress has never formally authorized this program but this bill fixes that.

The absence of an authorization has contributed to lengthy delays and a complicated patchwork of requirements laid out in numerous Federal Register notices that grantees must follow anew every time we have a disaster.

This legislation is overdue. It makes essential reforms to this program. Specifically, it eliminates the need to

issue those Federal Register notices and creates clear statutory deadlines to get the funding out the door as expeditiously as possible.

It ensures that assistance goes to low- and moderate-income people who need it the most. It boosts transparency and public input, and it requires HUD and grantees to collect and use data to improve program outcomes.

I am especially pleased that the legislation will formally incorporate "mitigation" funding that we have included in appropriations bills after recent disasters. Mitigation dollars will allow communities to strengthen resiliency and protect against future hazards, which has long been a priority of mine and North Carolina's Governor Roy Cooper.

Again, I want to thank my colleagues for their leadership and for working collaboratively and cooperatively with the Appropriations Committee to advance this bipartisan legislation.

I urge all Members to support the bill.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 5½ minutes remaining.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), one of our senior members of the Financial Services Committee who is also the ranking member on the Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. WAGNER and my friend Mr. GREEN from Texas for their work on this legislation. We don't do perfect in the House of Representatives. We do the best that we can in the House of Representatives.

We have worked on both sides of the aisle for years to craft something that has needed to be dealt with for well over two decades, which is to authorize the CDBG program for disasters in the right way. I congratulate Mr. GREEN and Mrs. WAGNER for their work.

As a volunteer after Katrina working in the very poor community of Lacombe, Louisiana, rebuilding houses, I saw firsthand the good and bad of Federal assistance as it relates to post-hurricane recovery and mitigation. And I fully understand why this legislation is so badly needed.

In 2013, the inspector general found that \$700 million in CDBG disaster money following Hurricane Katrina had gone missing and was unaccounted for. In March of this year, the GAO issued a report entitled, "Better Monitoring of Block Grant Funds Is Needed."

That is why we are here today, Mr. Speaker, and that is the leadership that we have gotten from Mrs. WAGNER and Mr. GREEN, to bring accountability to an incredibly important program

that helps people in need after our worst moments in American history.

I thank the gentlewoman for her work, and I urge a “yes” vote.

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina has 3 minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the arguments. I have listened to my good friend, Mr. PRICE from North Carolina. Obviously, he and I share the same home State. And I think you just have to say that we all want the same thing. We just have a different idea of how to get there.

Personally, when I look at the fact that Hurricane Matthew occurred in 2016, Congress appropriated billions of dollars, and only a fraction of that here in 2019—almost 2020, by the way—only a fraction of that has gotten back to the victims. That is totally unacceptable.

We have Hurricane Florence which hit in 2018. Congress immediately passed a disaster supplemental bill that, again, includes billions for CDBG-DR. Have we seen anything? Not one bit. Not one dollar.

So why do we want to codify something that has been such an adamant, complete total failure? It is kind of like taking a clunker and repainting it and saying: Hey, here is the new car. It is going to work even better than ever.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that we scrap this vehicle and go a different route. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, may I make an inquiry? Is the gentleman ready to close? I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, point of inquiry, please, how much time does the gentleman from North Carolina have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina has 1½ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, let me just say, at the end of the day, what we need to be doing is we need to be looking at this through the eyes of the disaster victims. We need to be looking at this through their eyes.

Having a bill that codifies under law, locks in that you are talking about 270 days, not from the aftermath of a disaster, but 270 days from when the funds are actually appropriated by the Congress, which could be a year later. It could be 2 years later. That doesn't make sense.

There is no connectivity between a FEMA hotel program or mobile home program and getting money in the

bank to actually help disaster victims. The bill says that the funds have to be spent in 6 years.

Mr. Speaker, how about if we subject Members of Congress to being homeless for 6 years? How about if we make them be homeless for 270 days? How about we make them homeless for 27 hours or 270 minutes. I don't care. This doesn't make sense. It is an inefficient use of taxpayer dollars. The program has proven to be inefficient.

The agency has proven that they cannot administer this, and it just doesn't make sense. We need to continue to look at this through the eyes of the disaster victims. Look at the Government Accountability Office report that found all sorts of flaws in here, and let's actually fix the real problems. I urge opposition to this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from North Carolina has expired.

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

Those who oppose this bill, the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act, they oppose it because HUD involvement has been involved in disaster recovery. Their opposition is so strong that they would allow waste, fraud, and abuse to continue to overrun the program instead of codifying and reforming it.

Their opposition is purely philosophical, Mr. Speaker. It is not practical. HUD has been charged with administering this program since 1993 under Democrat and Republican Presidents, under Democrat and Republican Speakers. No matter the composition of the House or the Senate, this program has continued.

I have seen no national movement to end this program and bring the gentleman's theoretical vision into being. Meanwhile, the program continues to generate waste, fraud, and abuse. The gentleman would justify this waste and abuse because they believe some day they will successfully convince both Chambers in Congress and the President to pass legislation that would make FEMA the sole distributor of disaster funds.

The gentlemen have articulated no feasible path toward ending the program. The gentlemen have no interest in reforming or fixing the program, and they have no jurisdiction, Mr. Speaker.

During the 115th Congress I served as the chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the Financial Services Committee. I worked with committee Chairman Jeb Hensarling, a conservative through and through, to draft this legislation with my good friend and colleague, Mr. GREEN, and address the flaws in this program.

We must pass this bill in order to end the waste and abuse, and to ensure that funding goes quickly to those who need it, and to recapture the unused funds responsibly. I am dismayed that my colleagues in opposition will continue to waste taxpayer dollars simply because they have an interagency disagreement that falls outside of their jurisdiction.

This legislation places greater accountability and controls on taxpayer money spent after disaster through codification, a clawback provision, duplication of benefit reforms, minimum procurement standards for States, and other very important provisions.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, is effective and responsive policy, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this piece of legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, for 26 years we have had the circumstances that we are trying to correct with this bill. This bill is not perfect, but for 26 years, it has been an opportunity for those who desire to do otherwise to bring the cause before the Congress of the United States of America.

It is ironic that this cause would be brought to the Congress at the time we are about to pass significant legislation that the Governor of North Carolina agrees with.

I have a letter that is signed by many Governors, one of whom is the Governor of North Carolina. I won't read it in its entirety, but I do think one line is salient and important. It reads: “We”—all of these Governors—“ask that Congress pass it as quickly as possible.” Pass it as quickly as possible.

They are talking about this bill, the Governor of North Carolina.

I would also add, Mr. Speaker, that FEMA has indicated on the record that it does not desire to have this bill under the jurisdiction of FEMA.

In fact, I have a statement from the associate administrator for response and recovery, Mr. Jeff Byard, and it reads: “I would love to work with the committee about expanding our authorities . . .” he is talking about the Financial Services Committee. “. . . to do a different means of housing, but not to take on other agencies' responsibilities or grants.” He is talking about our agency, HUD. They, meaning FEMA, do not want to take on the responsibilities that HUD has already within its wheelhouse, as they say.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would also add this: The Committee on Financial Services is familiar with these kinds of concerns associated with disaster relief. We have the Community Development Block Grant program under our jurisdiction. We have the National Flood Insurance Program under our jurisdiction.

□ 1700

And as a Member, I would tell you that I was born in Louisiana. I know what New Orleans is like. I was there after Katrina. I saw what happened, and I also saw thousands of people come to my district in Houston, Texas,

where they were welcomed. They were welcomed, and many of them are still in my district in Houston, Texas.

This is not to say that my colleagues have done anything wrong. I am merely indicating that I have some understanding about what is happening in Louisiana. But I also know what is happening in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, in Texas, within a 3-year period, we had billion-dollar floods each year. We had Hurricane Harvey, the last, and Hurricane Harvey took lives and inundated our city. It was like something we have not seen before and, arguably, the country has not seen before, but we suffered through it. And we want to make it easier for those persons who were victimized, such as the ones who were victimized with Harvey, to have a better means by which they can acquire long-term relief.

FEMA deals with immediate relief, emergency relief. HUD is dealing with long-term relief. We are dealing with mitigation. Mitigation can take years to accomplish because some of the structures that have to be rebuilt can be rebuilt in no short order. It takes time. It takes plans. You have to involve various agencies to rebuild these structures. We are talking about long-term relief. That is what this bill provides.

This bill also is about the business of making sure—and I must commend Mr. HOYER for this—that that mitigation relief that the Governors that I spoke of wanted is contained in the bill. The Governors called to our attention the need for mitigation relief, as did the builders. And Mr. HOYER, working with the builders, crafted the mitigation language that is going to make a difference in the future.

It is not a perfect bill. We will not have a perfect bill in this House—unless everybody agrees with me, and that is not likely to happen. It is a good bill and all of my friends on the other side are good people, every one of them. I have an inordinate amount of respect for them, and I support their efforts to do more in the area with FEMA, but I do not support efforts to remove this program from HUD.

HUD has had it for 26 years—hasn't been perfect—but we are trying to perfect some of the issues associated with mitigation, some of the issues associated with disaster relief. And we are doing a fairly good job with this bill—not a perfect bill, but it is a good bill.

And I would hope that my colleagues—understanding that over the last 26 years, we haven't had a FEMA bill brought to the floor and passed, and we now have the opportunity to pass this HUD bill, my hope is that we will get it passed. My belief is this is the right bill for the right time. It not only makes sense, it makes dollars and cents. It will save money and it will save some lives.

Mr. Speaker, I would just mention a few more entities, if I may, with reference to endorsement: the National

Housing Resource Center; the National Fair Housing Alliance; the National Low Income Housing Coalition; Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition; and, of course, we have the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Housing Task Force. Also, Disaster Law Project; Enterprise Community Partners; Fair Share Housing Center; and we have the Hispanic Federation. Also, Local Initiatives Support Coalition; National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities; National Coalition for Healthy Housing; National Community Development Association; National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty; Paralyzed Veterans of America; and Texas Low Income Housing Information Service. And many more.

Mr. Speaker, as I bring this to closure, I include in the RECORD a letter from the Governors as it relates to this legislation.

OCTOBER 9, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*  
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
*Majority Leader,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*  
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
*Minority Leader,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*  
Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,  
*Minority Leader,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY, MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, AND MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER: Our states are full of determined, tough people. For generations, our families have weathered brutal hurricanes, killer tornadoes, sustained flooding, and devastating forest fires. But recent history tells us there's a new normal when it comes to these natural disasters and if we don't rise to the challenge, they will get the best of us.

As these natural disasters continue to increase in frequency and devastation, we appreciate relief and recovery assistance from the federal government. However, there are critical reforms needed to ensure long-term disaster recovery programs function more efficiently.

Right now, long-term federal disaster recovery assistance, in the form of Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding controlled by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), gets passed by Congress and announced with great fanfare, but affected states are left to wait months—sometimes years—before HUD publishes the Federal Register. A Federal Register is only the first required step in a lengthy and bureaucratic approval process setting out how that money can be put into action.

CDBG-DR funds are routinely appropriated after natural disasters, but the program is unauthorized, meaning states must wait for new Federal Register guidelines after each round of funding is announced. There are currently over 60 Federal Register Notices on record for CDBG-DR, with grantees facing variable, overlapping and even contradictory details.

Many of us have met with the President, administration officials, and our Congressional representatives to push for changes. We need Congress to require HUD to publish program requirements in the Federal Register within a much shorter timeframe. Better yet, Congress could get the money to the people who need it even faster by formally authorizing the CDBG-DR program so that

Federal Register instructions can be significantly standardized and expedited. Bipartisan legislation to do this has been introduced in both the House and the Senate, with a clear intent to balance speed-to-need and accountability for public resources. We ask that Congress pass it as quickly as possible.

Another critical reform would create a universal application for disaster survivors that would be shared among FEMA, HUD and the Small Business Administration so people busy with recovery only need to fill out one application. Combining this with seamless interagency data sharing would enable significantly better communication and coordination, as well as faster disbursement of funds and improved oversight and accountability.

We must all keep fighting for survivors recovering from these disasters, working to rebuild their lives and protect themselves from the next catastrophe. We owe it to them to deliver on our mission for stronger, smarter, more resilient communities.

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER,  
*State of North Carolina.*  
GOVERNOR JB PRITZKER,  
*State of Illinois.*  
GOVERNOR MIKE PARSON,  
*State of Missouri.*  
GOVERNOR TONY EVERS,  
*State of Wisconsin.*  
GOVERNOR KAY IVEY,  
*State of Alabama.*  
GOVERNOR ERIC HOLCOMB,  
*State of Indiana.*  
GOVERNOR RALPH  
NORTHAM,  
*State of Virginia.*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, with this said, I thank my colleagues again. I consider them all honorable people, and I beg that my colleagues would support this legislation that is 26 years in the making. If it fails, I know not when we will stand in this position again.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am providing this statement to explain the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019 (H.R. 3702), as ordered reported to the House of Representatives by the Committee on Financial Services, along with additional amendments made since committee consideration:

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is the federal government's largest and most widely available source of financial assistance for state and local government-directed neighborhood revitalization, housing rehabilitation, and economic development activities. One of the national objectives of the CDBG program allows communities and states to use program funds to address serious and immediate public health and safety threats. Accordingly, Congress has used the CDBG program's framework to provide additional assistance (CDBG-DR) for state and local recovery activities in the wake of presidentially-declared disasters. In response to a disaster, Congress must pass each supplemental CDBG-DR appropriation on a case-by-case basis. To date, Congress has appropriated \$87 billion in CDBG-DR assistance.

CDBG-DR grants are generally governed by the underlying Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, (42 U.S. 5301 et. seq) ("CDBG statute") and rules and the relevant supplemental appropriation act. A supplemental appropriation act providing disaster

assistance typically identifies the amount appropriated, the period covered, the eligible uses of funds (to the extent that they are different from the underlying CDBG statute and rules), and the certifications required for assistance. For each supplemental appropriation, HUD publishes a corresponding Federal Register notice establishing the allocation of funds to eligible grantees and describing the rules, statutes, waivers, and alternative requirements that apply to allocations under the notice.

In July 2018, the HUD Office of Inspector General (HUD OIG) found that HUD's use of multiple Federal Register notices to administer CDBG-DR assistance created challenges for grantees. Specifically, HUD OIG found, among other challenges, that grantees had to navigate confusing and sometimes duplicative requirements contained in multiple notices. HUD OIG recommended that HUD codify the CD BG-DR program to: (1) establish a permanent framework for future disasters; (2) reduce the existing volume of Federal Register notices; (3) provide a standardized set of rules for all grantees; and (4) ensure that grants are closed in a timely manner. Further, the GAO has found that historically, disaster relief has been inequitably distributed among people of different races and ethnicities, economic classes, and homeownership status. As a result, some of the largest HUD fair housing settlements have come after major disasters, as states and localities receiving disaster recovery grants often did not serve affected families equitably.

H.R. 3702 adopts the HUD OIG recommendations by permanently authorizing the CDBG-DR program, as well as addressing concerns that have been raised about the administration of the program. Among other requirements, the bill would mandate that: (1) HUD allocate CDBG-DR funds within 60 days of a Congressional appropriation; (2) HUD coordinate with FEMA, and the Small Business Administration (SBA) to better improve data sharing; and (3) any CDBG-DR funded new construction, repair, or rehabilitation utilize minimum federal standards for flood risk mitigation and storm water protection as well as utilizing the latest national consensus-based building codes and standards for construction in hazard-prone areas. Additionally, H.R. 3702 would allow cities and counties with well-developed disaster relief resources to become precertified to receive funding more quickly and establish a reserve fund to be used to provide technical assistance and capacity building to help communities develop their action plans. The bill would also require HUD develop best practices that communities can use for disaster recovery.

The act includes two sections:

Section 1 states that the title of the bill is the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019.

Section 2 is entitled the "Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program." This section amends Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) by adding a new sections 123 and 124 to permanently authorize the CDBG-DR program and establish a CDBG-DR reserve fund.

The new section 123 is entitled "CD BG-Disaster Recovery Assistance." Subsection (a) of the new section 123 authorizes the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) assistances to States, including Puerto Rico, units of general local government, and Indian tribes for necessary expenses for authorized activities related to disaster relief, resiliency, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing mitigation, and economic revitalization in the most im-

pacted and distressed areas affected by Presidentially-declared disasters.

Subsection (b) of the new section 123 provides that when allocating funding, the Secretary of HUD is required to include an additional amount of funding for mitigation that is not less than 45 percent of the amount allocated to a grantee for unmet needs. The Secretary of HUD must allocate funds to grantees within 60 days of the date of enactment of an Act making funds available for disaster assistance. The deadline for allocation of CD BG-DR funds shall not apply if the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has not made sufficient information available to the Secretary of HUD regarding relevant unmet recovery needs to make allocations in accordance with the deadline. The Secretary of HUD must notify Congress of progress on or delay in receiving the necessary information within 60 days following the declaration of a major disaster and monthly thereafter until all necessary information is received. The Secretary of HUD is required to disburse funding allocated to a grantee, but only if the grantee is in substantial compliance with the requirements of this section.

The new subsection (b) also requires the Secretary of HUD to coordinate with other agencies, including FEMA, and the SBA, to obtain data on recovery needs when necessary regarding disaster benefits, and share with FEMA and make publicly available, all data collected, possessed, or analyzed during the course of a disaster recovery for which assistance was provided.

This new subsection (b) also requires that funds made available must be used in accordance with section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended by section 1210 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (Division D, Public Law 115-254), and such rules as may be prescribed. Households having the lowest incomes must be prioritized for assistance under this section until all unmet needs are satisfied for families having an income of up to 120 percent of the median for the area. In any case in which a CDBG-DR grantee provides assistance that duplicates benefits, the new subsection (b) requires that the grantees bear responsibility for absorbing such cost of any duplicative assistance and return that amount to the grantee's account or be subject to remedies for non-compliance under Section 111 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary of HUD shall protect personally identifiable information.

Subsection (c) of the new section 123 provides that no later than 90 days after the allocation of funds, the grantee must submit a plan to the Secretary of HUD for approval detailing the proposed use of all funds, which shall include how the funds will be used to address disaster relief, identification of officials administering the disaster funds, an agreement to share data with Federal agencies, and a plan for ensuring compliance with the Fair Housing Act. The new subsection (c) also requires the Secretary of HUD to specify criteria for approval of a grantee's disaster assistance plan, including approval of substantial amendments to the plan. The Secretary of HUD shall disapprove a plan if (1) the Secretary determines that the plan does not meet the approval criteria, (2) the Secretary determines that the plan does not provide equitable allocation of resources between infrastructure and housing projects or between homeowners, rents and persons experiencing homelessness, (3) the Secretary determines that the plan does not provide a credible plan for ensuring compliance with the Fair Housing Act, (4) the Secretary determines that the plan does not prioritize

the one-for-one replacement of damaged federally subsidized affordable housing, or (5) the Secretary determines the plan does not provide applicants for assistance notice by the grantee of the applicant's right to appeal any adverse action or inaction.

In developing the action plan, the new subsection (c) provides that grantees, at a minimum, must (1) consult with affected stakeholders, including residents, local governments, and public housing authorities, to assess needs, (2) publish the plan, including online for at least 14 days, (3) ensure equal access to individuals with disabilities or with limited English proficiency, and (4) publish the plan in a way that allows stakeholders a reasonable opportunity to review and provide feedback on the plan. In the event of a disapproved plan, the Secretary of HUD shall permit a grantee to revise and resubmit its plan. The Secretary of HUD shall approve or disapprove a plan within 60 days of the plan being submitted. If a plan is disapproved, within 15 days after the disapproval, the Secretary shall inform the applicant of the reasons for disapproval and the actions the applicant could take to meet the criteria for approval. Applicants have 45 days following the date of the disapproval to submit amendments or resubmit the action plan to the Secretary of HUD. The Secretary of HUD has 30 days to approve or disapprove the plan amendment or resubmission. The Secretary of HUD shall ensure that all grant agreements are executed within 60 days of approval of the grantee's plan.

Subsection (d) of the new section 123 requires the Secretary of HUD to develop and maintain a system to ensure that each grantee has an approved process for financial controls and procurement, and adequate procedures to ensure all eligible families and individuals are approved for and provided assistance, as well as to prevent duplication of benefits and detect waste, fraud and abuse, and to maintain publicly accessible websites that make available information regarding all disaster recovery activities. The Secretary must provide, by regulation or guideline, a method for qualitatively and quantitatively evaluating compliance. As a condition of making any grant, the Secretary of HUD shall certify in advance that the grantee has the proper financial processes and procedures in place.

Subsection (e)(I) of the new section 123 provides that a grantee may not use less than seven percent but no more than 10 percent of its grant funds for administrative fees. The Secretary of HUD may establish a series of percentage limitations on a grantee's administrative fees, but only if such limitations are based on the amount of grant funds received, such series limitation is lower for grantees receiving a greater amount of grant funds and higher for grantees receiving a lesser amount of grant funds, and in no case may a grantee use more than 10 percent of grant funds for administrative fees. Subsection (e)(2) provides that amounts under this section may not be used for activities reimbursable by FEMA or the Army Corps of Engineers.

The new subsection (e)(3) also provides that the Secretary of HUD may use one percent of CD BG-DR appropriated amounts exceeding \$1 billion for administrative costs, of which, under new subsection (e)(4), 15 percent of that amount shall be transferred to the HUD IG for audits, reviews, oversight, evaluation, and investigations relating to amounts made available for use under this section. The new subsection (e)(5) authorizes the lesser of 0.1 percent or \$15 million for capacity building and technical assistance.

This new subsection (e)(6) provides that each grantee shall use not less than 15 percent of funds for comprehensive mitigation

planning, except that the Secretary may establish a lower percentage for grantees receiving a grant exceeding \$1 billion. Under the new subsection (e), each grantee must ensure that comprehensive mitigation plans are coordinated and aligned with existing comprehensive, land use, transportation, and economic development plans, and specifically analyze multiple types of hazard exposures and risks. Each grantee must also coordinate and align mitigation planning with other mitigation projects funded by FEMA, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, and other relevant agencies. Mitigation planning funds can be used to purchase data and development or updating of risk mapping for all relevant hazards. The new subsection (e)(6) also directs Grantees to prioritize the expenditure of mitigation dollars for programs and projects primarily benefiting low- and moderate-income households with the greatest risk of harm from natural disasters.

The new subsection (e)(7) provides that after consultation with the FEMA Administrator, the Secretary of HUD shall make no CDBG-DR funds available for the construction, reconstruction, or installation of any infrastructure or residential, commercial or public buildings in hazard-prone areas that does not, at a minimum, comply with the latest published editions of relevant national consensus-based codes, and specifications and standards referenced therein, except that the new subsection (e) provides that nothing that in the new section 123 prohibits grantees from requiring higher standards. The new subsection (e) provides that compliance with this section may be certified by a registered design professional.

The new subsection (e)(7) also provides a number of definitions of key terms used. "Hazard-prone areas" are defined as areas identified by the Secretary of HUD, in consultation with the FEMA Administrator, at risk from natural hazards that threaten property damage or health, safety, and welfare, such as floods, wildfires, earthquakes, tornados and high winds. The Secretary may consider future risks and the likelihood such risks may pose to protecting property, and health, safety, and general welfare when determining or modifying a hazard-prone area. "Latest published editions" is defined, with respect to national consensus-based codes, and specifications and standards referenced therein, the two most recent published editions, including amendments that were adopted by State, local, tribal, or territorial governments to incorporate the latest hazard-resistant designs and establish criteria for the design, construction, and maintenance of structures for the purpose of protecting the health, safety and general welfare of people against disasters.

The new subsection (e)(8) provides that the Secretary of HUD shall require that any structure that is located in a special flood hazard area, and that is newly constructed or substantially improved using CDBG-DR funds must be elevated with the lowest floor, including the basement, at least two feet above the base flood level, except that critical facilities, including hospitals, nursing homes, and other public facilities providing social and economic lifelines (as defined by the Secretary of HUD), must be elevated 3 feet above the base flood level or higher if required by the previous section. The new subsection (e)(8) also provides that for existing structures consisting of multi-family housing and row houses, the Secretary of HUD shall consult with the FEMA Administrator and provide for alternative forms of mitigation (apart from elevation) and shall exempt flood level requirements for those structures that meet the standards of the alternative form of mitigation.

Subsection (f) of the new section 123 provides that in administering any CDBG-DR funds, the Secretary of HUD may not allow a grantee to use its funds outside the scope of its original application, may not permit a grantee to amend a plan to retroactively approve a beneficiary's use of funds other than for approved activities, and shall prohibit a grantee from delegating the responsibility for inherent government functions.

Subsection (g) of the new section 123 provides that the Secretary shall require each grantee to provide ongoing training to its staff and sub-grantees regarding grant management.

Subsection (h) of the new section 123 provides that in procuring property or services paid for with CDBG-DR funds, a grantee shall follow its own procurement processes and procedures or must comply with such processes or procedures established through regulation by the Secretary of HUD. A grantee's processes and procedures must (1) provide for a full and open competition and require cost or price analysis, (2) include requirements for sub-grantees, (3) specify methods of procurement and their applicability, (4) include standards of conduct for employees, and (5) ensure that all purchase orders and contracts include any clause required by Federal Statute, Executive Order, or implementing regulation. The new subsection (h) provides that if the Secretary of HUD finds that a grantee's procurement processes and procedures do not comply with this section, the Secretary shall provide the grantee with specific written notice of the elements of noncompliance, provide the grantee a reasonable period of time to come into compliance, and allow the grantee to proceed with procuring property and services only if the Secretary determines the grantee is making a good faith effort to effectuate compliance with this section.

Subsection (i) of the new section 123 provides that funding made available under this section shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster CDBG formula allocations. Except for those statutes that relate to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards and the environment, subsection (j) of the new section 123 authorizes the Secretary of HUD to waive or specify alternative requirements for any statute or regulation when the Secretary makes a public finding that there is good cause that the waiver or the alternative requirement would be consistent with the overall goal of CDBG-DR. The new subsection (j) provides that any waiver shall not take effect before the expiration of the five-day period beginning upon the publication of notice in the Federal Register of such waiver, and that the Secretary of HUD shall not reduce the percentage of CDBG-DR funds that must be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income to less than 70 percent, unless the Secretary specifies that there is compelling need and that funds are not necessary to address the housing needs of low- and moderate-income residents.

Subsection (k) of the new section 123 provides that grantees may adopt, without review or public comment, any environment review approved by a Federal agency.

Subsection (l) of the new subsection 123 provides that for each major disaster for which CDBG-DR assistance is made available under this section, the Secretary of HUD shall collect information regarding all recovery efforts and shall make the information available to the public, while ensuring personally identifiable information is not made publicly available. Under this subsection, the Secretary of HUD may make full and unredacted information available to academic and research institutions to study the equitable distribution of recovery funds, ad-

herence to civil right protections, and other areas.

Subsection (m) of the new subsection 123 provides that the Secretary of HUD shall direct the Office of Community Planning and Development to collaborate with the Office of Policy Development and Research to identify best practices for grantees on issues related to disaster recovery to be published by the Secretary of HUD as a compilation. After disseminating the compilation, the Secretary of HUD must issue regulations that establishes requirements grantees must follow when using best practices to qualify for expedited review and approval. The guidance must establish standard language grantees can include in their action plans and standardized programs and activities based on best practices.

Subsection (n) of the new section 123 requires the Secretary of HUD to establish a program under this subsection to pre-certify eligible grantees for assistance. To be eligible for precertification, a locality shall demonstrate compliance with the requirement of this section and shall have previously received CDBG-DR assistance in connection with two or more Presidentially-declared disasters. The pre-certification shall be effective for a term of 10 years.

Subsection (o) of the new section 123 requires the Secretary of HUD to recapture any unused CDBG-DR funds if the grantee notifies the Secretary that it has completed all activities provided under the grant or the grantee has not spent all or part of the appropriated funds within 6 years. Under the new subsection (o) the Secretary of HUD may, subject to authority provided in advance by appropriations Act, transfer unused funds to the Secretary of the Treasury for deposit into the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund established under section 124, except that the Secretary of HUD may permit the grantee to retain amounts needed to close out the grant. Under the new subsection (o), the Secretary of HUD is required to extend the time period by not more than four years if the Secretary of HUD waives the six-year time requirement and submits a written justification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. Under the new subsection (o), after the initial extension period, the Secretary may provide an additional extension of no more than four years to insular areas and shall provide additional technical assistance to help increase capacity within the insular area receiving the extension and submit a written justification for the extension to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Subsection (p) of the new section 123 provides a number of definitions applicable to the new section.

New section 124 is entitled "Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund." This section establishes the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Reserve Fund, which shall consist of amounts appropriated to the Reserve Fund or recaptured funds as specified under this section. Funds shall be available only for providing technical assistance and capacity building for grantees to facilitate disaster recovery planning and increase capacity to administer assistance.

New section 124 also provides that the Secretary of HUD shall issue proposed rules to carry out sections 123 and 124 within six months of H.R. 3702 being enacted, and issue final regulations within 12 months of H.R. 3702 being enacted.

H.R. 3702 is an important step in putting forward a framework for HUD to address disasters that affect communities across the United States. I commend Representative Green and Representative Wagner for their

dedicated efforts to bring this bill before the House, and I urge all members to support this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3702, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROUZER. 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.

#### TRIBAL ACCESS TO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4029) to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to enable Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities to apply for, receive, and administer grants and subgrants under the Continuum of Care Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4029

*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 "Tribal Access to Homeless Assistance Act".

#### SEC. 2. PARTICIPATION OF INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITIES IN CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 401 (42 U.S.C. 11360)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (10) through (33) as paragraphs (12) through (35), respectively;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

“(8) FORMULA AREA.—The term ‘formula area’ has the meaning given the term in section 1000.302 of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.”;

(D) in paragraph (9), as so redesignated, by inserting “a formula area,” after “non-entitlement area.”; and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (10), as so redesignated, the following:

“(11) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given the term ‘Indian tribe’ in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).”;

(2) in subtitle C (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.), by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 435. PARTICIPATION OF INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITIES.

“Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, for purposes of this subtitle, an Indian Tribe or tribally designated housing entity (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103)) may—

“(1) be a collaborative applicant or eligible entity; or

“(2) receive grant amounts from another entity that receives a grant directly from the Secretary, and use the amounts in accordance with this subtitle.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 101(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Public Law 100-77; 101 Stat. 482) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 434 the following:

“Sec. 435. Participation of Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4029, the Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019, which makes Tribes and tribally designated housing entities eligible to receive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant funding.

Mr. Speaker, Native Americans and Alaska Natives face some of the worst housing and living conditions in the United States. They face high poverty rates, unemployment, overcrowding. Standard housing conditions are not something that they enjoy; in fact, they enjoy substandard conditions. And they have unique issues for developing housing.

As a result, Native Americans tend to be overrepresented among the homeless population. Despite the prevalence of homeless in Native communities, Tribes and tribally designated housing entities are not currently eligible to compete for HUD McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care grants.

Current housing assistance for Native communities fall substantially short of meeting their affordable housing needs, and this bill would direct more housing resources to address homelessness on Tribal lands. I am proud to see that Members have worked together to put forth a bipartisan bill to better address homelessness among Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK) for introducing this important legislation that is aimed to help address Tribal homelessness. I urge all Members to vote “yes” on this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4029, the Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019.

According to a study from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, homelessness on Tribal lands often looks different from many other areas of the country. Tribal homelessness often results in overcrowding in housing that is already in short supply and rapidly aging and deteriorating.

Sadly, 16 percent of households in Tribal areas are overcrowded compared to just 2 percent nationally. These overcrowded conditions hide the problem of homelessness throughout these communities.

In 1996, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act was passed to give Tribes one larger and more flexible block grant to meet their housing needs. As a result, Tribes are ineligible for HUD’s individual housing assistance programs.

H.R. 4029 would allow Tribal communities to be eligible to apply for and receive HUD’s local Continuum of Care grants. Making Tribes eligible recipients for homeless assistance grants is a first step towards fixing Tribal housing issues and solving this hidden crisis of homelessness on Tribal lands.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the sponsors of H.R. 4029, Mr. HECK, and our former colleague, Mr. Duffy. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK), a member of the Financial Services Committee and the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4029, the bipartisan Tribal Access to Homeless Assistance Act.

As Congress is working to alleviate our national housing crisis, we also need to make sure our Federal assistance is getting to those that are hardest hit. And Indian country is facing a severe pervasive housing crisis. There is a widespread lack of affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, 38 percent of Native American households are considered cost-burdened by high housing costs. Insufficient stock of affordable safe housing in Indian country also results in increased homelessness. A study commissioned by HUD—I presume the same one referred to by my friend from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER)—found that there are between 42,000 and 85,000 homeless Native Americans living on Tribal lands. That is several times the number of people who are homeless in Seattle and in San Francisco combined. And unfortunately, both cities are known for having significant homeless populations.

On Tribal lands, homelessness also leads to overcrowding. Families double up by taking in friends and loved ones who can no longer afford their housing. And as has been indicated, 16 percent of Native American and Alaskan Native

households experience overcrowding. It is worth repeating—16 percent compared to 2 percent in the general population.

So, here is the thing about homelessness and overcrowding that we all know intuitively but it behooves us to be reminded of it: When you are homeless or in an overcrowded circumstance, it is nearly impossible to find a meaningful job or go to school or otherwise engage in the community. When you are constantly worried about shelter, you are unable to deal with whatever other issues you are confronted with in your life, whether it is health or holding down a job or substance abuse.

I have also considered that one of the most important duties I have as a Member of Congress is ensuring the sovereignty of the four Tribes in the district I have a privilege to represent and the 29 Tribes in my State, and to help them as they work to help their Tribal members on a range of issues, including combatting homelessness in Indian country. I know you all feel the same way.

That is our Federal trust responsibility, and that is why I introduced this legislation.

Despite the prevalence of homelessness in Indian country, Tribes and Tribally designated housing entities simply cannot access the homeless assistance grants offered by HUD, including the Continuum of Care program, and this bill fixes that.

By establishing Tribal eligibility to compete for HUD McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care grants, this bill would improve Tribes' ability to combat homelessness and, frankly, potentially help tens of thousands of people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman YOUNG who is also a part of this bipartisan deal, and former Congressman Duffy, for joining me in introducing this bill.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in supporting H.R. 4029 today. And finally, let us note, this bill is an important first step to fulfill our obligations to Indian country, but to be clear, this is not the last step.

I hope to soon introduce a bill to reauthorize and update the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act—we call it NAHASDA for short. NAHASDA is a critically important program that helps provide safe and affordable housing to Tribes and their members.

I look forward to working with Chair WATERS in the full committee on a bipartisan NAHASDA bill as we continue to discuss how we can continue or keep our obligations to Indian country.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, Congresswoman WAGNER, for yielding.

As the Representative of North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District, I

am proud to represent 55,000 members of the Lumbee Tribe.

When I served in the North Carolina General Assembly, just before this special election in September, I cosponsored legislation clarifying North Carolina's recognition of the Lumbee.

It became law just in July.

□ 1715

H.R. 4029 would allow the Lumbee to apply directly for homeless assistance grants instead of having to rely on nonprofits or other governmental entities.

This commonsense proposal will empower the Lumbee to act directly to provide shelter and other services to their own members and will not cost the Federal Government one penny.

The Lumbee are in the best position to help their own Tribal members, and this bill will empower them to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4029.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues once again to support H.R. 4029, the Tribal Eligibility for Homeless Assistance Grants Act of 2019, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, thank all of my colleagues for the bipartisan support this bill has received. I thank the sponsor of this legislation, Mr. HECK, again, for bringing it forward. It is an important piece of legislation.

I would like to say this: Native Americans and Tribal communities have, for too long, suffered from a lack of funding for housing and homelessness assistance despite the growing need for safe, decent, and affordable homes on Tribal lands.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that will bring some relief. It is not perfect. Mr. HECK has said it is a first step.

I urge my colleagues to join me, Mr. HECK, and Mrs. WAGNER in supporting this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4029, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### IMPROVING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE THROUGH DIVERSITY ACT OF 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5084) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 5084

*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 "Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. SUBMISSION OF DATA RELATING TO DIVERSITY BY ISSUERS.

Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(S) SUBMISSION OF DATA RELATING TO DIVERSITY.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘executive officer’ has the meaning given the term in section 230.501(f) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection; and

“(B) the term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

“(2) SUBMISSION OF DISCLOSURE.—Each issuer required to file an annual report under subsection (a) shall disclose in any proxy statement and any information statement relating to the election of directors filed with the Commission the following:

“(A) Data, based on voluntary self-identification, on the racial, ethnic, and gender composition of—

“(i) the board of directors of the issuer;

“(ii) nominees for the board of directors of the issuer; and

“(iii) the executive officers of the issuer.

“(B) The status of any member of the board of directors of the issuer, any nominee for the board of directors of the issuer, or any executive officer of the issuer, based on voluntary self-identification, as a veteran.

“(C) Whether the board of directors of the issuer, or any committee of that board of directors, has, as of the date on which the issuer makes a disclosure under this paragraph, adopted any policy, plan, or strategy to promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity among—

“(i) the board of directors of the issuer;

“(ii) nominees for the board of directors of the issuer; or

“(iii) the executive officers of the issuer.

“(3) ALTERNATIVE SUBMISSION.—In any 1-year period in which an issuer required to file an annual report under subsection (a) does not file with the Commission a proxy statement relating to the election of directors or an information statement, the issuer shall disclose the information required under paragraph (2) in the first annual report of issuer that the issuer submits to the Commission after the end of that 1-year period.

“(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and publish on the website of the Commission a report that analyzes the information disclosed pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and identifies any trends in such information.

“(5) BEST PRACTICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion of the Commission shall, not later than the end of the 3-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this subsection and every three years thereafter, publish best practices for compliance with this subsection.

“(B) COMMENTS.—The Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion of the

Commission may, pursuant to subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, solicit public comments related to the best practices published under subparagraph (A).”

### SEC. 3. DIVERSITY ADVISORY GROUP.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall establish a Diversity Advisory Group (the “Advisory Group”), which shall be composed of representatives from the government, academia, and the private sector.

(b) **STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The Advisory Group shall—

(1) carry out a study that identifies strategies that can be used to increase gender, racial, and ethnic diversity among members of boards of directors of issuers; and

(2) not later than 9 months after the establishment of the Advisory Group, submit a report to the Commission, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate that—

(A) describes any findings from the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(B) makes recommendations of strategies that issuers could use to increase gender, racial, and ethnic diversity among board members.

(c) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year following the submission of a report pursuant to subsection (b), and annually thereafter, the Commission shall submit a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate that describes the status of gender, racial, and ethnic diversity among members of the board of directors of issuers.

(d) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS.**—The Commission shall make all reports of the Advisory Group available to issuers and the public, including on the website of the Commission.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For the purposes of this section:

(1) **ISSUER.**—The term “issuer” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

(2) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. **GREEN**) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. **WAGNER**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. **GREEN** of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5084, the Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act of 2019.

I thank the chair of our Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, the Honorable **GREGORY MEEKS**, and the chair of

the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets, the Honorable **CAROLYN MALONEY**, for this incredibly important piece of legislation.

According to Deloitte’s 2017 board diversity survey, 90 percent of companies surveyed agreed that increased board diversity will improve their company’s ability to innovate as well as their overall business performance.

Given the impact on performance, investors have an interest in the extent to which companies include diverse perspectives and people in their boardrooms and senior executive ranks.

Despite the acknowledgment by companies that the highest levels of their organizations should reflect the diversity of their shareholders, consumers, and America at large, the Alliance for Board Diversity reported that, among Fortune 500 companies, 80.7 percent of new board directors in 2017 were White men.

To address the lack of transparency and to shine a light on the lack of representation of women and minorities in corporate boardrooms and in the C-suite, H.R. 5084 would require public companies to annually disclose the voluntarily self-identified gender, race, ethnicity, and veteran status of their board of directors and nominees and senior executive officers.

This bill would also establish a diversity advisory group at the Securities and Exchange Commission and require the agency’s Office of Minority and Women Inclusion to publish best practices for compliance with diversity reporting requirements.

We must ensure that the leadership of corporate America reflects the growing diversity of our Nation. Transparency and disclosure are two actions that allow progress toward racial and gender parity at the highest levels of corporations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5084, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this Congress, our committee has held multiple hearings focused on strengthening diversity and inclusion in our financial system and beyond, including a full committee hearing examining America’s boardrooms.

Witness testimony makes clear that women and minorities are underrepresented in leadership positions throughout the financial services sector. This bill will help move companies in the right direction.

We know that women hold just 26 percent of senior management positions and only 15 percent of executive positions in the finance industry. These figures have stayed relatively flat over the past decade.

Corporate leaders know the value of having a wide range of perspectives and experiences in the boardroom and are being proactive in their efforts to diversify leadership in the financial serv-

ices industry. Last year, 91 percent of board directors reported taking steps to increase diversity. Just last month, Citigroup announced the promotion of Jane Fraser to lead Citigroup’s global consumer banking, setting her up to be the first female CEO of a major bank.

The private sector is working proactively to achieve more diversity, and this bill will give us even more data to measure progress, including with respect to hiring veterans. Companies should also work to help our servicemen and -women reacclimate into civilian life. This bill will reinforce the work that industry is already doing to help employ our veterans.

Witnesses who testified before the committee believe that the disclosures in this bill are a step in the right direction, in part because a large percentage of companies already do it annually. In fact, more than 40 percent of publicly traded companies already disclose information related to the gender, race, and ethnic makeup of their boards.

I thank Congresswoman **MALONEY** and Congressman **MEEKS** for working on this bill. I am grateful to the ranking member and the chairman of the Committee on Financial Services. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **GREEN** of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. **MEEKS**), the chair of our Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions.

Mr. **MEEKS**. Mr. Speaker, today, I am especially proud to rise in support of a bill that has been worked on very hard.

I want to first thank Chairwoman **WATERS** and Ranking Member **MCHEMRY**; of course, my colleague, the chair of the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets, **CAROLYN MALONEY**; Chairwoman **BEATTY**; and, of course, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. **WAGNER**) for all of their support in working to pull this bill together, the Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act of 2019.

This legislation is the culmination of years of methodical work and the continuation of priorities dating back to our Wall Street reform work following the financial crisis. Indeed, as my colleagues who were here in Congress in 2009 and 2010 will remember well, many of us, in the wake of the financial crisis, were vocal about how the lack of diversity and inclusion across corporate America and, in particular, at senior levels and on boards of financial institutions helped contribute to the financial crisis.

Corporate America should reflect the diversity of the markets they seek to serve. This is the right thing to do and the smart business decision to make.

H.R. 5084, the Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act, focuses on disclosures and transparency. I firmly believe that transparency is the first step to accountability.

Specifically, the bill does the following.

Public companies will be required to publish diversity data annually in their proxy statements, based on voluntary self-identification, on the racial, ethnic, and gender composition of their board of directors, the nominees for the board of directors, and executive officers. Similarly, companies will publish data on those who voluntarily self-identified as veterans. Public companies will also have disclosure requirements on the adoption of any board policy, plan, or strategy to promote diversity.

The bill directs the Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion of the SEC to publish, every 3 years, best practices for compliance with the disclosure requirements of this bill, including Federal solicitation of public comments. The bill also directs the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion to establish an advisory council, which includes issuers and investors, to advise on these best practices.

This is a simple, effective, and impactful bill that, through transparency and reporting, informs markets, investors, and employees about the status of diversity and inclusion across corporate America.

This bill has earned support that is very broad, from civil rights groups, such as the NAACP and the National Urban League, as well as from the Chamber of Commerce, the Council of Institutional Investors, and LPL Financial, the Nation's largest independent broker-dealer.

It is rare for a bill to have such broad support from civil rights groups, corporate America, and the investment community, but this broad support is evidence of the urgency and common-sense nature of this legislation. This bill will also gain the support of many of our Republican colleagues across the aisle, both in the committee and here on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask, therefore, that all Members vote in support of this bill.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), the chair of the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading and for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5084, and I thank my good friend and colleague, Congressman MEEKS, for his tremendous leadership on this bill. We have been working together on it for a long time, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor.

I also thank Chairwoman WATERS for her longtime leadership on these issues and for working with me and Mr. MEEKS on this bill.

The bill is very simple, but the goal is extremely important: increasing diversity in corporate leadership.

One of the key pieces of this, I believe, is getting more women and minorities in corporate leadership positions. Leaders set the tone, and they set the priorities.

I asked the GAO to study this issue in 2015. They found that women were badly underrepresented on corporate boards. They also found that, if the current trends continue, it would take more than 40 years for women to reach parity with men on corporate boards. Clearly, something needs to change.

Let's be clear. Increasing diversity in corporate leadership is not just a social issue; it is good business, too. Study after study has shown that companies with greater gender, racial, and ethnic diversity on their boards perform better financially.

This bill would help investors accomplish this by requiring public companies to report the gender, racial, and ethnic composition of their boards in their annual reports.

The bill would also establish a diversity advisory group at the SEC, which would study strategies to increase gender, racial, and ethnic diversity on corporate boards, because the truth is that making meaningful progress on corporate diversity is going to require a range of different policies in addition to the improved disclosures in this bill.

□ 1730

I want to be sure to thank Ranking Member MCHENRY and my good friend and colleague ANN WAGNER for their strong support. Their leadership on the other side of the aisle has been instrumental in getting bipartisan support for this very important bill that has wide support across the community.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 5084, the Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act of 2019.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I, too, encourage my colleagues to please support this important piece of legislation. It will make meaningful change.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5084.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. 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.

#### INVESTOR PROTECTION AND CAPITAL MARKETS FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 4344) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow the Securities and Exchange Commission to seek and Federal courts to grant disgorgement of unjust enrichment, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4344

*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 "Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act".

#### SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL RELIEF.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78u(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) ADDITIONAL RELIEF.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In any action or proceeding brought or instituted by the Commission under any provision of the securities laws, the Commission may seek, and any Federal court may grant the following additional relief:

“(i) Disgorgement in the amount of any unjust enrichment obtained as a result of the act or practice with respect to which the Commission is bringing such an action or proceeding.

“(ii) Injunctions, including officer and director bars.

“(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Additional relief sought under this paragraph may not be construed to be a civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture subject to chapter 163 of part VI of title 28, United States Code.

“(C) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—A Federal court may not issue relief under this paragraph if the action or proceeding brought or instituted by the Commission was commenced more than 14 years after the alleged violation.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to any actions or proceedings pending or commenced on or after the date of the enactment of this section.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Securities Exchange Commission shall submit to Congress data about each enforcement action brought by the Commission in the 10 years following the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) CONTENTS.—In submitting data pursuant to paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) with regard to each enforcement action—

(i) categorize the type of enforcement action;

(ii) categorize the type of issuer involved in the enforcement action;

(iii) identify the approximate duration of the misconduct that gave rise to the enforcement action; and

(iv) identify the approximate duration of the investigation; and

(B) identify the 10 enforcement actions with the longest durations of misconduct that gave rise to enforcement actions.

#### SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4344.

I would like to start by commending my colleagues, Representatives MCADAMS and HUIZENGA, for crafting this bipartisan solution to a problem that, in just 2 years, has cost investors approximately \$1.1 billion.

In 2017, the Supreme Court, in *Kokesh v. SEC*, held that the authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC, to recover for investors the wrongful gains of securities law violators, known as disgorgement, is effectively a penalty. As a result, the SEC's authority to obtain disgorgement is time limited by the general Federal statute of limitations for penalties so that the SEC must bring its case within 5 years of the violation.

This ruling was a boon to white-collar criminals like Bernie Madoff and Allen Stanford, who are now able to defraud investors for a decade and keep their profits.

Even worse, the SEC is currently in litigation before the Supreme Court over whether it even has the authority to obtain disgorgement for investors.

I am pleased that H.R. 4344 would ensure that the SEC has the tools it needs to hold bad actors accountable and to return funds to harmed investors by clarifying that the SEC does indeed have disgorgement authority, and its authority reasonably extends to 14 years following the date of violation. This longer time limit would ensure that the SEC has enough time to detect and sue the Bernie Madoffs of the world.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS) and the ranking member of the Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets Subcommittee, Mr. HUIZENGA, for their diligent efforts on this bipartisan bill.

This bill is the result of the Supreme Court's *Kokesh* decision, which restricted the SEC's disgorgement authority to 5 years.

SEC Chairman Jay Clayton almost never advocates for Congress to legislate on a particular issue; however, the issue before us today is the exception, as Chairman Clayton has expressed concern that a 5-year statute of limitations allows bad actors to hold on to their ill-gotten gains obtained outside of that 5-year window.

As Chairman Clayton has pointed out: Many long-running frauds go longer and, in some cases, well longer than 5 years; and it is just plain wrong to allow a fraudster to keep money made from their fraud simply because he or she was good at concealing the wrongful behavior.

Today's bill is responsive to Chairman Clayton's concerns in a thoughtful and balanced way. Statutes of limitations are important procedural protections intended to strike the balance between ensuring wrongdoers are not rewarded for bad behavior and protecting shareholders, who are ultimately responsible for paying large penalties for violations they did not commit in the event of an SEC judgment.

I know there is concern that the 14-year statute of limitations in the bill is too long. I share concerns that the SEC could be slow to bring a case when certainty and swiftness should be the priority when pursuing enforcement actions. However, the reality is this: A 14-year statute of limitations is a reasonable first attempt to strike the appropriate balance in the disgorgement context.

I say "first attempt" because the bill also requires the SEC to report to Congress with data on cases where the SEC has sought disgorgement. These reports will be useful in allowing Congress to evaluate the effectiveness of the statute of limitations and fine-tune it, if appropriate.

This bipartisan bill carefully balances the benefits of statutes of limitations with the downside of fraudsters potentially holding on to significant amounts of their gains.

Again, I thank the gentlemen from Utah and Michigan for their thoughtful draft bipartisan legislation, which I support, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this common-sense bill.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. MCADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4344, the Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act, bipartisan legislation that I introduced with my friend from Michigan, Congressman HUIZENGA, the ranking member of the Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets Subcommittee.

I also want to recognize my friend Representative CAROLYN MALONEY for her work on this bill as well.

Utah is frequently discussed as one of the top States for fraud and Ponzi

schemes. A *Deseret News* article earlier this year noted that Utah ranked sixth in most number of Ponzi schemes from 2008–2018, despite being only 31st in population.

In that decade alone, Utah investors lost over \$1.5 billion to Ponzi schemes, or \$502 per person, plus an additional \$500 million in other types of fraud: \$2 billion, overall, taken from hard-working Utahns; \$2 billion that won't be there for retirement, that won't be there to pass along to our children and to our grandchildren.

As a result of a couple of recent court cases, that problem may become much worse, leaving Utahns less protected, and leaving fraudsters empowered.

Mr. Speaker, Charles Kokesh opened a firm that provided investment advice to business development companies. Over the course of roughly 14 years, Charles Kokesh misappropriated tens of millions of dollars from these companies, funding a lavish lifestyle for himself and, in the process, defrauding the investors out of millions of dollars.

Mr. Kokesh was found guilty of misappropriating these investors' funds, and the district court ordered Mr. Kokesh to pay a civil penalty, as well as disgorgement, totaling roughly \$35 million.

The facts of this case are not in dispute, but what comes next has upset the delicate balance that keeps our markets fair and keeps our investors protected.

In 2017, the Supreme Court ruled that the SEC's disgorgement authority, the ability of the SEC to seek repayment of a defendant's ill-gotten gains, that that authority is subject to a 5-year statute of limitations. The Supreme Court further hinted, in an obscure footnote, that the SEC may not be able to seek disgorgement of ill-gotten gains at all.

What did this Supreme Court ruling mean for Charles Kokesh? In the end, he was only ordered to pay \$5 million in disgorged profits, keeping roughly \$30 million for himself: \$30 million that he was able to keep that he attained through nefarious means, \$30 million in profits from illegal activity, but, most importantly, \$30 million that won't find its way back to the investor victims.

He keeps \$30 million and he loses \$5 million—not a bad decade's work for a fraudster.

And what did the Supreme Court decision mean for the SEC? The SEC estimates that, in the 2 years since the *Kokesh* decision, they have had to forgo over \$1.1 billion in disgorged funds. That is over \$1 billion of ill-gotten gains that bad actors can now keep that don't get returned to investors.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Utah an additional 1 minute.

Mr. MCADAMS. In addition to the over \$1.1 billion in forgone funds, the SEC is increasingly spending time and

staff resources fighting new legal challenges from bad actors claiming that the SEC shouldn't be able to seek disgorgement at all.

SEC Chairman Jay Clayton, nominated for that position by President Donald Trump, has lamented the impact of the *Kokesh* decision on the SEC's ability to appropriately protect harmed investors and the amount of losses they aren't able to recover for these investors. As he told me at a recent hearing: "You shouldn't reward somebody for concealing a fraud for a long time."

In a letter to the House, he also said that the SEC's disgorgement authority is "particularly important in circumstances where retail investors have been the victims of long-running, well-conceived frauds, including Ponzi schemes. For these victims, an action by the SEC seeking disgorgement may be the only practical means of recourse."

And now to pivot back to that footnote in the *Kokesh* decision, that footnote said that the SEC may not have the authority to seek disgorgement at all—within or outside that 5-year statute of limitations. And just this past month, the Supreme Court granted cert on a challenge to that very question. So, within the next year, the Supreme Court will hear arguments and possibly decide to remove any disgorgement action from the SEC, absent further action from Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Utah an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. MCADAMS. That would be catastrophic for the ability to protect investors and to keep our capital markets fair, which is where this legislation kicks in and why I think it is so necessary.

This legislation would reverse the *Kokesh* decision, specifically authorize disgorgement as a remedy that the SEC can seek, and give the SEC up to 14 years to seek disgorgement of ill-gotten gains. So, in essence, this legislation seeks to fix the *Kokesh* decision and would address the recent case the Supreme Court agreed to hear about whether the SEC has disgorgement authority at all.

Chairman Clayton says: "H.R. 4344 will ensure that sophisticated fraudsters who carry out some of the most harmful frauds, including Ponzi schemes that can defraud investors for long periods of time before being uncovered, cannot keep their victims' money."

Further, he says: "H.R. 4344 is an important response to real harm suffered by innocent victims."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Utah an additional 10 seconds.

Mr. MCADAMS. Our capital markets are the envy of the world, but they don't work to the extent that investors have faith that bad actors can't profit off wrongdoing.

I urge support for H.R. 4344.

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4344, the Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act.

In June of 2017, as has been discussed, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously in the *Kokesh v. Securities and Exchange Commission* that the SEC's disgorgement remedy constitutes a penalty, and, as a result, the Supreme Court found that the SEC's disgorgement authority—in other words, their ability to go collect those dollars—was subject to a 5-year statute of limitations.

That may be how the law is currently reads. That is why we are here today to try to change that.

As a result of the *Kokesh* case, the Supreme Court decision has significantly limited the SEC's ability to obtain disgorgement in certain long-running frauds.

□ 1745

According to the most recent SEC enforcement division's annual report, it is estimated that due to this *Kokesh* ruling, the SEC is forced to forgo more than \$1.1 billion in ill-gotten gains from wrongdoers at the expense of Main Street investors.

H.R. 4344 would grant the SEC the authority to seek and for Federal courts to grant disgorgement within 14 years. Additionally, the bill would further clarify that disgorgement may not be construed as a civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture. Lastly, the bill requires the SEC to submit a report to Congress on the length of certain fraud actions that they have encountered, including the 10 longest-running frauds that led to Commission action.

So ideally, I would like to see a shorter statute of limitations. There was discussion about matching it with some other Federal statutes, but I also recognize that many securities frauds are complex and take significant time to uncover and investigate. For example, in this particular case, Charles *Kokesh*, over the course of nearly 14 years, quietly committed well-concealed and elaborate fraud by misappropriating nearly \$35 million. And to add insult to injury, because of the Supreme Court decision, *Kokesh* was allowed, the fraudster was allowed to keep nearly \$30 million of what he stole from small-dollar Main Street investors. I don't think any of us can look at that and feel good about that current situation.

This bipartisan bill attempts to strike a delicate balance by ensuring

that the SEC has the necessary resources and tools to go after bad actors and to make sure that these sophisticated fraudsters may not keep any of the money that they have stolen from everyday investors like teachers and military service personnel, the elderly, and religious-affiliated groups.

SEC Chairman, Jay Clayton stated, "H.R. 4344 is an important response to real harms suffered by innocent victims of the worst types of securities frauds. These are frauds that undermine the public confidence in our markets that the 4,400 women and men of the SEC strive to preserve every day."

I would like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS), for closely working with me on this important issue to help protect millions of Main Street investors. H.R. 4344 provides the SEC with the necessary tools to ensure sophisticated criminals who defraud everyday investors for long periods of time that they are prevented from keeping their victims' money.

So I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this overwhelmingly bipartisan investor protection legislation.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a letter on this legislation from the Chair of the SEC, Mr. Clayton.

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND  
EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Washington, DC, November 17, 2019.

Re H.R. 4344, the Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act.

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

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
Republican Leader, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND LEADER MCCARTHY, I write concerning the importance to our investors and our markets of the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC or Commission) authority to seek disgorgement of unjust enrichment from those who have violated the federal securities laws. This authority is particularly important in circumstances where retail investors have been the victims of long-running, well-concealed frauds, including Ponzi schemes. For these victims, an action by the SEC seeking disgorgement may be the only practical means of recourse.

The recent Supreme Court decision in *Kokesh v. SEC*, 137 S. Ct. 1635 (2017), significantly limited the SEC's authority to seek disgorgement. In *Kokesh*, the Supreme Court found our use of the disgorgement remedy operated as a penalty, which subjected that remedy to a five-year statute of limitations from the date of the misconduct. As a result, our ability to address well-concealed frauds has been significantly restricted, including in situations where our Main Street investors need us most. More recently, the SEC's ability to seek disgorgement in *any* district court action has been questioned.

With deference to your judgment regarding the appropriate length for the statute of limitations and other terms, I respectfully request that you act to ensure that we are able to seek disgorgement to the extent appropriate to protect our investors and our markets. Prompt congressional action also would remove the uncertainty regarding our

general authority to seek disgorgement in district court.

Fortunately, the U.S. House of Representative is considering H.R. 4344, the Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act, which would amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to explicitly provide the Commission with authority to seek disgorgement of unjust enrichment in district courts. I greatly appreciate this bipartisan, bicameral work underway to address this important issue and welcome the opportunity to continue to work with Congress to ensure defrauded retail investors can get their investment dollars back while being true to the principles embedded in statutes of limitations.

#### IMPORTANCE OF DISGORGEMENT AS A REMEDY

The SEC's longstanding ability to obtain disgorgement of ill-gotten gains in federal district court is an important tool for our enforcement program and has allowed the agency to return billions of dollars to innocent investors victimized by perpetrators of fraud. For many—if not most—of these victims, disgorgement awards in SEC cases are the only practical way to recoup what was stolen from them. The Commission is committed to returning money to harmed investors promptly and has worked hard to improve the effectiveness of our distribution program over recent years. Since the beginning of Fiscal Year 2017, the hard work of the women and men of the SEC has led to the return of over \$3 billion to harmed investors.

#### IMPACT OF KOKESH ON MAIN STREET INVESTORS

Notwithstanding these successes, the Supreme Court's decision in *Kokesh* has impacted the SEC's ability to return funds fraudulently taken from Main Street investors. In *Kokesh*, the Supreme Court found our use of the disgorgement remedy operated as a penalty, which subjected the Commission's ability to seek disgorgement of ill-gotten gains to a five-year statute of limitations.

The *Kokesh* case itself highlights this problem in stark terms. Of the \$34.9 million that Charles Kokesh misappropriated, \$29.9 million fell outside of the 5-year statute of limitations. The SEC was unable to collect that \$29.9 million from him for distribution to his victims, who largely consisted of small-dollar Main Street investors.

Overall, since *Kokesh* was decided, at least \$1.1 billion in ill-gotten gains has been unavailable for possible distribution to harmed investors. Much of this is tied to losses by investors.

#### IMPORTANCE OF STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS

The SEC's authority to seek disgorgement should not be unbounded. I agree that statutes of limitations serve important functions in our legal system, and as a general matter, our remedial authority should be subject to reasonable limitations periods. However, as I look across the scope of misconduct we encounter, including most notably Ponzi schemes and affinity frauds, I believe a period longer than five years from the date of the misconduct is appropriate in various circumstances. This is especially the case in our private, retail markets where there are fewer causes of action and safeguards available compared to the public capital markets. Further, we often see fraudsters target certain categories of investors. These investors—notably teachers, military service personnel, the elderly, and religious-affiliated groups—need and deserve legal protection and the SEC's attention, particularly in the case of private, targeted frauds.

#### H.R. 4344, THE INVESTOR PROTECTION AND CAPITAL MARKETS FAIRNESS ACT

H.R. 4344 would address two important issues. First, the bill addresses the result of

the Supreme Court's ruling in *Kokesh* that SEC disgorgement claims are subject to a five-year statute of limitations. The Court's holding has had the anomalous effect of allowing the most "successful" perpetrators of fraud—those who prevent the discovery of their schemes for longer than the limitations period—to keep their ill-gotten gains. H.R. 4344 will ensure that sophisticated fraudsters who carry out some of the most harmful frauds, including Ponzi schemes that can defraud investors for long periods of time before being uncovered, cannot keep their victims' money.

Second, some perpetrators of fraud have tried to keep their ill-gotten gains arguing that district courts lack the power to order disgorgement in any Commission action. The primary objective of disgorgement is to return circumstances to the pre-fraud status quo. The Supreme Court recently granted certiorari to address this question in *Liu v. SEC*, No. 18-1501. H.R. 4344 would confirm and ratify district courts' authority to do what they have been doing for decades—order violators to surrender the money they obtained by breaking the securities laws so that victims have a chance to be compensated.

H.R. 4344 is an important response to real harms suffered by innocent victims of the worst types of securities frauds. These are frauds that undermine the public confidence in our markets that the 4,400 women and men of the SEC strive to preserve every day.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to America's investors and our markets.

Very truly yours,

JAY CLAYTON,  
*Chairman.*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), who happens to be the chairperson of the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership on this issue and so many others.

I want to thank Mr. MCADAMS for all of his work on this crucial issue. I also want to thank Ranking Member HUIZENGA, who has been a leader on this issue for a long time. And I want to thank the chairwoman and the ranking member for getting this bipartisan deal done.

Proper enforcement of the securities laws helps maintain investor confidence in our markets. Investors need to know that if a bad actor is caught, and the SEC proves that the bad actor committed fraud, then the investors will get their money back.

Unfortunately, the 2017 Supreme Court decision in *Kokesh* versus SEC significantly damaged the SEC's ability to return funds to harmed investors, by holding that SEC claims for disgorgement of ill-gotten profits are subject to a 5-year statute of limitations. This means that for long-running frauds like Bernie Madoff's Ponzi scheme, the SEC would not be able to claw back all of the bad actor's profits.

The *Kokesh* decision has already cost investors about \$900 million in disgorgement of illegal profits according to the SEC.

Mr. MCADAMS' bill would fix this issue and would lengthen the statute of

limitations from 5 years to 14 years. This is only fair. So I strongly urge a "yes" vote on this bill that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle support, which will claw back bad actor's money and put money back in investors' pockets.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

I, too, urge support of this bill, specifically because it would protect the SEC's longstanding authority to recover for investors the unjust enrichment from defendants and set a reasonable time limit to do so. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4344, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio. 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.

#### TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4634) to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4634

*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 "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. 7-YEAR EXTENSION OF TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) TERMINATION DATE.—Section 108(a) of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 6701 note) is amended by striking "2020" and inserting "2027".

(b) TIMING OF MANDATORY RECUPMENT.—Section 103(e)(7)(E)(i) of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 6701 note) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I)—

(A) by striking "2017" and inserting "2022"; and

(B) by striking "2019" and inserting "2024";

(2) in subclause (II)—

(A) by striking "2018" and inserting "2023";

(B) by striking "2019" and inserting "2024"; and

(C) by striking "2024" and inserting "2029"; and

(3) in subclause (III)—

(A) by striking "2019" and inserting "2024"; and

(B) by striking “2024” and inserting “2029”.  
 (c) ONGOING REPORTS REGARDING MARKET CONDITIONS FOR TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE.—Paragraph (2) of section 104(h) of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 6701 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (C) through (F), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) an evaluation of the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance, which shall include an analysis of such availability and affordability specifically for places of worship;”.

(d) STUDY AND REPORT ON CYBER TERRORISM.—Not later than the expiration of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate, which shall—

(1) analyze and address—

(A) overall vulnerabilities and potential costs of cyber attacks to the United States public and private infrastructure that could result in physical or digital damage;

(B) whether State-defined cyber liability under a property and casualty line of insurance is adequate coverage for an act of cyber terrorism;

(C) whether such risks can be adequately priced by the private market; and

(D) whether the current risk-share system under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 is appropriate for a cyber terrorism event; and

(2) set forth recommendations on how the Congress could amend such Act to meet the next generation of cyber threats.

### SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that we are considering H.R. 4634 to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, or TRIA, for 7 years. This is a bipartisan bill that passed unanimously out of our committee.

I would like to thank Chairwoman MALONEY, Chairman CLAY, and Chair-

man CLEAVER for their efforts to bring this bill to the floor today. I would also like to thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for working with me to ensure the availability of affordable terrorism risk insurance coverage across our country for small businesses, nonprofit organizations, hospitals, and educational institutions to name just a few of the entities that rely on this Federal program.

The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act was enacted in the aftermath of the tragic September 11 terrorist attacks, which resulted in the largest insured losses on record from a nonnatural event. Insurance and reinsurance companies reeled from the losses, and terrorism risk insurance became unavailable or extremely expensive, complicating the recovery efforts due to the importance of insurance in many business transactions.

Congress passed TRIA to ensure that the terrorism risk insurance coverage would remain available and affordable, and since that time, the program has been effective at doing just that. Treasury data show the program has been successful with nearly 80 percent of all TRIA-eligible policies, including terrorism risk coverage, and policyholders paying an average of only 2.5 percent of their total premiums for terrorism risk coverage. Treasury data also demonstrates that TRIA is important across America and not just in densely populated urban areas. In fact, the take-up rate is higher in the Midwest than it is in the northeast.

This bill is supported by a broad coalition of over 300 organizations, including the American Property Casualty Insurance Association, the Reinsurance Association of America, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the American Bankers Association.

I understand that the Senate Banking Committee is considering identical legislation this week, and I hope that we can act quickly to get this bill signed into law. I would urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 4634, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019.

For the last 17 years, TRIA has provided an important Federal backstop for businesses that insure against the large-scale devastation caused by terrorist attacks. This Federal backstop provides much needed stability for the private terrorism risk insurance market, ensuring that small and large businesses alike have access to affordable coverage.

Without Federal involvement, the private market cannot adequately price for this type of risk, causing insurers to exit the market, and leaving businesses without coverage. That would be a market failure, and it ne-

cessitates us acting in order to ensure that that market failure does not persist. That is why we have this important program.

That bipartisanship continues today with Democrats and Republicans alike agreeing on the need to reauthorize the TRIA program for an additional 7 years. This long-term extension will give certainty to insurance markets, businesses and the broader American economy. A wide range of businesses have come to rely on the protections included in this act.

From real estate to manufacturing to entertainment, H.R. 4634 will help these companies insure against acts of terrorism. In addition, the bill takes the first step in understanding how the TRIA program can be modernized to meet the advances made by our adversaries in the 21st century.

When we began our bipartisan conversations regarding the TRIA reauthorization, I emphasized the need to study how this program would react in the aftermath of a wide-scale cyberattack. We generally know what the threats are broadly, but how the threats will evolve over the next 7 years we need to know. What we do know is that America’s public and private infrastructure is currently under attack every single day. And so we want to make sure that we are broadly set for this next generation of attack.

In the aftermath of 9/11, insurance companies and policymakers quickly became aware of the hidden risks that acts of terrorism could pose to their balance sheets. It was a hidden risk then. Insurers also realized that they would be unable to adequately price this risk, spurring the need for Federal assistance.

What I am concerned about is this: I am concerned a large-scale cyberattack could pose these same hidden risks to insurers and to the market, since we don’t fully understand the effects of a large-scale cyberattack and how that would play out today.

Moreover, the digital capabilities of our adversaries only continue to grow. Just look at Russia. In 2015, a Russian cyberattack shut down Ukraine’s power grid for as long as 6 hours. If it is not Russia, it is China, Iran, North Korea. State sponsors of terror want to cause as much damage to the United States as they can. And that is not just the government’s fear or utilities, it is every part of our economy.

It is our duty to make sure that this program is adaptable to respond to any event that could become a reality.

I appreciate Chairwoman WATERS agreeing to this additional language in the bill, as well as her work for a long-term reauthorization. I commend her work here to ensure that this is a bipartisan product here on the House floor. And from time to time we may not agree, but on this important bill we do see eye to eye. So bipartisanship is not always dead here in Washington.

I believe this bill, when enacted, will give our economy certainty and will

show that we can respond to threats and we can talk across the aisle and come to rational conclusions.

□ 1800

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for engaging in this bipartisan, collaborative process to reauthorize this important program.

I am also glad to know the Senate will be marking up a similar version of the bill this week. That is an encouraging sign. I am optimistic it will become law once it goes to the President's desk in short order.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, to the Members, I cannot express how pleased I am at the effort that was put together by Mr. MCHENRY to make this a bipartisan bill. I am very appreciative of that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), the chairwoman for the Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4634, which would reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, or TRIA, for 7 years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for working together to reach a compromise on this critically important bill that can get broad bipartisan support. I also thank my colleagues, Congressmen CLAY and CLEAVER, for holding field hearings and for their tremendous support.

This issue is deeply personal to me because I represent New York City, and I remember all too well the terrorist attack of 9/11. After that terrible attack, the market for terrorism insurance completely shut down. Without terrorism insurance, all construction stopped, and thousands of jobs were lost. We could not insure anything.

In response, Congress came together in a bipartisan way and passed the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, which provides a government backstop for terrorism insurance. The goal of TRIA was to make terrorism insurance both available and affordable. That is exactly what has happened because of this bill, and all of this has come at no cost, not one cost whatsoever, to our taxpayers.

This bill would reauthorize TRIA for 7 years without any changes to the underlying program. I am pleased that there is broad agreement that the program doesn't need any additional changes.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter with a listing of over 300 major business leaders from every State in our country that are supporting this important legislation.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS: The undersigned organizations,

representing a wide variety of business interests, urge Congress to work swiftly to pass a long-term reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) which is currently set to expire at the end of 2020.

The tragic terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, fundamentally changed the landscape for insuring against the risk of terrorism in the United States. Struck with an inability to model frequency, location, and the potentially devastating scale of modern terrorism, insurers were forced to pull out of the marketplace, and in the months following the attacks, the inability of insurance policyholders to secure terrorism risk insurance contributed to a paralysis in the economy, especially in the construction, travel and tourism, and real estate finance sectors.

Since its initial enactment in 2002, TRIA has served as a vital public-private risk sharing mechanism, ensuring that private terrorism risk insurance coverage remains available to commercial businesses, educational institutions and non-profit organizations at virtually no cost to the taxpayer. According to a 2019 Marsh study, the education, media, financial institutions, real estate, hospitality and gaming, and health care sectors had the highest 'take-up' rates among the 17 industry segments surveyed—all above 70%. TRIA fosters certainty in the marketplace and allows all of these interconnected elements of the economy to continue to move forward.

In 2018, the Treasury Department reported that "the Program has made terrorism risk insurance available and affordable in the United States, and the market for terrorism risk insurance has been relatively stable for the past decade." Absent TRIA, there is not sufficient insurance and reinsurance capital available to provide comprehensive terrorism coverage to U.S. insurance buyers.

To this end, the undersigned organizations urge Congress to promptly enact a "clean" long-term extension of this vital program. Previous reforms to the program have minimized taxpayer exposure making further reforms unnecessary. In fact, the key "dials" are already effectively indexed to premium growth at both the company and industry level, and the federal share will continue to decrease in future years even if Congress makes no changes to the program beyond a simple change of the expiration date.

Making changes to the TRIA mechanism to increase insurer retentions could affect the ability of many insurers, particularly smaller and mid-sized companies, to write risks or markets altogether, which ultimately impacts the ability of policyholders to secure adequate coverage. Maintaining a workable federal terrorism insurance mechanism is vital for our nation's economic security, and without adequate coverage, our ability to mitigate further economic fallout in the event of an attack would be greatly impaired. There is no homeland security without economic security.

The American business community remembers all too well the twelve-day lapse in the program in early 2015 and the disruption that lapse played in a variety of markets. We urge Congress to help provide much needed certainty by passing a long-term reauthorization of this important program without delay.

Sincerely,

A.I.M. Mutual Insurance Companies, ACIG Insurance Company, Alliance Security, Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty, American Association of Port Authorities, American Bankers Association, American Council of Engineering Companies, American Council on Education, American Family Insurance, American Gaming Association, American Property Casualty Insurance Association,

American Public Power Association, American Resort Development Association, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association, Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, Aon, Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, ARCTRUST.

Argo Group, Arrow Mutual Liability Insurance Company, Associated General Contractors of America, Associated Wire Rope Fabricators, Association of American Railroads, Atlantic Charter Insurance Company, AvalonBay Communities Inc., AXA XL, Ballard Spahr LLP, Barron Mutual Insurance Company, Barton Mutual Insurance Company, Beacon Capital Partners, LLC, Beaver Creek Mutual Insurance Company, Benton Mutual Insurance Association, Black Hawk Mutual Insurance Company, Bloomfield Mutual Insurance Company, Boise Metro Chamber, Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce, Boston Properties.

Bradford Victor-Adams Mutual Insurance Company, Bremer Mutual Insurance Association, Broad Reach Retail Partners, LLC, Brookfield Properties, Broome Co-operative Insurance Company, Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company, Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce, Bucksbaum Properties, Builders Mutual Insurance Company, California Association of Boutique & Breakfast Inns, California Hotel & Lodging Association, Camarillo Chamber of Commerce, CapSpecialty, CCIM Institute, Celina Mutual Insurance Company, Central Illinois Mutual Insurance Company, Century Mutual Insurance Association, Chautauqua Patrons Insurance Company.

Chester County Chamber, Chubb, CM Group, CNA Financial, Coalition to Insure Against Terrorism (CIAT), Columbia Insurance Group, Community Associations Institute, Community Insurance Company, Co-operative Insurance Companies, Corporate Office Properties Trust, Cousins Properties, Decatur Chamber of Commerce, CRE Finance Council, CSX, Cumberland Mutual Fire Insurance Company, CUNA Mutual Group, Cushman & Wakefield Inc., Davis Chamber of Commerce.

Donahue Schriber Realty Group, Draper Area Chamber of Commerce, Dundee Mutual Insurance Company, Dunham & Chemung Mutual Insurance Company, East Tennessee Mutual Insurance Company, Eastern Iowa Mutual Insurance Association, EastGroup Properties, Edison Electric Institute, Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce, El Centro Chamber of Commerce, El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, Electric Insurance Company, Erie Insurance, Essex Property Trust, Inc., Extra Space Storage, Falls City Mutual Insurance Company Inc. Farmers Home Fire Insurance Company of West Virginia, Inc., Farmers Home Insurance Company, Farmers Insurance Company of Flemington, Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Marble.

Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, Farmers Mutual Insurance Company Manchester, Farmers Pioneer Mutual Insurance Company, Farmers Protective Mutual Insurance Company, Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company (AR), Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company (ND), Farmers' and Mechanics' Mutual Insurance Company, Farmhand Partners Inc., First Maxfield Mutual Insurance Association, Food Marketing Institute, Foodservice Equipment Distributors Association (FEDA), Forrester Mutual Insurance Company, Forward Mutual Insurance Company, Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company, Gallagher Real Estate & Hospitality Services, General Reinsurance Corporation, German-American Farm Mutual Insurance Company, Gilroy Chamber of Commerce, Governmental Interinsurance Exchange.

Grange Insurance, Great American Insurance Group, Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce, Greater New York Mutual Insurance Company, Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce, Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, Hamel Mutual Insurance Company, Hamlet Mutual Insurance Company, Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce, Harding & Perkins Farm Mutual Insurance Company, Harford Mutual Insurance Company, Hawaii Employers Mutual Insurance Company, Heritage Mutual Insurance Association, Hilton, Hochheim Prairie Farm Mutual Insurance Association, Horse Prairie Mutual Insurance Company, Host Hotels & Resorts.

Hotel Association of Los Angeles, Household & Commercial Products Association, Hueneme Chamber of Commerce, Humboldt Mutual Insurance Association, Hutensky Capital Partners, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), IFG Companies, Illinois Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, IMT Insurance Company, Independence Realty Trust, Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Innovative Signal Analysis, International Franchise Association, International Speedway Corporation, International Safety Equipment Association, Island Insurance Companies, Jo Daviess Mutual Insurance Company, Kane County Mutual Insurance Company.

Kilroy Realty Corporation, Kite Realty, Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce, Lamar Advertising Company, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, LaPrairie Mutual Insurance Company, Laredo Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, Lexington Chamber of Commerce, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Liberty Property Trust, Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce, Lititz Mutual Insurance Company, Livingston Mutual Insurance Company, Lloyd's of London, Lodi Chamber of Commerce, Loews Hotels & Co, Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Long Beach Hospitality Alliance, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, LWD Inc., Major League Baseball (MLB), Marana Chamber of Commerce, Marriott International, Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce, Medical Properties Trust, Inc., Mendota Mutual Insurance Company, Mennonite Mutual Insurance Company, Merchants Mutual Insurance Company, Mesa Chamber of Commerce, MetLife, MFS Mutual Insurance Company, MGM Resorts International, Mid-State Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, Millers Mutual Group, Monmouth Real Estate Investment Corporation, Mortgage Bankers Association, Mound Prairie Mutual Insurance Company, Mower County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company.

MS & AD Insurance Group, Munich Reinsurance America, Inc., Muscatine Mutual Insurance Association, Mutual of Indiana Insurance Company, Mutual of Wausau Group, NAMA—The National Automatic Merchandising Association, National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (Nareit), National Apartment Association, National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), National Association of Home Builders, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC), National Association of Professional Employer Organizations, National Association of REALTORS®, National Association of Surety Bond Producers, Na-

tional Association of Wholesaler-Distributors, National Black Chamber of Commerce, National Electrical Contractors Association, National Fire & Casualty Company, National Fire & Indemnity Exchange.

National Hockey League, National Investor Relations Institute, National Multifamily Housing Council, National Restaurant Association, National Retail Federation, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, National Waste & Recycling Association, Nationwide Mutual Fire Insurance Company, New Prague-Ceska-Louisville Mutual Insurance Company, New Vienna Mutual Insurance Association, Nonprofits Insurance Alliance, Norfolk & Dedham Mutual Fire Insurance Company, North Country Chamber of Commerce, North Orange County Chamber, North Star Mutual Insurance Company, Northern Finnish Mutual Insurance Company, Norwegian Mutual Insurance Association, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Oakwood Mutual Insurance Company, Ohio Mutual Insurance Group.

OneBeacon Insurance Group, LLC, Orthopaedic Research Society, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce, Park Hotels & Resorts, Partnership for New York City, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, Patriot Insurance Company, Pella Mutual Insurance Company, Penn Charter Mutual Insurance Company, Penn National Insurance, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Company, Peoples Mutual Insurance Association, Peru Waltham Mutual Insurance, Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Group, Pioneer State Mutual Insurance Company, PMA Companies, Poweshiek Mutual Insurance Association, Prescott Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Prophetstown Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, Rayonier, Inc., Real Estate Board of New York, Regional Chamber of Commerce—San Gabriel Valley, Reinsurance Association of America, Reno + Sparks Chamber of Commerce, Restoration Risk Retention Group, Inc., Riverton Chamber of Commerce, Rockford Mutual Insurance Company, Rolling Meadows Chamber, Rudin Management Company, Inc., Safety National Casualty Corp., Safety Specialty Insurance Company, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce, Seaview Investors LLC, SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, SECURA Insurance Companies, Selma and Dallas County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, Information Seneca, Sigel Mutual Insurance Company.

Sentry Insurance, Shelbyville Mutual Insurance Company, Shelter Insurance, Shopping Center Interests, LLC, Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA), Society Insurance, A Mutual Company, South Jordan Chamber of Commerce, Southeast Mutual Insurance Company, Southern Company, Southwest California Legislative Council, Southwest Iowa Mutual Insurance Association, Spirit Realty Capital, Spring Vale Mutual Insurance Company, Starr Companies, Steele Traill County Mutual Insurance Company, Stephenson County Mutual Insurance Company, Sterling Insurance Company, Stirling Properties, LLC, STORE Capital.

Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce, Svea Mutual Insurance Company, Sverdrup Mutual Insurance Company, Swiss Re Americas, Tama County Mutual Insurance Association, Taubman Centers, Tenaska, Texas Hospital Insurance Exchange, The Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International, The Chamber of Medford/Jackson County, The Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers, The Durst Organization, The Gray Insurance Company, The Hanover

Insurance Company, The Hartford, The Macerich Company, The MEMIC Group, The Philadelphia Contributionship, The Port Authority of New York, New Jersey, The Real Estate Roundtable.

The Taubman Company, The Travelers Companies, Inc., The Victor Chamber of Commerce, The Walt Disney Company, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, Tucson Metro Chamber, Tulsa Regional Chamber, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Travel Association, UDR, Inc., UJA-Federation of New York, United Mutual Insurance Company, University Risk Management and Insurance Association, Inc. (URMIA), Upland Mutual Insurance, Inc. Utica First Insurance Company.

Utica National Insurance Group, Valley Mutual Insurance Association, W.R. Berkley Corporation, Watseka Mutual Insurance Company, Weingarten Realty Investor, Welltower, Inc., Western Iowa Mutual Insurance Association, Western National Mutual Insurance Company, Westfield, Westfield Insurance Company, Westminster American Insurance Company, Wholesale & Specialty Insurance Association, Wisconsin Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, Zurich North America.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Chairwoman WATERS for her leadership and Ranking Member MCHENRY for working with us in good faith to come up with a bipartisan compromise.

This bill is incredibly important to our economy. I support it completely.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS), the chair of our Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions Subcommittee.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4634, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, let me take my hat off to Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for working closely together to make sure that this is a bipartisan bill, bringing us all together in that regard, as well as the other chairs of the subcommittees that worked very hard on this bill.

Terrorism risk remains real and present. It is a present risk.

This is especially true for my beloved city of New York, which terrorists seek to target not only for its large population and notable landmarks but also because they seek to disrupt the New York capital markets, which are the financial nervous system of America and the world.

In October, I had the privilege to participate in a New York Police Department counterterrorism unit briefing on the continuing terrorism threats to New York City. There have been dozens of foiled plots and a handful of realized attacks. We cannot let our guard down.

TRIA deserves, and in the House has won, broad bipartisan support.

Companies and residents of cities and States that are at risk of terrorism urgently need Congress to finalize passage of a clean, long-term reauthorization of TRIA to provide the certainty that they need for long-term planning. That is exactly what the chair and ranking member have worked so hard to accomplish.

As we consider this legislation, it is critical to keep in mind that terrorism insurance is a covenant in many business and real estate loans and contracts. As such, as we saw after the 9/11 attacks on New York, any lapse risks triggering defaults or freezing commerce and housing markets.

Capital markets and insurance policies are typically written on long-term contracts, so new insurance policies are already being written today that extend beyond the potential expiration date of the current TRIA authorization.

As we look at the U.S. economy, we must make sure to not allow any lapse in TRIA, which could exacerbate a slowdown by freezing funding in the real estate market and funding to business and markets considered most at risk, such as in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I close by simply saying, as I started, to the chairwoman, who relentlessly worked together with Mr. MCHENRY to make sure that this is a bill that we could work closely together on, because this is a bill that benefits all of us in the United States of America, that that job is a job well done, and I thank the chair and ranking member very much for pulling us together and getting this bill across the finish line.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN).

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their passionate advocacy on behalf of this important issue.

Listening to my colleague, GREGORY MEEKS, I will remind everyone, as he heads toward the back of the Chamber, I represent the greatest congressional district in New York, the First Congressional District of New York.

We as New Yorkers, but really all of us in this Chamber as Americans, Republicans and Democrats, have worked together and need to continue to work together.

Ranking Member MCHENRY has had a great open door for Republicans, to hear our feedback and concerns on this important issue, to make sure there is not a lapse.

Mr. Speaker, I am rising in support of H.R. 4634, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019, which builds on our continued efforts to keep our promise to the victims of terrorism through the Never Forget the Heroes Act, which was signed into law earlier this year.

The U.S. continues to face one of the most challenging threat environments,

and terrorists will try to find any way to instill fear and destroy the American values and way of life that we hold dear, love, and cherish.

For the terrorists, their efforts include destabilizing our financial markets and economy.

We must combat terrorism through every means possible. The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act is a critical insurance backstop that provides important protections for construction jobs, venues, and regional economies across America in the event of a catastrophic terrorist attack.

Failure to reauthorize this program could cause major market disruption, which is why I am proud to cosponsor this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill to bolster both our national and economic security. I rise not just as a New Yorker but with my colleagues together as Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair and the ranking member for bringing this bill to the floor.

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

Mr. Speaker, and to the Members, we heard Mr. MEEKS a moment ago, and we heard from Mrs. MALONEY. I can't tell everyone how much time and effort they have put into making sure that we get TRIA reauthorized.

What is interesting about what happened in our committee, aside from the fact that Mr. MCHENRY and I worked well together, we had the East and the Midwest working very well together. We had roundtables by Mr. MEEKS and Mrs. MALONEY in New York, and then in Missouri, we had Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. CLAY working together.

This has been a wonderful opportunity for all of us to work together to see to it that we do the right thing as it relates to responding to the possibility of terrorism and how we handle that.

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

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WATERS and Ranking Member MCHENRY for getting us to this day.

The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program before us this afternoon is one of the most important bills in the ongoing fight against terror.

TRIA helps to support the private market in providing coverage for terrorism risks by providing Federal reinsurance in the event of catastrophic losses from terrorism. The lack of public data on the scope and nature of terrorism risk makes it very difficult for private companies to model these risks, and as a result, a Federal backstop is important and necessary.

When businesses in my State of Missouri can purchase terrorism risk insurance, it provides confidence, promotes public safety, and undergirds the

overall economy. TRIA also protects key healthcare and research facilities in St. Louis that not only work on life-saving cures but also employ thousands of our constituents.

Overall, the TRIA program has been extremely successful in ensuring economic stability in the post-9/11 environment and has done so at virtually no cost to the taxpayer due to its cost-sharing structure.

In 2019, the threat of terrorism has not abated, and insurers still face challenges in underwriting risk with such a high potential loss. Without TRIA, many policyholders in Missouri and elsewhere would lose terrorism coverage; commercial lending would be significantly diminished; and the Federal Government would likely be called upon to provide assistance at great cost to taxpayers in the event of an attack.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this critical piece of legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a very good bill. This is a constructive conversation we have had from the Republicans on the Financial Services Committee and the Democrats on the Financial Services Committee.

This is a priority that Chairwoman WATERS set out in our first conversation about her agenda for the committee this Congress and an area where I offered to be supportive. So I am grateful that we are, in this policy set, a year ahead of time. It is a rare circumstance where Congress has acted so early on a key reauthorization. It is a rare thing, especially given the import of this Terrorism Risk Insurance Act.

We are 1 year ahead of schedule in reporting this bill off the House floor, and I expect a wide bipartisan vote, thankfully. I am grateful that in the committee markup process, we had great bipartisan support.

The New York delegation, having experienced 9/11, with four key policymakers from the city and the New York metro area, was very active in the original construct of this bill.

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Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. MALONEY, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ on the Democrat side, and Mr. KING on the Republican side, the combination of their expertise and also their legislative history, that they were here and helped construct the original act that we are reauthorizing now, today, is quite helpful. And their experience in the immediate reaction of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City as well as the Pentagon across the street from us, or across the river from us, here, today, and the loss in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, that immediate reaction was swift by Congress and bipartisan.

Today, we are carrying on that legacy, and I am grateful for it. I think the American people are grateful when we are able to act in that accord. This

is a very good day of bipartisanship that has taken months to bring us to this type of conclusion.

I thank Chairwoman WATERS for her willingness. When you are in the majority, you have got more votes than the minority. That is obvious with being in the majority. It is not all the time that you reach across the aisle when you are in the majority; I understand that. But in this act, Chairwoman WATERS said it is imperative that we work together, and we have.

We have got a good result here today. I think it shows the Financial Services Committee, when brought together, can do big and important things. This is certainly a big and important thing that will have a lasting impact on the American economy.

We are hopeful that we will never have to use this piece of law in response to a terrorist attack; but, if we are, the work that we have done on the Financial Services Committee, the expertise that we have had on the committee, we believe, means that this act will work in response to some cataclysmic event.

We are hopeful, and we plan to ensure that no further terrorist attacks happen or befall our country and our people like happened on 9/11. However, we are also in the disaster planning business, as well, and it is important and imperative that Members of Congress are engaged in that.

So the Financial Services Committee in this House has come to a good conclusion on a good piece of law, and we have a very good reauthorization. Mr. Speaker, I encourage a “yes” vote by all Members, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased and so proud that we are on the floor today on a bipartisan bill, and I certainly expect the support from both sides of the aisle.

America stands united against terrorism and the hatred and violence that it represents, and we are stronger as a country when we take steps to ensure that our country can quickly respond to terrorism. By reauthorizing TRIA, we are helping to do just that.

Again, I thank Ranking Member MCHENRY for working with me on this important bill, as well as all of the members on the committee who have shown real leadership on this issue. We heard from some of them today, particularly Representative MALONEY, who has worked for a long time on this legislation. This was so important to her.

Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. MEEKS have contributed mightily to the organizing of this bill, to work on any difficulties that we may have had, and I am very pleased about that.

Once again, I must say to Mr. MCHENRY, we have shown that it is possible. Despite the fact that we may not agree on a lot of other things, we came together on this legislation. We

agreed, we worked together, and we provided leadership and inspiration to others, understanding that this was possible.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4634, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. WATERS. 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.

#### FOSTERING STABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass bill (H.R. 4300) to provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4300

*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 “Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019”.

##### SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF FAMILY.

Subparagraph (A) of section 3(b)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(A)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking “(v)” and inserting “(vi)”;

and

(B) by inserting after “tenant family,” the following: “(v) a youth described in section 8(x)(2)(B).”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “or (vi)” after “clause (v)”.

##### SEC. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS FOR FOSTERING STABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “subject to paragraph (5),” after “(B)”;

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “(3) ALLOCATION.—The” and inserting the following:

“(3) ALLOCATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall, subject only to the availability of funds, allocate such assistance to any public housing agencies that (i) administer assistance pursuant to paragraph (2)(B), or seek to administer such assistance, consistent with procedures established by the Secretary, (ii) have requested such assistance so that they may

provide timely assistance to eligible youth, and (iii) have submitted to the Secretary a statement describing how the agency will connect assisted youths with local community resources and self-sufficiency services, to the extent they are available, and obtain referrals from public child welfare agencies regarding youths in foster care who become eligible for such assistance.”;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

“(5) REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Assistance provided under this subsection for an eligible youth pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) shall be subject to the following requirements:

“(A) REQUIREMENTS TO EXTEND ASSISTANCE.—

“(i) PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY.—In the case of a public housing agency that is providing such assistance under this subsection on behalf of an eligible youth and that is carrying out a family self-sufficiency program under section 23, the agency shall, subject only to the availability of such assistance, extend the provision of such assistance for up to 24 months beyond the period referred to in paragraph (2)(B), but only during such period that the youth is in compliance with the terms and conditions applicable under section 23 and the regulations implementing such section to a person participating in a family self-sufficiency program.

“(ii) EDUCATION, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, OR EMPLOYMENT.—In the case of a public housing agency that is providing such assistance under this subsection on behalf of an eligible youth and that is not carrying out a family self-sufficiency program under section 23, or is carrying out such a program in which the youth has been unable to enroll, the agency shall, subject only to the availability of such assistance, extend the provision of such assistance for two successive 12-month periods, after the period referred to in paragraph (2)(B), but only if for not less than 9 months of the 12-month period preceding each such extension the youth was—

“(I) engaged in obtaining a recognized postsecondary credential or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent;

“(II) enrolled in an institution of higher education, as such term is defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)) and including the institutions described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 102(a)(1) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(1)); or

“(III) participating in a career pathway, as such term is defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

Notwithstanding any other provision of this clause, a public housing agency shall consider employment as satisfying the requirements under this subparagraph.

“(iii) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding clauses (i) and (ii), a public housing agency that is providing such assistance under this subsection on behalf of an eligible youth shall extend the provision of such assistance for up to 24 months beyond the period referred to in paragraph (2)(B), and clauses (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph shall not apply, if the eligible youth certifies that he or she is—

“(I) a parent or other household member responsible for the care of a dependent child under the age of 6 or for the care of an incapacitated person;

“(II) a person who is regularly and actively participating in a drug addiction or alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program; or

“(III) a person who is incapable of complying with the requirement under clause (i) or (ii), as applicable, due to a documented medical condition.

“(iv) VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall require the public housing agency to verify compliance with the requirements under this subparagraph by each eligible youth on whose behalf the agency provides such assistance under this subsection on an annual basis in conjunction with reviews of income for purposes of determining income eligibility for such assistance.

“(B) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

“(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Each eligible youth on whose behalf such assistance under this subsection is provided shall be eligible for any supportive services (as such term is defined in section 103 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102)) made available, in connection with any housing assistance program of the agency, by or through the public housing agency providing such assistance.

“(ii) INFORMATION.—Upon the initial provision of such assistance under this subsection on behalf of any eligible youth, the public housing agency shall inform such eligible youth of the existence of any programs or services referred to in clause (i) and of their eligibility for such programs and services.

“(C) APPLICABILITY TO MOVING TO WORK AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the requirements of this paragraph shall apply to assistance under this subsection pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) made available by each public housing agency participating in the Moving to Work Program under section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), except that in lieu of compliance with clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, such an agency may comply with the requirements under such clauses by complying with such terms, conditions, and requirements as may be established by the agency for persons on whose behalf such rental assistance under this subsection is provided.

“(D) TERMINATION OF VOUCHERS UPON TURN-OVER.—A public housing agency shall not reissue any such assistance made available from appropriated funds when assistance for the youth initially assisted is terminated, unless specifically authorized by the Secretary.

“(E) REPORTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require each public housing agency that provides such assistance under this subsection in any fiscal year to submit a report to the Secretary for such fiscal year that—

“(I) specifies the number of persons on whose behalf such assistance under this subsection was provided during such fiscal year;

“(II) specifies the number of persons who applied during such fiscal year for such assistance under this subsection, but were not provided such assistance, and provides a brief identification in each instance of the reason why the public housing agency was unable to award such assistance; and

“(III) describes how the public housing agency communicated or collaborated with public child welfare agencies to collect such data.

“(ii) INFORMATION COLLECTIONS.—The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent possible, utilize existing information collections, including the voucher management system (VMS), the Inventory Management System/PIH Information Center (IMS/PIC), or the successors of those systems, to collect information required under this subparagraph.

“(F) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide such information and guidance to the Secretary of Health and Human Services as may be necessary to facilitate such Secretary in informing States and public child welfare agencies on how to correctly and efficiently implement and comply with the requirements of this subsection relating to assistance provided pursuant to paragraph (2)(B).”

(b) COORDINATION BETWEEN PHAS AND PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES.—

(1) APPLICABILITY TO FOSTERING STABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM.—Subparagraph (A) of section 8(x)(4) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)(4)(A)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “and establishing a point of contact at public housing agencies to ensure that public housing agencies receive appropriate referrals regarding eligible recipients”.

(c) PHA ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Subsection (q) of section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) SUPPLEMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—The Secretary may provide supplemental fees under this subsection to the public housing agency for the cost of administering any assistance for foster youth under subsection (x)(2)(B), in an amount determined by the Secretary, but only if the agency waives for such eligible youth receiving assistance any residency requirement that it has otherwise established pursuant to subsection (r)(1)(B)(i).”

#### SEC. 4. EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS FOR PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER ASSISTANCE.

(a) PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.—The first sentence of clause (ii) of section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)(ii)) is amended by inserting before “or that” the following: “that house eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to subsection (x)(2)(B).”

(b) INCOME-MIXING REQUIREMENT.—Subclause (I) of section 8(o)(13)(D)(ii) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(D)(ii)(I)) is amended by inserting after “elderly families” the following: “, to eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to subsection (x)(2)(B).”

#### SEC. 5. APPLICABILITY.

The amendments made by this Act shall not apply to housing choice voucher assistance made available pursuant to section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) that is in use on behalf of an assisted family as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4300, the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019. This bill will help to ensure that our young adults aging out of foster care and at risk of homelessness have the housing assistance they need. In addition, this bill includes incentives for these young adults to participate in activities or programs to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

The young people who have aged out of the foster care system face many challenges as they abruptly face adulthood without many of the supports needed to help them make the transition. These young people have limited resources with which to secure safe and stable housing, which leaves them at heightened risk of experiencing homelessness.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4300, the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act.

Each year, Mr. Speaker, roughly 20,000 youth age out of foster care. Young adults without families who exit the foster care system are incredibly vulnerable to homelessness. A number of studies show that between 11 and 36 percent of these young people who age out of our foster care system experience homelessness.

These foster youth need and deserve our support. A stable roof over their heads can allow these young men and women to pursue an education or a career. A home can be a bedrock from which they can build their lives and protect them from crimes like human trafficking.

It will also help these young adults by allowing up to 2 years of extensions if they enroll in HUD’s Family Self-Sufficiency program, pursue education or workforce development, or gain employment.

It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, to protect these young men and women from being jettisoned from our foster care system and onto the streets. This bill doesn’t just give them a roof over their heads; it gives them the ability to build a future.

I applaud the sponsors of H.R. 4300, Ms. DEAN and Mr. STIVERS, and I would like to acknowledge, in particular, the hard work that my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) has put into this bill over the last few years. He has been a true champion of this issue, and should be commended for his dedication.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4300, the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act, and I thank the manager, Mr. GREEN, and

Representative WAGNER for their wholehearted support.

The Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act is a bipartisan bill that addresses the needs of foster youth facing homelessness as they age out of the foster care system.

Every year, approximately 20,000 young people across this country age out of foster care. Studies show that between one-fifth to one-third of these young adults will become homeless in transition years.

That sudden and permanent transition from foster care to adulthood—including the loss of financial, educational, and social supports that the child welfare system provides—places these vulnerable youth at risk of homelessness and housing instability.

In my home State of Pennsylvania, for example, 32 percent of foster youth surveyed in fiscal year 2018 reported that they had been homeless by the age of 21. That is nearly a third of the young people coming out of the foster care system.

The Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act will address this problem by reforming and extending the current voucher system. It provides vouchers from HUD on demand to foster youth who are at risk of becoming homeless, rather than forcing them to spend years on waiting lists.

Furthermore, this bill incentivizes young people to participate in self-sufficiency activities by extending their assistance for up to an additional 2 years. Qualifying activities include pursuing an education, workforce development, or employment.

Finally, the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act builds upon the current Family Unification Program under the foster youth portion to better align the child welfare and affordable housing systems and to coordinate and improve the lives of foster youth.

This bill is endorsed by more than 40 organizations, including the National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Low Income Housing Coalition, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and the Child Welfare League of America.

I thank my colleague on the Financial Services Committee in particular, Congressman STIVERS, for his leadership on this bipartisan bill; as well as Congresswoman BASS, founder and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth; and Congressman TURNER, who has been a leader on this issue for many years.

Finally, I thank the Financial Services Committee chair, Chairwoman WATERS, for her support on this legislation.

The Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act passed the Financial Services Committee unanimously, and I urge Members of the full House to pass it as well.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania (Ms.

DEAN) for pushing this legislation with me, as well as Congresswoman BASS of California. Congressman STIVERS of Ohio has been an incredible champion. I thank Congressman WAGNER for her work on this bill.

And I want to thank, particularly, Ranking Member MCHENRY. I am not a member of this committee, and I thank Chairwoman WATERS and, of course, Ranking Member MCHENRY for taking this up and allowing me to advocate for this bill.

This is a bill of the heart. Everyone who has worked on this bill knows that we are remedying a wrong that shouldn't exist.

Mr. Speaker, several years ago, a group of Ohio foster youth, foster care alumni, and advocates came to me and explained to me the struggles that they endure as a result of the government's failure as foster parents. We fail to provide housing for these young people when they age out of foster care.

Currently, when youth age out of the foster care system, they are often placed at the back of the line to receive housing assistance, despite some targeted interventions available. Essentially, many of these youth, when they age out of foster care, age into federally created homelessness.

Now, part of this problem is that foster care is under HHS and adult housing is under HUD. Even though we know these kids are coming because we are providing them funding and we are providing them care under the foster care system under HHS, HUD acts like they have shown up for the very first day when they become adults and age out of the system.

It is our responsibility to fix this. As Congresswoman WAGNER was saying, studies show that 37 percent of foster care alumni have experienced homelessness. What a failure of a program.

The program under HHS is graduating 37 percent of its kids into homelessness; 20 percent struggle with chronic homelessness. This is after we have made a significant investment in these children's lives. It is the time that they start to go forward into adulthood that they face homelessness.

The government can and should remedy this. This bill will help with that and will give these kids, as they go into adulthood, an opportunity to jump in the front of the line—because we know they are coming; we have known they are coming for years—and give them the assistance for federally created housing so they can look toward self-sufficiency and become independent members of society.

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Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all of the Dayton, Ohio, area foster kids and the alumni who helped work on this. Congratulations to each and every one of them. We did it, Mr. Speaker. I encourage everyone to vote for this.

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to thank Mrs. WAGNER for working with me and the other members of the committee. I would like to also thank Ms. DEAN and Mr. STIVERS for introducing this important piece of legislation that is aimed at protecting some of our most vulnerable young people who too often fall into homelessness after they age out of foster care.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4300, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE BILL (H.R. 3055) COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-297) on the resolution (H. Res. 708) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3702,  
H.R. 4634; and  
H.R. 4344.

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

REFORMING DISASTER RECOVERY 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. 3702) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide disaster assistance to States, Puerto Rico, units of general local government, and Indian tribes under a community development block grant disaster recovery 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 gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 290, nays 118, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 625]

YEAS—290

Adams	Doggett	Lee (CA)
Aderholt	Doyle, Michael	Lee (NV)
Aguilar	F.	Levin (CA)
Allred	Engel	Levin (MI)
Amodei	Escobar	Lewis
Axne	Eshoo	Lieu, Ted
Bacon	Espallat	Lipinski
Baird	Evans	Loebsack
Banks	Finkenauer	Loggren
Barr	Fitzpatrick	Loudermilk
Barragán	Fletcher	Lowenthal
Bass	Foster	Lowe
Beatty	Frankel	Lucas
Bera	Fudge	Luetkemeyer
Beyer	Gallagher	Luján
Bishop (GA)	Gallego	Luria
Blumenauer	Garamendi	Lynch
Blunt Rochester	Garcia (IL)	Malinowski
Bonamici	Garcia (TX)	Maloney,
Bost	Gianforte	Carolyn B.
Boyle, Brendan	Golden	Maloney, Sean
F.	Gomez	Matsui
Brindisi	Gonzalez (OH)	McAdams
Brown (MD)	Gottheimer	McBath
Brownley (CA)	Green, Al (TX)	McCollum
Buchanan	Haaland	McGovern
Bucshon	Hagedorn	McHenry
Budd	Harder (CA)	McKinley
Bustos	Hartzler	McNerney
Calvert	Hastings	Meeks
Carbajal	Hayes	Meuser
Cárdenas	Heck	Moolenaar
Carson (IN)	Herrera Beutler	Mooney (WV)
Cartwright	Higgins (NY)	Moore
Case	Hill (AR)	Morrelle
Casten (IL)	Himes	Mucarsel-Powell
Castor (FL)	Hollingsworth	Murphy (FL)
Castro (TX)	Horn, Kendra S.	Nadler
Chu, Judy	Houlihan	Napolitano
Ciциlline	Hoyer	Neal
Cisneros	Huffman	Neguse
Clark (MA)	Huizenga	Newhouse
Clarke (NY)	Jackson Lee	Norcross
Clay	Jayapal	O'Halleran
Cleaver	Jeffries	Ocasio-Cortez
Clyburn	Johnson (GA)	Omar
Cohen	Johnson (TX)	Pallone
Cole	Joyce (OH)	Panetta
Connolly	Kaptur	Pappas
Cook	Katko	Pascrell
Cooper	Keating	Payne
Correa	Keller	Pence
Costa	Kelly (IL)	Perlmutter
Courtney	Kelly (PA)	Peters
Craig	Kennedy	Peterson
Crist	Khanna	Phillips
Crow	Kildee	Pingree
Cuellar	Kilmer	Pocan
Cunningham	Kim	Porter
Davids (KS)	Kind	Posey
Davis (CA)	King (IA)	Price (NC)
Davis, Danny K.	King (NY)	Quigley
Dean	Kinzinger	Raskin
DeFazio	Kirkpatrick	Reed
DeGette	Krishnamoorthi	Rice (NY)
DeLauro	Kustoff (TN)	Rice (SC)
DelBene	LaMalfa	Richmond
Delgado	Lamb	Riggleman
Demings	Langevin	Roby
DeSaulnier	Larsen (WA)	Rodgers (WA)
Deutch	Larson (CT)	Roe, David P.
Diaz-Balart	Lawrence	Rogers (AL)
Dingell	Lawson (FL)	Rogers (KY)

Rose (NY)	Smith (NE)	Trone
Rose, John W.	Smith (WA)	Turner
Rouda	Soto	Underwood
Roybal-Allard	Spanberger	Upton
Ruiz	Spano	Van Drew
Rush	Speier	Vargas
Rutherford	Stanton	Veasey
Ryan	Stauber	Vela
Sánchez	Stefanik	Velázquez
Sarbanes	Steil	Visclosky
Scanlon	Stevens	Wagner
Schakowsky	Stivers	Walberg
Schiff	Suozzi	Walden
Schneider	Swalwell (CA)	Walorski
Schrader	Takano	Wasserman
Schrier	Thompson (CA)	Schultz
Scott (VA)	Thompson (MS)	Waters
Scott, David	Thompson (PA)	Watson Coleman
Sewell (AL)	Tipton	Welch
Shalala	Titus	Wexton
Sherman	Tlaib	Wild
Sherrill	Tonko	Wilson (FL)
Shimkus	Torres (CA)	Yarmuth
Simpson	Torres Small	Zeldin
Sires	(NM)	
Slotkin	Trahan	

NAYS—118

Abraham	Gaetz	Mitchell
Allen	Gibbs	Mullin
Amash	Gooden	Murphy (NC)
Armstrong	Gosar	Norman
Arrington	Granger	Nunes
Babin	Graves (GA)	Olson
Balderson	Graves (LA)	Palazzo
Bergman	Graves (MO)	Palmer
Biggs	Green (TN)	Perry
Bishop (NC)	Griffith	Ratcliffe
Bishop (UT)	Grothman	Reschenthaler
Brady	Guest	Rouzer
Brooks (AL)	Guthrie	Roy
Buck	Harris	Scalise
Burchett	Hern, Kevin	Schweikert
Burgess	Hice (GA)	Scott, Austin
Byrne	Higgins (LA)	Sensenbrenner
Carter (GA)	Holding	Smith (MO)
Chabot	Hudson	Smith (NJ)
Cheney	Hunter	Smucker
Cline	Hurd (TX)	Steube
Cloud	Johnson (LA)	Stewart
Collins (GA)	Johnson (OH)	Taylor
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Thornberry
Conaway	Jordan	Walker
Crawford	Joyce (PA)	Waltz
Crenshaw	Kelly (MS)	Watkins
Curtis	LaHood	Weber (TX)
Davidson (OH)	Lamborn	Webster (FL)
Davis, Rodney	Latta	Wenstrup
DesJarlais	Lesko	Westerman
Duncan	Duncan	Williams
Dunn	Dunn	Wilson (SC)
Emmer	Emmer	Wittman
Estes	Mast	Womack
McCarthy	McCarthy	Woodall
Flores	McCaul	Yoho
McClintock	McClintock	Young
Meadows	Meadows	
Miller	Miller	

NOT VOTING—22

Bilirakis	Gonzalez (TX)	Pressley
Brooks (IN)	Grijalva	Rooney (FL)
Butterfield	Horsford	Ruppersberger
Carter (TX)	Kuster (NH)	Serrano
Cox (CA)	Marchant	Timmons
Ferguson	McEachin	Wright
Gabbard	Meng	
Gohmert	Moulton	

□ 1857

Messrs. OLSON, FORTENBERRY, EMMER, LONG, SMUCKER, CURTIS, RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, YOUNG, DAVIDSON of Ohio, and HUNTER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. BACON, RICE of South Carolina, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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 for:

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 625.

TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TONKO). 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. 4634) to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, 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 California (Ms. WATERS) 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 385, nays 22, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 626]

YEAS—385

Abraham	Clay	Flores
Adams	Cleaver	Fortenberry
Aderholt	Cline	Foster
Aguilar	Cloud	Frankel
Allen	Clyburn	Fudge
Allred	Cohen	Fulcher
Amodei	Cole	Gallagher
Armstrong	Collins (GA)	Gallego
Arrington	Comer	Garamendi
Axne	Conaway	Garcia (IL)
Bacon	Connolly	Garcia (TX)
Baird	Cook	Gianforte
Balderson	Cooper	Gibbs
Banks	Correa	Golden
Barr	Costa	Gomez
Barragán	Courtney	Gonzalez (OH)
Bass	Craig	Gooden
Beatty	Crawford	Gottheimer
Bera	Crenshaw	Granger
Bergman	Crist	Graves (GA)
Beyer	Crow	Graves (LA)
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Graves (MO)
Bishop (NC)	Cunningham	Green (TN)
Bishop (UT)	Curtis	Green, Al (TX)
Blumenauer	Davids (KS)	Griffith
Blunt Rochester	Davidson (OH)	Grothman
Bonamici	Davis (CA)	Guest
Bost	Davis, Danny K.	Guthrie
Boyle, Brendan	Davis, Rodney	Haaland
F.	Dean	Hagedorn
Brindisi	DeFazio	Harder (CA)
Brooks (AL)	DeGette	Hartzler
Brown (MD)	DeLauro	Hastings
Brownley (CA)	DelBene	Hayes
Buchanan	Delgado	Heck
Bucshon	Demings	Hern, Kevin
Budd	DeSaulnier	Herrera Beutler
Burgess	DesJarlais	Higgins (LA)
Bustos	Deutch	Higgins (NY)
Byrne	Diaz-Balart	Hill (AR)
Calvert	Dingell	Himes
Carbajal	Doggett	Holding
Cárdenas	Doyle, Michael	Hollingsworth
Carson (IN)	F.	Horn, Kendra S.
Carter (GA)	Duncan	Houlihan
Case	Dunn	Hoyer
Casten (IL)	Emmer	Hudson
Castor (FL)	Engel	Huffman
Castro (TX)	Escobar	Huizenga
Chabot	Eshoo	Hunter
Cheney	Espallat	Hurd (TX)
Chu, Judy	Estes	Jackson Lee
Ciциlline	Evans	Jayapal
Cisneros	Finkenauer	Jeffries
Clark (MA)	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (GA)
Clarke (NY)	Fleischmann	Johnson (LA)
	Fletcher	Johnson (OH)

Johnson (SD) Moore  
 Johnson (TX) Mucarsel-Powell  
 Joyce (OH) Mullin  
 Joyce (PA) Murphy (FL)  
 Kaptur Nadler  
 Katko Napolitano  
 Keating Neal  
 Keller Neguse  
 Kelly (IL) Newhouse  
 Kelly (MS) Norcross  
 Kelly (PA) Norman  
 Kennedy Nunes  
 Khanna O'Halleran  
 Kildee Ocasio-Cortez  
 Kilmer Olson  
 Kim Omar  
 Kind Laizzo  
 King (IA) Pallone  
 King (NY) Panetta  
 Kinzinger Pappas  
 Kirkpatrick Pascrell  
 Krishnamoorthi Payne  
 Kuster (NH) Pence  
 Kustoff (TN) Perlmutter  
 LaHood Perry  
 LaMalfa Peters  
 Lamb Peterson  
 Lamborn Phillips  
 Langevin Pingree  
 Larsen (WA) Pocan  
 Larson (CT) Porter  
 Latta Posey  
 Lawrence Price (NC)  
 Lawson (FL) Quigley  
 Lee (CA) Raskin  
 Lee (NV) Ratcliffe  
 Lesko Reed  
 Levin (CA) Reschenthaler  
 Levin (MI) Rice (NY)  
 Lewis Rice (SC)  
 Lieu, Ted Richmond  
 Lipinski Riggleman  
 Loeb sack Roby  
 Lofgren Rodgers (WA)  
 Long Roe, David P.  
 Loudermilk Rogers (AL)  
 Lowenthal Rogers (KY)  
 Lowey Rose (NY)  
 Lucas Rose, John W.  
 Luetkemeyer Rouda  
 Luján Rouzer  
 Luria Roybal-Allard  
 Lynch Ruiz  
 Malinowski Rush  
 Maloney, Carolyn B. Rutherford  
 Maloney, Sean Ryan  
 Marshall Sánchez  
 Matsui Sarbanes  
 McAdams Scanlon  
 McCarthy Schakowsky  
 McCaul Schiff  
 McCollum Schneider  
 McGovern Schrader  
 McHenry Schrier  
 McKinley Schweikert  
 McNeerney Scott (VA)  
 Meeks Scott, Austin  
 Meuser Scott, David  
 Miller Sewell (AL)  
 Mitchell Shalala  
 Moolenaar Sherman  
 Mooney (WV) Sherrill

NAYS—22

Amash Gosar  
 Babin Harris  
 Biggs Hice (GA)  
 Brady Jordan  
 Buck Massie  
 Burchett Mast  
 Foxx (NC) McClintock  
 Gaetz Meadows

NOT VOTING—23

Bilirakis Gonzalez (TX)  
 Brooks (IN) Grijalva  
 Butterfield Horsford  
 Carter (TX) Marchant  
 Cox (CA) McBath  
 Ferguson McEachin  
 Gabbard Meng  
 Gohmert Morelle

□ 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.

INVESTOR PROTECTION AND CAPITAL MARKETS FAIRNESS ACT

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. 4344) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow the Securities and Exchange Commission to seek and Federal courts to grant disgorgement of unjust enrichment, 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 gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) 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 314, nays 95, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 627]

YEAS—314

Abraham  
 Adams  
 Aderholt  
 Aguilar  
 Alired  
 Axne  
 Bacon  
 Baird  
 Banks  
 Barragán  
 Bass  
 Beatty  
 Bera  
 Bergman  
 Beyer  
 Bishop (GA)  
 Blumenauer  
 Blunt Rochester  
 Bonamici  
 Bost  
 Boyle, Brendan  
 F.  
 Brady  
 Brindisi  
 Brown (MD)  
 Brownley (CA)  
 F.  
 Buchanan  
 Bucshon  
 Bustos  
 Calvert  
 Carbajal  
 Cárdenas  
 Carson (IN)  
 Carter (GA)  
 Cartwright  
 Case  
 Casten (IL)  
 Castor (FL)  
 Castro (TX)  
 Chu, Judy  
 Cicilline  
 Cisneros  
 Clark (MA)  
 Clarke (NY)  
 Clay  
 Cleaver  
 Clyburn  
 Cohen  
 Cole  
 Collins (GA)  
 Comer  
 Connolly  
 Cook  
 Cooper  
 Correa  
 Costa  
 Courtney  
 Cox (CA)  
 Craig  
 Crawford  
 Crenshaw  
 Crist  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Cunningham  
 Curtis  
 Davids (KS)  
 Davis (CA)  
 Davis, Danny K.  
 Davis, Rodney  
 Dean  
 DeFazio  
 DeGette  
 DeLauro  
 DelBene  
 Delgado  
 Demings  
 DeSaulnier  
 Deutch  
 Diaz-Balart  
 Dingell  
 Doggett  
 Doyle, Michael  
 F.  
 Engel  
 Escobar  
 Eshoo  
 Espallat  
 Evans  
 Finkenauer  
 Fitzpatrick  
 Fletcher  
 Flores  
 Fortenberry  
 Foster  
 Foxx (NC)  
 Frankel  
 Fudge  
 Gallagher  
 Gallego  
 Garamendi  
 Garcia (IL)  
 Garcia (TX)  
 Gianforte  
 Gibbs  
 Golden  
 Gomez  
 Gonzalez (OH)  
 Gooden  
 Gottheimer  
 Granger  
 Graves (GA)  
 Graves (MO)  
 Green, Al (TX)  
 Guthrie  
 Haaland  
 Harder (CA)  
 Hartzler  
 Hastings  
 Hayes  
 Heck  
 Herrera Beutler  
 Higgins (LA)  
 Higgins (NY)  
 Hill (AR)  
 Himes  
 Hollingsworth  
 Horn, Kendra S.  
 Houlahan  
 Hoyer  
 Hudson  
 Huffman  
 Huizenga  
 Hurd (TX)  
 Jackson Lee  
 Jayapal  
 Jeffries  
 Johnson (GA)  
 Johnson (OH)  
 Johnson (TX)  
 Joyce (OH)  
 Kaptur  
 Katko  
 Keating  
 Keller  
 Kelly (IL)  
 Kelly (MS)  
 Kennedy  
 Khanna  
 Kildee  
 Kilmer  
 Kim  
 Kind  
 King (NY)  
 Kinzinger  
 Kirkpatrick  
 Krishnamoorthi  
 Kuster (NH)  
 Kustoff (TN)  
 LaHood  
 LaMalfa  
 Lamb  
 Langevin  
 Larsen (WA)  
 Larson (CT)  
 Latta  
 Lawrence  
 Lawson (FL)  
 Lee (CA)  
 Lee (NV)  
 Levin (CA)  
 Levin (MI)  
 Lewis  
 Lieu, Ted

Lipinski  
 Loeb sack  
 Lofgren  
 Long  
 Lowenthal  
 Lowey  
 Lucas  
 Luetkemeyer  
 Luján  
 Luria  
 Lynch  
 Malinowski  
 Maloney,  
 Carolyn B.  
 Maloney, Sean  
 Matsui  
 McAdams  
 McBath  
 McCaul  
 McCollum  
 McGovern  
 McHenry  
 McNeerney  
 Meeks  
 Moolenaar  
 Moore  
 Morelle  
 Mucarsel-Powell  
 Murphy (FL)  
 Nadler  
 Napolitano  
 Neal  
 Neguse  
 Newhouse  
 Norcross  
 Nunes  
 O'Halleran  
 Ocasio-Cortez  
 Olson  
 Omar  
 Pallone  
 Panetta  
 Pappas  
 Pascrell  
 Payne  
 Perlmutter  
 Peters  
 Peterson  
 Phillips  
 Pingree  
 Pocan  
 Porter  
 Posey  
 Price (NC)  
 Quigley  
 Raskin  
 Reed  
 Rice (NY)  
 Richmond  
 Rodgers (WA)  
 Roe, David P.  
 Rogers (AL)  
 Rogers (KY)  
 Rose (NY)  
 Rouda  
 Roybal-Allard  
 Ruiz  
 Rush  
 Rutherford  
 Ryan  
 Sánchez  
 Sarbanes  
 Scanlon  
 Schakowsky  
 Schiff  
 Schneider  
 Schrader  
 Schrier  
 Scott (VA)  
 Scott, Austin  
 Scott, David  
 Sensenbrenner  
 Sewell (AL)  
 Shalala  
 Sherman  
 Sherrill  
 Shimkus  
 Sires  
 Slotkin  
 Smith (NE)  
 Smith (NJ)  
 Smith (WA)  
 Soto  
 Spanberger  
 Spano  
 Speier  
 Stanton  
 Stauber  
 Stefanik  
 Steil  
 Stevens  
 Stewart  
 Suozzi  
 Swalwell (CA)  
 Takano  
 Taylor  
 Thompson (CA)  
 Thompson (MS)  
 Thompson (PA)  
 Thornberry  
 Tipton  
 Titus  
 Tlaib  
 Tonko  
 Torres (CA)  
 Torres Small  
 (NM)  
 Trahan  
 Trone  
 Turner  
 Underwood  
 Upton  
 Van Drew  
 Vargas  
 Veasey  
 Vela  
 Velázquez  
 Visclosky  
 Wagner  
 Walberg  
 Walden  
 Walker  
 Walorski  
 Waltz  
 Wasserman  
 Schultz  
 Waters  
 Watson Coleman  
 Sires  
 Webster (FL)  
 Welch  
 Wexton  
 Wild  
 Williams  
 Wilson (FL)  
 Womack  
 Yarmuth  
 Young  
 Zeldin

NAYS—95

Allen  
 Amash  
 Amodei  
 Armstrong  
 Arrington  
 Babin  
 Balderson  
 Barr  
 Biggs  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Brooks (AL)  
 Buck  
 Budd  
 Burchett  
 Burgess  
 Byrne  
 Chabot  
 Cheney  
 Cline  
 Cloud  
 Conaway  
 Davidson (OH)  
 DesJarlais  
 Duncan  
 Dunn  
 Emmer  
 Estes  
 Fleischmann  
 Fulcher  
 Gaetz  
 Gosar  
 Graves (LA)  
 Green (TN)  
 Griffith  
 Grothman  
 Guest  
 Hagedorn  
 Harris  
 Hern, Kevin  
 Hice (GA)  
 Holding  
 Hunter  
 Johnson (LA)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Kelly (PA)  
 King (IA)  
 Lamborn  
 Lesko  
 Loudermilk  
 Marshall  
 Massie  
 Mast  
 McCarthy  
 McClintock  
 McKinley  
 Meadows  
 Meuser  
 Miller  
 Mitchell  
 Mooney (WV)  
 Mullin  
 Murphy (NC)  
 Norman  
 Palazzo  
 Palmer  
 Pence  
 Perry  
 Ratcliffe  
 Reschenthaler  
 Rice (SC)  
 Riggleman  
 Roby  
 Johnson (LA)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Kelly (PA)  
 King (IA)  
 Lamborn  
 Lesko  
 Loudermilk  
 Marshall  
 Massie  
 Mast  
 McCarthy  
 McClintock  
 McKinley  
 Meadows  
 Meuser  
 Miller  
 Mitchell  
 Mooney (WV)  
 Mullin  
 Murphy (NC)  
 Moulton  
 Pressley  
 Rooney (FL)  
 Ruppertsberger  
 Serrano  
 Timmons  
 Wright

NOT VOTING—21

Bilirakis  
 Bishop (UT)  
 Brooks (IN)  
 Butterfield  
 Carter (TX)  
 Ferguson  
 Gabbard

□ 1913

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.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

Mr. LAMBORN, Colorado

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF SERGEANT STEVEN RHODES

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Sergeant Steven Rhodes for his dedication to public safety in my district.

Sergeant Rhodes is a 20-year veteran of the Bayonne Police Department in Bayonne, New Jersey. He has worked in the Patrol Division, Community Oriented Policing Unit, Detective Bureau, and the Juvenile Aid Bureau. He has earned a Departmental Valor Award, six commendations, four Excellent Police Service Awards, and two Meritorious Police Service Awards.

Yesterday, he was presented the 2019 Freedom Fund Award by the Bayonne branch of the NAACP. He has earned this award as much as all of the others, and I am proud to call him a resident of the 10th Congressional District.

He has continued to look out for his community through law enforcement, but with a community edge, and that is what we need in our communities.

#### BAT CONSERVATION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, recently, I had the pleasure of joining the Pennsylvania Game Commission for a briefing to highlight the importance of bats and voluntary conservation. I was also joined there by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The U.S. bat population plays an important role in Pennsylvania's ecosystem and agricultural industry. They also help producers with insect control, pollination, and seed dispersal.

This is a good thing for our environment, too, and for the health of our agricultural yields, because when the bat populations can eat thousands of insects a night, that means fewer pesticides.

These creatures are truly amazing. Several years ago, it was that vampire bat saliva could be used to create anti-

stroke medication. With more than 1,300 different species, the potential for lifesaving medication, innovative agricultural practices, and any number of new discoveries is limitless.

That is why I introduced H. Res. 663, to establish October 24 to October 31 as Bat Week. Whether we realize it or not, bats play a role in our everyday lives, and they deserve our commitment to conservation.

#### JUSTICE MUST BE RENDERED FOR ALL

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate a collective group of Republicans and Democrats, people from the faith community who joined together to acknowledge that Rodney Reed, an inmate on death row for more than 20 years, with new DNA evidence and witnesses who indicated that another individual, the fiancée of the victim, may have committed this crime, was given the opportunity for an indefinite suspension by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

It is important, as Texas probably remains one of the States with the largest number of individuals on death row, that we do not take the victim's interests lightly or that of the perpetrator and convicted person.

Mr. Reed did not and was not convicted by a jury of his peers. The jury was not diverse in Giddings, Texas. There was subsequent evidence, as I indicated, DNA evidence, as I have indicated.

It is important as much for the justice for the victim to know, or the victim's family to know, the actual perpetrator who did this dastardly act and took a life as it is for the man sitting on death row.

So religious community leaders, international leaders, my colleague in the United States Senate Senator CRUZ, I, and others around the State want to recognize the work of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, after the fact, and, of course, the Board of Pardons.

Justice must be rendered for all, and that is what is happening in Texas today.

#### TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE LIVES

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, last month, more than 30,000 scientists, including many from Florida, congregated for Neuroscience 2019, an annual event dedicated to understanding the brain and the nervous system.

Now, one of the many brain diseases that was discussed at this annual meeting was glioblastoma, which is, unfortunately, prevalent in the part of Florida that I represent. As a matter of

fact, just last week, my friend, Mark Cunningham, who was diagnosed with this aggressive cancer 3 years ago, passed after many years of fighting for his life.

I ask that you join me in praying for the Cunningham family and all those still fighting this horrible disease. I also ask that you thank God for the inspiring person that Mark proved to be every day of his life.

I would just say that I am thankful for the neuroscientists working tirelessly to learn more about this disease. Last year, our community received more than \$48 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health to conduct research aimed at understanding the nervous system.

I have seen firsthand the important work being done at research institutes in my community, including the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, and I am very confident that we can save lives.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF BERNARD TYSON

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening with a heavy heart to honor the extraordinary life of Bernard Tyson, who passed away on November 10 and whom, as we speak, the Bay area is paying tribute to in a memorial in San Francisco.

Bernard Tyson was one of our Nation's most influential African American CEOs and healthcare leaders, serving as the first African American CEO of Kaiser, and transforming Kaiser's healthcare system into a model for healthcare providers everywhere.

Bernard's tireless dedication to improving the quality of healthcare was exemplified in his push to create a more accessible and affordable healthcare system for all.

Throughout his life, Bernard sparked systematic change and innovation, addressing inequities that disproportionately affect communities of color.

He was a role model and mentor to so many African American young men, including my son, Tony, who recently had lunch with him to discuss his insights into the future of healthcare.

I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Denise, his entire family, to our entire community, and the country.

We lost a warrior and a great humanitarian; but, as we mourn his passing, let us celebrate his life and make sure that his legacy lives.

May Bernard rest in peace, and may he rest in power.

#### END GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

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

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment

that, once again, Congress is kicking the can down the road and putting off properly funding the government by another month.

I urge my colleagues to recognize government funding affects the lives of millions of Americans: USDA officials inspect our Thanksgiving turkeys; postal workers deliver our holiday cards and packages; TSA agents and air traffic controllers keep us safe to fly home for the holidays. Not to mention, millions of Federal employees rely on a steady income, especially during the expensive holiday season.

This is unfair to Americans. Clearly, all Americans are affected by Congress' inability to pass a budget. That is why I introduced the End Government Shutdowns Act, which safeguards against the damaging consequences of shutdowns. It lifts the shutdown burden from the shoulders of Americans and incentivizes lawmakers to reach across the aisle and do our jobs.

Americans want to see us come together and find bipartisan solutions to our Nation's most challenging funding problems. My bill does just that.

#### NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and a member of the Adoption Caucus, I rise to recognize National Adoption Month.

Mr. Speaker, all children deserve the love and security of a family, but for the 125,000 youth waiting to be adopted from foster care, that most basic of human needs can seem so out of reach. Through the Foster Youth Caucus, we try to shine a spotlight on these youth, as well as the adoptive families that open their hearts and homes to children in need.

Ted and Teena Sullivan are two such adoptive parents from my home State of Rhode Island. Ted is also the senior director of Mission Advancement for Bethany Christian Services, and I was honored to recognize him as a 2019 Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute Angel in Adoption last week.

Mr. Speaker, adoptive parents like Ted and Teena give children in need the most important gift: a forever family. Let them be our example this National Adoption Month as we recommit to serving our most vulnerable youth.

□ 1930

#### CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS ARE NOT THE WAY CONGRESS SHOULD OPERATE

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will consider another temporary funding measure, this time

kicking the can down the road until December 20. We are nearly 2 months into the fiscal year, and not a single full-year appropriations bill has been completed. Continuing resolutions are not the way that we should operate.

Priorities shift from year to year, and the longer a CR lasts, the more it hurts our military, our ports, and our infrastructure investment. I have seen no evidence that we are any closer to passing any full-year bills than at the end of September when we passed the last CR.

You will hear my colleagues across the aisle blame this on Senate Republicans, however, the House majority appropriations bills were filled with poison pills that they continue to insist upon, such as preventing the use of funds for the border wall. And now the entire past month has been devoted to their sham impeachment efforts.

I urge my colleagues, put the partisan investigations to the side so that we can come to a bipartisan agreement to fund the government in a responsible way.

#### HONORING BERNARD TYSON

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Bernard Tyson, who passed away on November 10 and is being celebrated at this hour.

I had the privilege of serving alongside Bernard on the board of the American Heart Association, and I can tell you he was a visionary and a champion for high quality healthcare for all Americans and providing some 12 million American men, women, and children healthcare in the process. That is what he fought for every day as president and CEO of Kaiser Permanente, in which he served as the first African American in that role.

He was a trailblazer in the industry with a push-the-envelope mindset, quick wit, and he was a people person. He never forgot where he came from. He mentored many and was a prominent African American that we looked up to.

My condolences, thoughts, and prayers are with his wife and dear friend, Denise, his son, and the entire family. I am proud to call Bernard my friend and will miss him dearly and his exceptional contributions to our Nation's healthcare industry. Rest in peace. Rest in power.

#### HONORING LAURA CHAFFIN

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the Holy Bible, the book of Mark, chapter 12, verse 30 says, "Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all of your

strength." Those words sum up Laura Chaffin, her life.

An accident last year in Uganda took her voice and paralyzed her for a couple of trying weeks. She was there with her husband Scott trying to put their family together. The Chaffin family is beside me right now. There is Laura, there is Scott, and their three sons, Elijah, David, and Jonah.

If you think Laura felt pity when she was hurt, you are dead wrong. With a team of experts at TIRR at Memorial Hermann Hospital and with the love of family and the love of Jesus Christ, she started talking and walking and teaching at Alvin ISD and cooking for her family. She became, again, a mom and a wife.

Mr. Speaker, in the name of Laura, Scott, Elijah, David, Jonah, and Jesus Christ, I yield back.

#### CONGRATULATING MATTHEW CATANOSO

(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, today I would like to send my congratulations to an extraordinary south Jersey native, who represented our Nation at the international Henley's Royal Regatta this past summer.

Matthew Catanoso is a rising sophomore on the crew team at the United States Naval Academy, which was chosen to participate in the King's Cup competition in July. This race commemorated the historic Henley's Royal Regatta in 1919 that was originally held to celebrate the end of World War I.

For the centennial anniversary of the tournament, eight countries were invited to send a team to compete for the cup over the summer. Matthew, the former coxswain of Ocean City High School, participated with the rest of the Naval Academy and he took home the King's Cup after narrowly beating Germany in the final race.

I congratulate Matthew on his big win at the Henley Royal Regatta, and I thank him for representing our Nation and south Jersey at this historic event and wish him the very best as he continues his education at the Naval Academy. We are proud of him and we are proud of what he has done. Congratulations.

#### A SOLUTION TO THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY'S NEEDS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, last week after many months of hard work by staff and Members here in a bipartisan fashion, amazingly in this atmosphere here, we introduced the Farm Workforce Modernization Act legislation. This will really clean up the process for ag labor in this country, something desperately needed. It will be

better for the workers, better for the farmers, and much better for the rule of law.

With the problems we have on our border, the problems with immigration as it is these days, at least the ag worker section will be able to be much better monitored and much better regulated, and indeed, much better off for the workers themselves not having to live in the shadows.

This legislation modernizes the H-2A program. It stabilizes wages, institutes a merit-based system for ag workers to eventually earn legal status after years of proven work and consistent employment in the U.S. ag industry.

So when you look at the whole package here, where we stand right now with the disarray in nonofficial status that we have, this is going to be a vast improvement, and I urge people to get behind that.

#### HONORING RICK PERRY

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I am here tonight with a number of my colleagues from Texas because Governor Rick Perry, as we Texans refer to him, will be stepping down in a few weeks as the Secretary of Energy of the United States of America.

I have had the honor of serving on his staff, working with him on a number of projects, including a book, and working on his campaigns. He has been a State Representative in Texas, the Agriculture Commissioner in Texas, Lieutenant Governor, Governor of Texas, but I always think of Rick Perry first and foremost as a proud Texan, an Aggie, an Eagle Scout, a husband, an Air Force veteran, a father, and a grandfather. But for me personally, I always remember the Governor as a friend, a loyal friend who would help those who needed it, whether it was a veteran, suffering after battle, who needed a home, which the Governor and his lovely bride, Anita, would welcome them into their home, or whether it was praying for me when I had cancer as a staffer for him. Governor Perry literally called me from a Presidential debate to check on me while I was going through chemotherapy. And he stood with me and my family through it all. He is above all a good and decent man.

There are few people in this world who cause you to want to charge the hill behind him, and you know it will be for fighting a just cause, but Governor Perry is one of those people. And he learned this from his family and his community.

Governor Perry grew up in Paint Creek, Texas, with no indoor plumbing for the first 5 years of his life in 1950s west Texas. His dad, Ray, was a World War II veteran, who along with Perry's

wonderful mom, Amelia, were ranchers in Texas. And his wife Anita, whom he met in elementary school, was his high school sweetheart and has been the love of his life and by his side ever since. He is a proud dad to Griffin and Sydney and granddad to their wonderful children.

Governor Perry is fairly famous for being an Aggie. He received his bachelor of science degree in animal science from A&M. He was commissioned to second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation. He was a member of Squadron 6 and served as a junior and senior Yell Leader and was immersed in all aspects of Aggie student life. A strong supporter of the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M, Governor Perry has been a speaker at countless Aggie musters since 1990 and was the principal speaker at the main campus ceremony in 2002. And he was also the key note speaker at the 125th anniversary celebration of the Corps of Cadets in 2001. He exemplifies the Aggie values, selfless service, respect, loyalty, integrity, and excellence in leadership.

Before I yield to my colleague, I would be remiss if I did not note that it was 20 years ago today that the historic tradition at Texas A&M, the A&M bonfire that is always built in preparation for and lit the night before the game against the University of Texas, one of the greatest rivalries in sports, which is long overdue for renewal, 20 years ago today it collapsed at 2:42 a.m. where 11 students and one former student died and 27 others were injured. Fifty-seven Aggies were working on the bonfire at the time when they heard a crack, and it collapsed. My wife was a senior at the time. And as we commemorate Governor Perry tonight, we also commemorate the lives of those great Aggies who were carrying on the spirit of that great institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today to honor Rick Perry in his final days as Secretary of the Department of Energy. It makes sense that those lined up to speak would be from our shared home State, the great State of Texas. We have served with him. We have benefited from Rick's leadership. We call him friend. Much can be said and will be said of Rick Perry in these next few weeks.

As already mentioned, Rick is a fifth generation Texan, an Aggie, Air Force pilot, state representative, agricultural commissioner, lieutenant governor, longest serving Texas Governor, Secretary of Energy. He will be rightfully lauded for a life well given to public service.

In every stage of his life, Rick Perry sought to do the best for Texas and for the people of this Nation. As a state representative, he was one of the most effective legislators pushing for more strict budgeting. As Agricultural Commissioner, Perry showed his skill at

sales and started what would be a lifelong career as the number one top salesman for the great State of Texas.

As Governor, Rick helped make Texas a destination for business and industry and for families and people. There is a reason why we still see an average influx of people, a thousand a day in our great State.

As Secretary of Energy, we continue to see the benefits of Rick Perry's unabashed love of Texas and these United States. Thanks to his leadership, the United States is now the largest energy producer in the world with a greatly expanded footprint in the international market.

Still, my favorite story which defines the man that is Rick Perry is one told by a former rival turned friend, and that would be Senator Rick Santorum. Former Senator and Presidential candidate Rick Santorum told of the regular frantic note taking of candidates while they were on the debate stage, all except for Rick Perry. Instead, Rick recounted, Perry only wrote one note. It was when Rick Santorum told about the health difficulties his beloved daughter, Bella, had faced from her birth.

Following the debate, Rick said the two men spoke and Rick said as he looked over Perry's shoulder at the single note written, it had three words: "Pray for Bella." That, Mr. Speaker, is a man of faith, compassion, and integrity. It speaks to his character. It speaks to his effectiveness. It speaks to his dedication to public service and to his love of this great country.

I am grateful for having served under Governor Perry in the State house for 4 years and with Secretary Perry in the Department of Energy. The great State of Texas and our Nation are better for his service.

As Rick Perry moves away from public life, his leadership will be missed, but the legacy he leaves behind will endure.

I thank my friend, Governor Perry, for all he has done. I thank Anita for loaning Texas and then America a true Texas treasure, a true statesman, and a truly fine individual. Rick and Anita both deserve a rich time together. Blessings to them both and please enjoy the private life.

□ 1945

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my friend.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to rise today in honor of Energy Secretary Rick Perry, a devoted statesman, a proud Texan, and a long-time friend of mine.

In his early years, Governor Perry became an Eagle Scout and was taught what a strong work ethic looked like, and he has practiced it in every office he has held since, and those are numerous.

I first met Rick Perry back when he was Agriculture Commissioner for

Texas in the mid-1990s. In the 25 years since, he and I have worked together in various roles, including working together on the campaign trail. As a matter of fact, Governor Perry appointed me to the Lower Neches Valley Authority, where I served the State for many years. My son Leif, a Navy SEAL, is also friends with Governor Perry's Navy SEAL son-in-law.

I had the privilege of working with Rick Perry when he served as the longest-serving Governor of Texas in history, where he successfully earned the reputation as one of the most successful Governors that our State has ever had.

While serving as Governor of the great State of Texas, he oversaw incredible economic growth, low unemployment rates, low taxes, the creation of thousands of jobs, and commonsense reform that has brought tremendous success to our State. Texas has become a mecca for out-of-State Americans looking for jobs and prosperity.

His tremendous leadership in Texas and his role in the expansion of America's energy sector helped carry him to the position of Secretary of Energy, which he leads now with character and strength, expanding our economy while protecting our environment.

I was proud to work alongside him on energy reform, and I will continue to push strong energy policies that he has advocated for at the Department of Energy.

Rick Perry has dedicated his life to the service of his State and this country while living as a devoted man to God and to his family.

Mr. Speaker, I have the utmost respect for Governor Perry, for what he has accomplished and the way in which he has done so.

May God bless him, his beautiful wife, Anita, and the rest of his family, and may God bless Texas and the United States of America.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for those kind remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS), my friend.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I join my colleagues tonight in honoring a devoted public servant and friend, Rick Perry.

Rick has dedicated his life to making Texas and America even greater, exemplified by his service in the U.S. Air Force and his record as the longest-serving Governor in Texas history.

Over two decades ago, I served under then-Governor Perry as his secretary of state, where we worked to create a better Texas. Together, we sold our home State to America and the world by ushering in unprecedented economic growth and creating one of the strongest economies in the United States and, frankly, the world. We would often tell prospects: Texas wasn't open for business; Texas was wide open for business.

We traveled across the Nation, visiting our communities and even stop-

ping by a few ballparks along the way, where I played catcher as he threw out the first pitch. I would tell you that he threw more balls than he threw strikes.

I also have fond memories of our families spending quality time together over the years. Running the river in Austin wasn't bad either.

Rick's principled and sharp leadership has been a great asset to our Nation while serving as the United States Secretary of Energy, paving the way for greater economic growth and energy independence. Who better to serve as Energy Secretary than the former Governor of the leading energy State in our country?

It has been an honor to play on his team and to have his support.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Rick, Anita, Griffin, Sydney, and their new grandbaby all the best in the next season of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, again, I remind Secretary Perry how much I appreciated his call on the night of the baseball shooting to simply tell me, "I am with you, brother."

May God bless Texas. May God bless the Perry family. May God bless this greatest country in the world, the one that Rick Perry helped create and maintain, the United States of America.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for those great remarks about the Governor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

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

I am happy to come to the floor tonight to reflect on a great Texan, a great American, Secretary Rick Perry.

It has been an honor to have served the people of Texas alongside Secretary Perry. In fact, my first political race in 2002 was alongside then-Governor Perry, who had succeeded Governor Bush when Governor Bush won the Presidential election and Governor Perry was running for his first full term as Governor. Then, as we know, he went on to serve a full 14 years as Governor of the State of Texas.

He began serving our country as a C-130 pilot in the United States Air Force. More recently, he has been leading the United States Department of Energy. With each task, Secretary Perry has shown true leadership and fought to uphold the Constitution.

Most recently, as Secretary of the Department of Energy, Secretary Perry was dedicated to putting forward innovative ideas while reducing Federal overreach and the regulatory burden on Americans.

Back in 2007, in the Subcommittee on Energy and the full Committee on Energy and Commerce, I worked to prevent a mandate on light bulbs that I thought was ill-advised. I thought it would be better to let the consumer make these determinations rather than the government. I continued this fight during the appropriations process to

delay rulemaking at the Department of Energy.

Then, after assuming office, Secretary Perry took steps to protect consumer choices and rolled back the mandates on light bulbs. I appreciate Secretary Perry's efforts in this area to reduce Federal overreach.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to wish the departing Secretary and his wife, Anita, the very best, the very best for their family as they embark on this new journey.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Secretary Perry for many years of dedicated service to our State and our country. As the song says, "God bless you, Texas."

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TAYLOR), who represents the town in which my lovely bride grew up, Plano, Texas.

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my well-wishes to Governor Rick Perry. I think a lot has been said about his career, so I will just share a few stories about him.

I was in the Texas House chamber when he gave his farewell address, and he noted that he had served his first three terms in the Texas House as a Democrat and had changed parties to become a Republican to run for Texas Agriculture Commissioner. His comment was, "I probably made both parties happy," when he made that change, which I think was a pretty funny comment. It certainly brought down that house.

I got to know Governor Perry when he was Agriculture Commissioner. I had just graduated from high school, spent a gap year, spent some time in Austin, and I had the privilege of working for him as an intern in his Intergovernmental Affairs Department. There, I learned that to craft good policy, it takes time, effort, focus, and hard work.

I worked with him on NAFTA. I worked with him on aquaculture. I worked with him on high-speed rail, where he asked me to go back and double-check the numbers to make sure that he was making the right decision when he became the first statewide elected official opposing high-speed rail in Texas.

I was certainly a beneficiary, having represented Collin County for almost a decade, for what Rick Perry has done for the Texas economy. Between 2007 and 2014, in that 7-year period, Texas created 1.4 million new jobs, more than the entire country combined.

Clearly, Rick Perry's efforts to keep taxation low, keep regulation reasonable, and keep litigation at a minimum, those three things that he drove over and over and over again—I think we can all remember how many times he said that, whether it was on the stump, whether it was in legislation, that he was trying to get these three things done, and how successful our State has been as a result of that.

I will also share that Governor Perry had a special knack. He was a very

smart man in many ways. The very first bill I filed in the Texas Legislature was a bill to increase military voting. This bill was something that I knew the Governor cared about because his staff would ask about it occasionally.

I remember the second to last day in the legislative session of 2011. I was literally walking across the floor of the Texas House, holding the bill in hand. I saw Governor Perry out of the corner of my eye, and he actually reached over and grabbed me, and he said: Where's my bill?

I said: The bill I am holding, Governor?

He said: Good. Go get it filed with the clerk.

And I went in and filed it.

It was that kind of ability to know intuitively what he needed to focus on and how he needed to focus on it that I think made him such an effective leader and one that we all respect.

We are so grateful for Governor Perry's service. We are so grateful that Anita would lend him to us and for the service that he has given to our State and to our Nation. We are all truly grateful for him.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Governor Perry: Partner, we will see you over the next ridge.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for joining us here this evening and lauding the service and accomplishments of Governor Perry, Secretary Perry.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON), my former colleague in the United States Senate and my friend.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend from Austin, Texas, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on March 4, 1950, in the Texas Panhandle metropolis of Haskell, Texas, Rick Perry was born. Haskell lately has a population of 3,322. That was too much big city for Rick Perry, so his family moved to Paint Creek, Texas, current population somewhere around 324.

As was mentioned, he became an Aggie yell leader. He said he knew A&M was where he had to go because: "I was probably a bit of a free spirit. . . . I would have not lasted at Texas Tech or the University of Texas. I would have hit the fraternity scene and lasted about one semester."

As was mentioned, he served our country in uniform, flying a C-130 Hercules, a large aircraft that carries cargo all over the world that has the same engine as my P-3 Orion I flew in the Navy, the Allison T56-A14. We share that common bond.

Rick was elected to serve in the Texas House in 1984. He became what was known as a pit bull. The Texas House has a place they go called the pit to have strong, strong, strong debates. Rick wanted to go off on people who wanted to spend, spend, spend. The pit bulls in Texas had a raging bull in Rick Perry.

In 1990, he became our Agriculture Commissioner. In 1998, he allowed American history to be changed in a very positive way. He ran against a guy named John Sharp to become our Lieutenant Governor. It was very close, Aggie versus Aggie. Rick won by about 1.7 points, but that victory enabled George W. Bush to leave his beloved Texas and become America's 43rd President. Governor Bush knew he could leave with Texas in great hands of prosperity and with a bright future, and Rick Perry did not disappoint.

As our longest-serving Governor with 14 years in Austin, Texas, on his watch, great things happened in our State that are the models for America and the world.

He got true medical liability reform passed in Texas that changed our provision of healthcare for our citizens because doctors were fleeing our State because of unjustified lawsuits. They came back in droves when this bill was passed and became an amendment to our constitution, all because of Rick Perry's leadership.

He changed our energy market to a market with competition, driving prices down and giving people the cheapest, most reliable energy in America.

□ 2000

He had Texas squared away, so when America went into recession in 2007, our State, one State, created half the private-sector jobs in America over 2007 and 2008.

And he also got a big start with technology, a place in Houston called Celltex, which uses human beings' own stem cells to repair broken bones and long-term injuries. They are thriving, and that is all because of Governor Rick Perry.

On March 2 of 2017, the Senate confirmed him to be America's Secretary of Energy. He tried to make D.C. just like Texas. On his watch, the only viable carbon capture-enhanced oil recovery operation in the entire world, in Texas 22, the Petro Nova project with NRG, was started.

On his watch, we started exporting American crude oil all over the world.

On Rick Perry's watch, we have sent liquified natural gas—we call that liquid "American freedom"—all over the world, helping allies in need, allies like India, like South Korea, like Japan, and like Eastern Europe break the hold on energy that comes from Russia or OPEC.

I will close with a statement from a Texas legend that applies directly to Governor Rick Perry. Bum was talking about Earl Campbell, the famous Heisman Trophy winner, a Hall of Famer in the NFL who played for the Houston Oilers for just under a decade. Bum was asked: Is Earl in a class by himself? And Bum's answer applies to Earl and applies to Governor Rick Perry. Rick may not be in a class by himself, but whatever class he is in, it don't take long to call the roll.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Rick and Anita for their service to America and the great State of Texas. They will never, ever be forgotten.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Texas. I know that he appreciates the Governor's military service because he, too, is a veteran. I thank him for his service, and I thank him for the kind remarks for the Governor. I know he will cherish and appreciate those.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from west Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), who represents my father's alma mater, Texas Tech University, and ask his indulgences after the NCAA basketball championship.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend and fellow Texan, Mr. CHIP ROY.

Get your guns up, Mr. ROY. I thank you for that introduction, and I thank you for hosting tonight's Special Order for our friend and fearless leader for Texas and for this great Nation, Rick Perry.

It is, I think, pretty telling that every Texan who has taken the mike to pay tribute to our friend Rick Perry has spoken with the fondness of a deep friendship, and I think that is a tribute to Secretary Perry. He was a man who could connect with just about anybody—not because he had the special political gift; it is because he had genuine love for people. That was his gift. I am glad that God saw fit to allow him to deploy that as our Governor, as Secretary, and in public service for many, many years.

My favorite Rick Perry quote: If you want to make America great again, make it more like Texas.

Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2017, Energy Secretary Rick Perry unveiled a vision for our Nation, not only to become energy independent, but energy dominant. Predictably, some in the mainstream media responded by dismissing it as overly ambitious and unrealistic.

The Washington Post said about his vision that it was "dominated by misleading claims." The Los Angeles Times said that the plan "threatens the entire planet." Not only did their criticism miss the mark on both accounts, but, fortunately, for the American people, they were definitively disproven by our friend and fearless leader, Secretary Rick Perry.

We were once a nation reliant on foreign sources of energy. Today, we are on track to become a net energy exporter by 2020. By 2025, U.S. oil production is expected to equal that of Saudi Arabia and Russia, combined.

Under Secretary Rick Perry's leadership, the United States has become a net exporter of natural gas for the first time since 1957. In fact, the U.S. is on track to more than double its LNG export capacity by the end of this year.

Not only were we able to increase our energy production and export capacity in these United States, we have done it while leading the world in reducing

carbon emissions, decreasing our output of CO<sub>2</sub> by 42 million tons, while, at the same time, the European Union increased its carbon by about the same amount, China increased theirs by almost three times the amount that we reduced our carbon, and India twice as much of an increase to our decrease.

I would say that is a heck of a track record for our Texas Secretary of Energy.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's energy security is and always will be a matter of national security. And thanks to the skilled leadership of Secretary Perry, I am proud to say that America is, indeed, safer and more secure today than, well, than it was before he took office.

I am especially proud, Mr. Speaker, that our Nation's leading voice for energy dominance was born and reared in west Texas, right smack in the middle of my district, Texas 19.

I think Mr. ROY would agree with me that, if you are a Texan, no matter what your title is and how far up the chain you go in political leadership, the Governor is always the highest title of all. So I am going to call him Governor Perry. I can't wait to refer to him as Governor Perry again.

Rick Perry is a fifth-generation Texan. He is from Haskell, USA, which is 50 miles north of Abilene.

I remember introducing him once in Lubbock, saying that there are some people and politicians who have street cred, and then there are some who have farm-to-market cred. Where I come from, Mr. Speaker, farm-to-market cred is more important.

He had a bead on all things rural America because he was rural America. He understood that the small towns and the highways and the byways of this country were not just producing our food, fuel, and fiber; they were producing a people with a substance and a character that this Nation desperately needed.

He understood that west Texas, where he hails from and where I hail from and have the honor of representing, that our greatest contribution wasn't as the energy basin or as the breadbasket, but as the backbone of American traditional values. I so appreciate that. Nobody was a greater champion or a stronger voice.

We heard his background tonight. I want to thank him for his service to our country wearing the uniform. He served at Dyess Air Force Base, which is the largest B-1 bomber base in the country, and it is also in my district.

Of course, he went on to serve as State representative, agriculture commissioner, Lieutenant Governor, and, of course, the longest serving Governor in the history of Texas.

I think Mr. ROY would agree with me that he was the quintessential Texas Governor. He had that boldness, that optimism, that indomitable spirit that embodied Texas. He had that Texas swagger. He was confident, but he was humbled to know that he needed the right team and that he needed help

from everybody to take Texas to that next level.

Nobody could sell Texas like him. I mean, he recruited some of the best and brightest talent from around the world. He brought businesses in of all sectors from around the world. He was a true believer in the Texas miracle, and we are all the better in Texas for his leadership.

Like all good west Texans, I would say to Mr. ROY that the bottom line is he was a salt-of-the-earth guy, and he was a straight-shooting guy.

Let me do a little straight shooting for the American people with respect to what kind of nation the United States is on account of his leadership over the last couple of years: U.S. energy production reached a record high; the U.S. has become the largest crude oil producer in the world; American natural gas production hit a record high for 2 straight years, both in 2017 and 2018.

When Americans look back on this era in our history, they will know the powerful, lasting impact of Governor Rick Perry and what he has done in terms of handing this country to the next generation of Americans: more prosperous, more free, and more secure. They will know that our producers in west Texas and across this country were empowered to unleash a new era of American energy dominance. They will know that this kid from Haskell, Texas, was at the helm during this historic transformation.

So from one small town west Texas boy to another, I thank Rick Perry for his service; I thank him for the sacrifices that he has made; I thank him for his love for this country; I thank him for his passion for everything good about America; and I thank him for putting that on display with the way he operated, the way he led, and just who he is—just who he is.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Anita Perry: We know—Mr. ROY and I both, and everybody who has been called to service understands—that she and her children have made a tremendous sacrifice. I just want to say God bless her in this next phase of her life with Rick. I pray that he brings great joy to your lives and to the life of your family.

My last quote is from the first President of Texas Tech University. It goes like this:

Everything that is done on these west Texas plains ought to be done on a big scale. It's a part of the country that lends itself to bigness.

Mr. Speaker, Rick Perry was a small town kid with a big heart, and he has made a big impact on these United States. So God bless Rick Perry, God bless this great Nation, and go west Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for those inspiring remarks about our mutual friend, the former Governor of Texas, although he will always be the Governor of Texas in our hearts. I know he will appreciate those sentiments.

As someone who—my father grew up down the road in Sweetwater, Texas, and is a west Texan, just down the road from where he grew up, and you can share those experiences. There is something special about that part of the world, the people and what it means. I think the United States could learn a lot from spending some time with the good people of west Texas.

I would point out, following what was just said, in 2016, when Governor Perry was thinking about running for President, at that time, he was on the stage, and to his right, when he announced his Presidential campaign, was Marcus Luttrell, a retired member of the Navy SEALs, who was the only survivor of a 2005 attack by the Taliban in Afghanistan. He wrote a book about his experience, called "Lone Survivor," as you know, which has become a movie.

To Mr. Perry, to the Governor, our friend, Mr. Luttrell is more than a military veteran and best-selling author. He is practically a member of the family. Now, why is that?

□ 2015

Well, as Perry said, "He is not just the lone survivor. He is a second son."

Marcus was in physical therapy in San Diego in 2006 when he met the Governor and his wife, Anita, who were there on vacation. And they reconnected in Texas where Mr. Luttrell was from, and Mr. Perry took Mr. Luttrell into his home.

He is living there. He is the Governor, and he took Marcus into his home to live with him while he was dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder. They are now friends, and Governor Perry is the godfather of Mr. Luttrell's children. That is who he is. Mr. Speaker, you know that, I know that, and those of us from Texas know that.

I would point out how great this world would be if the E.U. or the U.N. would hire the Secretary to go be in charge of energy for the world. Can you imagine if we were able to export LNG from Texas to China and to India and the places that are polluting the world? Imagine if we could export the kind of entrepreneurship and capability that Texans are doing that are driving the world's economy.

Literally, the tip of the spear for the world's economy is the great State of Texas. And it is largely due to the spirit of the people of Texas which is exemplified by that great Governor.

I would make a few points here. The philosophy of the Governor when I worked for him was, "I have been guided by a simple philosophy: that job creation, not higher taxation, is the best form of revenue generation." And I think this body could learn a lot from that. Follow the model of Texas.

That philosophy served the people of Texas well. In his tenure he added more than 2.2 million jobs, or Texas did. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, that is nearly four times the national average during the same

timeline. Twenty-three percent in Texas, versus 6 percent in the United States as a whole.

Twenty-nine percent of all new jobs in the United States came from Texas. Employment grew three times faster in Texas than in California, New York, Florida, Illinois, or Pennsylvania. Texas led wage growth across all income levels. Ninety-five percent of all jobs in Texas paid above the minimum in 2013 when he was at the height of being Governor.

He grew Texas' economy to become the world's twelfth largest economy. Today it is the tenth under current Governor Greg Abbott.

It wasn't just about the growth, but as the Governor said in his 2005 address to the people of Texas: "Our challenge is to make sound, strategic investments that withstand the test of time."

It was his fiscal conservatism, though, that I think a lot of people looked to the Governor, is how he led that great State, unlike this body, balancing our budgets, and doing so while growing our great economy.

He understands what everyone in Washington can't seem to wrap their head around, that you can't spend money you don't have. While this body racks up \$100 million of debt per hour, Texas balances its budget while leading the world in job creation.

While Perry was Governor, Texas cut spending, balanced the budget, and grew the Texas economy exponentially. The State of Texas, under Perry's leadership, finished the '13-'14 legislative session with a \$2.6 billion surplus; things we can only dream of here in Washington right now.

He fought tax hikes, passed the largest school property tax rate decrease in Texas State history at the time; passed extensive property tax breaks for disabled veterans and their spouses; and championed the idea that the people, not the government, are the drivers of growth and innovation.

Governor Perry oversaw perhaps the largest transformation of energy technology and policy in Texas history, setting the foundation for extraordinary achievements to come. Breakthroughs in hydraulic fracturing, which some people use as the bogeyman, creates the engine of the prosperity our Nation is now feeling and that is now being exported around the world.

We are sitting in this great Chamber with lights fueled by natural gas. That is what Texas is doing. That is how Texas is leading the world. It led to an oil and natural gas surge in Texas growing by roughly 260 percent and 50 percent respectively.

Texas is producing more oil than Iraq and Afghanistan, leading the way for America to achieve energy independence, which we only could dream of a mere decade or 15 years ago.

The State's wind power sector hardly existed when the Governor came to office, but Texas became the Nation's leader in wind energy generation dur-

ing his tenure in his all-of-the-above approach.

Perry took the same progrowth mentality to Washington during his time as Secretary of Energy. As Energy Secretary, Perry focused not only on securing American energy independence, but on our stability and capacity to export LNG, liquefied natural gas, around the world.

Because of his leadership, the U.S. will be able to provide allies and partners with affordable energy that will drive economic growth and prosperity around the world. America has seen this historic growth while leading the world in total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction since 2005.

When the Governor stepped down from Texas, briefly thinking he was done with public service before being pulled back as the Secretary of Energy—that is why I am not sure he is done with his public service yet, by the way—"Texas is a State," he said, "where nothing is impossible. Where the sons and daughters of migrant workers can aspire to own the farm; where the children of factory workers can build new-age manufacturing facilities; and where the son of tenant farmers"—as was the Governor—"can become Governor of the greatest State in the Union.

"In Texas, it's not where you come from that matters, it's where you are going. Texas doesn't recognize the artificial barriers of race, class, or creed.

"The most vivid dreams take flight from the most humble beginnings, and so it was for me," said the Governor.

"As many of you know, I grew up in a place called Paint Creek. When I was young, we didn't have electricity or running water. Mom bathed us in a number two washtub. And we attended the Paint Creek Rural School, where some of the teachers lived on campus. Their profession was literally their life, and they inspired me," he said.

"In fact, I'm proud to say I graduated in the top 10 of my class of 13 students," he added. "I can assure you none of my teachers knew they were instructing a future Governor.

"But they also have a motto at the Paint Creek School that summarizes the endless possibilities for its students: 'No dream too tall for a school so small.'"

This is the story of Texas. This is the story of America. When will we go back to that story again? When will we talk about those aspirations that America represents, that that flag represents, that this body represents, instead of the games that we play in this place rightly known as the swamp?

He said: "In this, the people's House," referring to the Texas House, "we're in the business of making dreams possible. Every dream counts, every child matters. . . . And in Texas, every child has a chance. That is the Texas we have built together, a Texas of unlimited opportunity. There's a reason more people move to Texas than any other State, because this is the

best place to find a job, raise your family, and pursue your dreams.

"In some respects, this has been true for a long time," he said. "In the early 1800s, Americans headed west, leaving their troubles behind to find a second chance."

That is what my family did. Maybe what your family did, my friend from Texas.

My family came from Georgia to Dripping Springs, Texas, in 1853. My great-great-great grandparents are buried just a few miles down the road from where my wife, Carrah, and I have 10 acres outside of Austin, Texas. They came there seeking a better way of life. My great-great grandmother was born in San Marcos, and she married my great-great grandfather who was a Texas Ranger battling Comanches and Comanche incursions at the time signing up in Hays, and Travis, and Blanco Counties. It was a tough country.

There were no handouts. There was no government to go seek some refuge from. You just had to grab yourself up by your bootstraps—yes, we still like that phrase and we still use it in Texas—and figure out how to survive.

"They planted roots; tamed a harsh land; won a revolution; founded a republic; survived droughts; wildfires and hurricanes; discovered crude; started great universities; and took mankind to the Moon."

In his tenure alone, the Governor said: "We have been tested by the disintegration of the space shuttle; Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike; devastating wildfires; the spread of Ebola; and a humanitarian crisis at the border.

"Each time, Texans have responded to these tests with great character. As long as there has been a Texas, there has existed a people whose character has been refined by fire, whose souls are resilient, who respond to tragedy with grace, and who look to the future with hope.

"What we have done together is preserve Texas as a land of opportunity, making our economy more diverse and jobs more plentiful."

I could go on. I will just close out here by saying, all of that is applicable to this, the United States of America. All of that is who we are. And we would do well to remember that again. It is the greatness of this country that we must return to.

The Governor, when he served in the Air Force, flew C-130s. And one time as the Governor, he was over in Iraq or Afghanistan—I don't remember which—and he was flying in a C-130, rattling around as you do you when you fly in those planes. He landed, and as he always did when he was flying around, he went up and talked to those guys flying the plane, because he would have rather been in that cockpit than whatever he was doing as Governor. And he went up there and he talked to them, and then he started looking; they went and looked at the manifest and the history of the airplane, and he

had flown that C-130 in the 1970 when he was a pilot in the Air Force. That is who he was. He wanted to go find out and he wanted to talk to those guys.

When the Governor ran for President in 2011–2012, I worked on his Presidential campaign. I had been working in his office, and that was when I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, as I referenced earlier. As I said earlier, he called me from a debate stage—literally going on stage—to make sure and check on me and check on my health and see how I was doing during chemotherapy. That is just who he was. That is who he has always been.

When he was launching his campaign in Charleston, South Carolina, I unfortunately had to miss that. I was going to be there, but I was at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston starting treatment. But when he announced, he used a phrase: “. . . making Washington, D.C., as inconsequential in our lives as possible.”

It is what I aspire to do here as a Member in this body. Not because there are not great things we can do in this body, but because the greatness of this country lies outside of this body. It lies outside of this city. It lies in every town, in every community, in every school, in every business, in every hospital, all around this great country where people wake up every day to make lives better.

Too much of our focus is on what happens here. Too many Sunday mornings are about what is happening on “Meet the Press” instead of what is happening in the church pew, instead of what is happening down the street.

Too many people are looking to the VA to solve problems for the veterans instead of wondering, who is the veteran 5 miles down the road who needs help right now?

We solve problems like the Cajun Navy coming over to Houston, like the people of Texas rising up in the wake of floods after hurricanes to solve problems for real people in real time.

Instead of mortgaging our future with fake promises that we can't afford while this body has show votes—no matter who is in charge, by the way—on resolutions and bills, and never sits here and has the real debates and the real work of what we need to do.

The real work is going on outside of this body. Governor Perry represents the greatness of this Nation. Both his life story and who he is, he embodies the greatness of this country.

I wholeheartedly endorse making Washington, D.C., as inconsequential in the lives of Americans as possible, because our country will be ever greater as the State of Texas has been ever greater under his leadership and since our inception as a State in leading this country and leading this world.

I thank the Governor. I thank his lovely wife. I thank his family. I look forward to seeing what he is going to do next.

And with that, and on behalf of all Texans and my colleagues here in the

House, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### MENTAL HEALTH IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, tonight we will address mental health within the Black community, the lack of access to treatment, and the stigma of mental health within our community.

The stigma of mental health and lack of access to treatment within the Black community frequently leads to Black people ignoring or dismissing those signs of illness.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) to give remarks on this and other matters of health in our community as well as in America.

□ 2030

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank my colleague and friend, Congresswoman PLASKETT, for leading tonight's Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

First, and certainly fitting, to tonight's topic on mental health, I salute the life and legacy of a giant in the healthcare industry who passed on November 10, Bernard Tyson, president and CEO of Kaiser Permanente and friend.

Just this year, Mr. Speaker, he was talking to the editor-in-chief of Fortune magazine about lessons learned and lessons that were worth remembering, and now he has left them behind, and those lessons were about mental health.

He was talking about, in this healthcare system, we have a system of healthcare for the body and for the mind, and he had integrated both into his system, and he had done it in a seamless way and in a way that did not have stigma.

So, tonight, I say to my friend: Rest in peace. Rest in positive power in healthcare.

But also, Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus is coming together tonight, as the Congresswoman has said and as she powerfully leads us, to elevate the conversation about mental health in the African American community.

Millions of adults and children are impacted by mental health conditions

each year, including depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress, and anxiety.

For too long in our country, there was a stigma associated with mental health, especially in our community, the African American community. According to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Offices of Minority Health, just in 2017, suicide was the second leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 15 and 24. Additionally, the death rate from suicide for Black men was four times greater than for African American women in 2017.

We are encouraged, encouraged to see more influencers, such as Jay-Z and the “Breakfast Club” host, Charlamagne, speak out about mental health disparities in the Black community. But as the gentlewoman is leading us tonight in saying more must be done, the Federal Government has a moral obligation to invest more resources into mental health services.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership, and I thank her for being a voice for us on this topic.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman so much for her admonishment to us to continue working, to continue doing what is necessary for those of us who live in the Black community, for those who are affected by what is a lack of treatment in the Black community, particularly in the area of mental health.

This may explain why Black adults are 20 percent more likely to be reported having serious psychological distress than White adults. They are also more likely to have feelings of sadness, helplessness, and worthlessness compared to their White counterparts. And while less likely than their White counterparts to die from suicide, Black teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide than our White teenagers.

Socioeconomic determinants have been found to have significant effects on mental health. In the Black community, class and poverty are two powerful, impactful factors.

Black adults living in poverty are two to three times more likely to report serious psychological distress than those living above the poverty line.

Black people of all ages are more likely to be victims of serious violent crime than non-Hispanic Whites, making them more likely to meet the diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Mental health conditions do not discriminate based on race, color, gender, or identity. Anyone can experience the challenges of mental illness, regardless of their background. However, cultural differences, life experiences, socioeconomic conditions, and how well-informed one is can affect how an individual copes with these conditions.

In the Virgin Islands, after the devastating storms of 2017, studies organized by the Community Foundation of

the Virgin Islands found that the trauma and lack of community caused a significant percentage of the population, both children and adults alike, to develop various mental health problems.

Younger children are reverting to behaviors they had once advanced beyond, and older children are displaying cognitive impairment and aggressive tendencies.

Also, about 60 percent of adults in the Virgin Islands are exhibiting symptoms of depression; the same percentage showed signs of PTSD.

More than a year after the storms, 40 percent of surveyed students had symptoms of PTSD, with some admitting to having suicidal thoughts.

Although anyone can develop a mental health problem, African Americans sometimes experience more severe forms of mental health conditions due to unmet needs and other barriers.

According to the Health and Human Services Offices of Minority Health, African Americans are 20 percent more likely to experience serious psychological distress. Black Americans are also more likely to experience socioeconomic disparities, such as exclusion from health, educational, social, and economic resources, and are often not believed by medical professionals when reporting symptoms—often not believed. These disparities contribute to unfavorable mental health outcomes.

Historical adversity, including slavery, sharecropping, segregation, along with other means of race-based exclusions from health, educational, and socioeconomic resources, have led us to the disparities experienced by Black Americans today. Despite progressive gains and reform in our society, racism lingers and continues to impact the Black community, including the state of mental health.

One of the individuals who is fighting this—not just mental health, but all health issues, and particularly among African Americans, the Black community—is my colleague from Chicago, Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY. She leads the Congressional Black Caucus in health areas by leading our Braintrust on Health and has spent a significant amount of time in her district and throughout this country highlighting the issues that affect African Americans, disparities in health issues, as well as mental health.

I ask her to speak to you, Mr. Speaker, about those issues that affect Black Americans, about those issues that impact our community and, therefore, impacts America, that does not let us be our best.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman PLASKETT for yielding and for her continued leadership in advancing equity and access for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak about something that is far too often ignored in our communities, especially

the African American community: mental health.

Before starting my career in public office, I obtained a master's in counseling and worked as a mental health professional. As someone with real-life experiences, I can tell you that mental health challenges are more common than anyone thinks and that the only path forward is to be open and honest about it so more people can get the help and support they need to be healthy and thriving.

According to recent surveys, African Americans are 20 percent more likely to experience psychological distress than White Americans, but just 25 percent will seek care compared to 40 percent of White Americans. Clearly, stigma around mental health and therapy remain a significant barrier to connecting those in need with care.

We can all agree that Americans, no matter where they live or what they look like, should have access to affordable and accessible mental health services. However, this was not the case until 2010, with the passage of the Affordable Care Act, which moved mental healthcare from a nice-to-have to essential care—what it always should have been considered.

Defining mental healthcare as essential healthcare was a major step forward. But as I noted before, stigma still prevents too many from seeking and assessing the care they need. That is why I am proud of the efforts undertaken by the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and the Congressional Caucus of Black Women and Girls, which I chair and co-chair, respectively, to destigmatize seeking mental healthcare.

Last year, we were joined by the first lady of New York City, Chirlane Irene McCray, for a briefing on how we can destigmatize mental healthcare and better share our personal experiences to help and empower others. The video of that conversation is still on my Facebook page, and it warms my heart to see women sharing their stories on the thread months after the Facebook Live ended.

We need more events like this. We need more conversations where we put it all on the table and accept the simple fact that, yes, it is hard sometimes, but there are people and organizations who can help.

In addition to reducing stigma, which is something every Member of this House can do in their own districts and communities, we need to continue working to connect the most vulnerable with care, in particular, those who are regularly impacted by gun violence. In parts of Chicagoland, our young people have levels of PTSD on par with veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

While we absolutely must address easy access to guns—as a reminder, H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, has been sitting on Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL's desk for more than 200 days—we cannot

forget that communities have been experiencing this violence for decades because of congressional inaction.

We talk about PTSD as post-traumatic. Many in my communities have present-traumatic; it is not “post.” It goes on day after day after day.

To break the cycle of violence, these communities need programs that empower our young people and create hope. I always say nothing stops a bullet like an opportunity.

We need to work together, Republicans and Democrats, House and Senate, to ensure an end to gun violence and ensure robust programs that address the long-term psychological impacts created by years of unchecked violence. This is going to affect us for generations unless we do something about it.

And, finally, I want to talk about a tragic reality in our Nation. Suicide rates are rising. Suicide is the leading cause of death for Generation Z, our Nation's young people. I believe our host, Congresswoman PLASKETT, talked about the effects on African American young people. Our Nation's veterans are still struggling to access the care they need and deserve.

In Chicagoland, we, tragically, experienced a marked rise in first responder suicides. Likewise, we are seeing rising rates in rural America, especially among our farmers because of severe weather, low commodity prices, and the failed Trump trade war.

It is past time to make suicide prevention a priority. We are losing too many fathers, sisters, sons, and neighbors to this epidemic. We are losing too many African American fathers, sisters, sons, and neighbors to this epidemic.

In conclusion, I want to challenge my colleagues to take up the mantle of mental health. In 2010, this House declared mental health essential, just like care for our heart, kidneys, and lungs. We now recognize that our minds and mental well-being are a key part of our overall health and should be covered as such.

However, that declaration was nearly a decade ago. We know it is important, so we need to get to work on it now.

Let's pass Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO's bipartisan Mental Health Services for Students Act and help put more counselors and mental health professionals back in our schools to serve our students.

Let's pass Congressman CLEAVER's bipartisan Cady Housh and Gemesha Thomas Student Suicide Prevention Act to address the shocking and growing rate of suicide among our Nation's students and young people.

And let's pass Congresswoman PLASKETT's bipartisan Territories Health Equity Act to ensure that Americans living in territories have the same access to quality mental healthcare as Americans living in the continental United States.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, 2010 marked a significant and bold step forward. We need to be bold today.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois for what she has said, and, Mr. Speaker, I would engage the Congresswoman, through the Chair, in a discussion. I know that she has been going around the country to so many districts and talked with so many people about healthcare, about the disparities of health.

Is there a connection between the lack of access to physical healthcare and how it affects communities in terms of mental care as well?

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Well, in some communities there is a lack of both physical and mental healthcare, but I think we still have to deal with the stigma that people don't see mental health as a part of healthcare.

I know, in the Chicagoland area, right when I became a Congresswoman, actually, there were six mental health facilities shut down, so if someone wanted help, they may have to take two buses, a taxi, on and on and on. There is such a barrier of not only a facility not being there, but also the ones that are around, it is so hard for people to get to them.

And some of the neighborhoods, like I said, people don't even want to come outside because of the violence and some of the particular—not all over, but in some of the neighborhoods.

People are traumatized by the block they live on. They don't want to send their kids to play in the park. They don't want to go to the store. To deal with this every day, to hear gunshots every day, to have to deal with violence every day, that affects you on that day, but it affects you years later, also.

Ms. PLASKETT. I think so much about when the gentlewoman said people talk about post-traumatic stress disorder, and there are so many people in our country who are having present-day traumatic stress disorder.

In the Black community, there is this stigma to just live through it, not discuss it, and begin normalizing the kind of life that we lead, the kind of fear that many people in Black communities have, whether it is fear of being shot or fear of the police.

Mr. Speaker, I think, as a Black mother having four sons, I begin to think that it is normal to be concerned for my sons out at night. That is not normal, and that is going to affect your mental state after a while.

So I think of all these people and the things that they are going through.

□ 2045

Right. It should not be normal. We are, unfortunately, normalizing some things. But no, that should not be normal.

Every mother worries about their child, but it shouldn't be, "If my child is not home by a certain time, I am so worried," and all of these things that are going through your mind. That should not be normal for us.

The other thing is, when you are stressing out about certain things, that not only affects your mental health, but it affects your physical health also. It affects your body head to toe, which is not good either. Then it gets into the high blood pressure that we face and heart disease and those kinds of things.

It really does have a huge effect all over, not just on one thing or the other.

Ms. PLASKETT. I think about how, if a family has individuals with diabetes, hypertension, the other issues, and they are taking money and time to deal with that—if, in fact, they are—they are not considering going to counseling or going to some other things about depression or other things that they may be feeling and things that may be happening within their home.

It is a matter of taking care of what is the immediacy.

Still, the stigma is there that your mental health is not as important as your physical health.

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. I think mental health gets put on the back burner, that people will talk about, "Oh, my arm hurts," or this hurts, or that hurts, but they don't want to say, "I am depressed," or "I am down," or "I need counseling."

I sometimes think in our community—maybe in others, but we know in our community, "You need to man up," or be strong, or give it to God even. You know, God will take care of this, that, and the other, so have faith, and those kinds of things.

I think that God also put doctors and counselors on this Earth—and therapists—for us to use them and use their services. I think not enough of us do that, or we don't feel comfortable. If no one else in the family ever talks about it, then you don't grow up even thinking that is a possibility.

Ms. PLASKETT. Then there is the issue of having culturally sensitive doctors as well.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Definitely.

Ms. PLASKETT. Because so many individuals in the African American community, if they are going to speak with a psychiatrist, a mental health professional, if that individual does not—never mind that they don't look like them, but if they are not culturally sensitive to the issues, they may not come back the second time. They may not even make the appointment if they realize that this person is not going to be able to understand the life that they lead here as a Black person in America.

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Congresswoman, you hit the nail on the head. That is so true.

There have been so many studies that show you do better when the person who is helping you looks like you or is sensitive to your realities, your community, what you are really about. That is so true.

Also, that is the other thing. With the Congressional Black Caucus Health

Braintrust, the other thing that we really push to do is to diversify the healthcare pipeline because that is the only way that is going to change, too.

The other thing is letting our young people know that that is a good thing, to be a counselor or a social worker or a psychiatrist or a psychologist, that we should be looking into those fields also.

You hit the nail on the head. It is hard enough for people to go to counseling or to admit they are depressed, so when they do seek out care, it has to be someone who can be empathetic and sensitive to their needs. Because if they are not, then the person definitely is not going to go back, and then, we are back to square one.

Ms. PLASKETT. I was looking at a statistic here that, according to the Health Resources and Services Administration, 89.3 million Americans live in federally designated mental health professional shortage areas, in contrast to only 55.3 million Americans living in similarly designated primary care shortage areas and 44.6 million living in dental health shortage areas.

There is, within the greater American society, a shortage of those professionals in the mental health area. For African Americans, that number is exacerbated with African Americans that look like themselves.

We are just thinking about the Speaker earlier today issuing a statement saying that the Senate is considering cutting all funding—not supporting funding for HBCUs, historically Black colleges and universities, where we know that a preponderance of the African Americans in the mental health area have been going to school.

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Right. That would be devastating for our community for that to happen. When I think about my district, which is urban, suburban, and rural—

Ms. PLASKETT. You have rural in your area as well.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Yes, I do. I have 1,200 farms. The other thing is, I have people in those areas who don't have cars. There are not buses and things like that, so again, they don't have the transportation or the means even to get out to go to, let's say, a bigger town in my district to go seek mental health help.

We have to do more to have more professionals. This is not the time to cut back. When you think about just the stresses of living today, we need to have resources available for our students and even our veterans, our farmers, people who we named that are suffering from various things that are going on right now.

Ms. PLASKETT. The other area is that those even who receive treatment, one of the things that we have noted is that African Americans are negatively affected by prejudice and discrimination when they are in the healthcare system.

Missed diagnoses, inadequate treatment, improper bedside manner, and

lack of cultural competence all lead to an exacerbation of health issues that cause distrust and prevent many African Americans from seeking help in the healthcare area.

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Right. I think it is hard enough for us to go, and then, if we go and don't feel comfortable or feel like we are getting the respect or getting the care, the likelihood of us returning is not there.

I mean, you would think that with anybody, of course, that you want to be treated with a good bedside manner, with respect. You want to feel that the person is listening to you, not blowing you off.

Even when it comes to physical healthcare, the idea that we can take more or we don't need this or don't need that, that has been found to be true in how we have been treated.

The same thing in mental health. We don't want that either. We don't want to be looked at as the angry Black man or the angry Black woman as we are expressing ourselves.

Ms. PLASKETT. I know that there have been studies, which you were just discussing, where Black women are historically mistreated by doctors because they do not believe African American women when they say that they are not feeling well or when they are complaining about an ache or a pain, that a diagnosis on a larger scale is not done on them once they say that.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. That is why we have the issue that you know I am very passionate about: maternal mortality and morbidity.

Interestingly enough, yes, some happen before the full term, but some happen when the mom has the baby, and it also happens after the mom has the baby. There could be incidents more than 2 months after the mom has the baby. There is postpartum depression.

But if we are not taken seriously, then one thing can lead to another.

Ms. PLASKETT. This cuts across all economics of African Americans. This is not just about poor Black women.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Right.

Ms. PLASKETT. This happens at the highest economic levels of Black women dying in great numbers after giving birth to children.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Economic, educational, you could be in the best physical health. Black women die at three to four times the rate of White women. But depending on which State you go to, the rates are higher.

In my State of Illinois, it is six to one times. I just met with someone out there, and they said it looks like it might be even a little higher. In New York, it is eight to one times. In the State of Washington, it is not Black women but Native women at eight to one times the rate of White women. Yes, it cuts across every socioeconomic characteristic that you can find.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank Ms. KELLY for her leadership and continued support on this subject.

For those who need a voice here in Washington, I know she is at the forefront, not just on mental health issues but all health issues, including the fact that she has considered gun violence a health issue. She is fighting for additional funding at NIH in this area.

The totality of the health of the American people, I think, is so important, and I am grateful for Ms. KELLY's leadership in that and her continuing to bring up these topics.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership. Anything I can do to help, of course, I am always here.

Ms. PLASKETT. One of the things, Mr. Speaker, that we wanted to talk about was Blacks being overrepresented in prison: 1 million of the total 2.3 million people incarcerated in the United States. One million of those 2.3 million are, in fact, African American. That is another area for mental health that Black Americans face.

A current major national concern: People of color account for 60 percent of the prison population. While only 14 percent of Black people are drug users, we account for 37 percent of drug arrests.

This incarceration could contribute to mental health issues of Black people and raises questions surrounding the delivery of mental health services in prison.

The reverse is also true. The lack of access to mental health testing and treatment may, in fact, lead to incarceration. This reality leads to real issues in healthcare regarding access, mental health, and quality care treatment.

Treatment issues that must be addressed include the fact that the Black community is overrepresented in inpatient treatment and underrepresented in outpatient treatment, highlighting the need for more early education and intervention.

Regarding misdiagnosis and access to care, access is a central point of contention when thinking about the care of Black psychiatric patients. Often, communities such as my district are not equipped with adequate facilities and services. In the Virgin Islands, there is not just a lack of inpatient care for mental health but outpatient as well.

At this point, we have almost no separate mental health facility. Either individuals have to be sent off-island or, unfortunately, many people are sent to correctional facilities for nonviolent crimes who are experiencing, in fact, a mental health issue.

Unfortunately, over a year ago, we lost a young man who obviously had very severe mental health issues that his family had been treating him for. He had been sent to prison because we don't have that mental health facility. He, in fact, lost his life in the correctional facility, knowing that this poor young man had mental health services that he needed and that our island does not have the resources, the funding, to be able to provide.

Research has shown that a lack of cultural competency in mental healthcare, as I discussed earlier and as you heard from Congresswoman KELLY, results in misdiagnosis and inadequate treatment.

While Black patients may prefer Black physicians, only about 2 to 4 percent of mental health providers identify as Black—2 to 4 percent—in this country, meaning that Black patients are likely to be seen by a provider from a different cultural and ethnic background than their own.

Similarly, in research, there is a paucity of Black researchers and Black patients participating in research, which is problematic as research is the basis for evidence-based clinical care.

These are all issues that are affecting the Black community.

Some may think that we also have the stigma of what do we as African Americans think. African Americans are reluctant to discuss mental health issues and seek treatment because of the shame and the stigma associated with such conditions.

Many African Americans also have trouble recognizing the signs and symptoms of mental health conditions, leading to underestimating the effects and the impacts of mental health conditions. That affects all of us, at all levels.

I know, as a parent, as an African American parent, I have been one individual who has done this also, not recognizing when a son is feeling depressed and just thinking that he needs to suck it up and go on with his work and do what he needs to do and thinking that, "You already know that you are a Black man in America. You don't have time to feel sorry for yourself. You have to push through," and realizing that that son was really depressed and needed to get some mental health treatment.

These are things that are affecting our community, and we need to be upfront about what we are facing. Some may think of depression as the blues or something that needs to be snapped out of.

ADHD in a child is often regarded as a child being bad. Too often, young Black men are put in suspension or, even at the age of kindergarten, separated from school, taken out of the classroom because of bad behavior that a teacher recognized. That same behavior in a White student is not seen that way.

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Those signs, that lack of sensitivity begins at the youngest age in Black America, and those are the things that we must be careful about.

Oftentimes, people assume that their emotional mental state is normal, not realizing that they are suffering from disordered thinking or a clinical symptom.

Approximately 30 percent of African American adults with mental illness receive treatment each year, compared

to the U.S. average of 43 percent. Here are some the reasons why.

Socioeconomic factors play a part, too, and can make treatment options less available. In 2017, 11 percent of African Americans had no form of health insurance.

For the Virgin Islands, we have this issue as well. We have only one full-time and one part-time psychiatrist for our islands. Today, the traumas of the storms that rocked the territory have become apparent, and, as a result, mental health is being talked about more frequently.

I am grateful that our Governor, Governor Bryan, is declaring a mental health state of emergency for our islands, being clear-eyed and noticing that this is such an issue that we must face.

However, access to mental health treatment is still in dire need of improvement. For many years, the lack of a facility and mental health providers have led to the Virgin Islands' government spending millions of dollars to send mental health patients off-island due to an inability to treat them within the territory. The cost of sending children off-island for mental health treatment totals \$13 million a year, a significant amount for a jurisdiction with a small annual budget.

The territory currently has no inpatient facilities. Outpatient facilities are unsuited to meet the needs of the Virgin Islands.

A 2019 study conducted by the Caribbean Exploratory Research Center found that 6 out of 10 Virgin Islanders showed depressive symptoms. The same study revealed the symptoms of PTSD in 57 percent of adults. These extraordinary numbers display a mental health crisis within the Virgin Islands that does not have the fiscal, occupational, or infrastructural capacity to handle.

The lack of mental health professionals and mental health education and awareness creates a barrier for many obtaining care. But I know that the Virgin Islands is not the only place that faces this. Places like inner cities within the United States, Detroit and elsewhere, also experience these mental health issues.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge my colleague, one of my close friends here, a classmate of mine coming into Congress in the same class, Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE, who has made extraordinary strides in supporting not just the people of her district, but also being one of the co-chairs of the Women's Caucus here in Washington, continually bringing to light the issues that face women.

Just earlier this evening, she had a dinner, women who had been incarcerated and the mental stress that they were dealing with being incarcerated. One woman, I know, Congresswoman, she discussed having her sentence with a 6-month old child that she had to stop breastfeeding because she had to go to prison, a woman, 2 weeks after

giving birth, having been sent to prison for being a girlfriend of a drug dealer. These are the kinds of things that women in America have been dealing with.

Mr. Speaker, I am so grateful to Congresswoman LAWRENCE for taking the lead on supporting women in this country, for talking about inequities and always dealing with issues that affect those Americans who cannot speak here in these Halls.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE) to discuss these issues with us.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for her leadership. It is imperative that we use our platform as Members of Congress to highlight the crisis of mental illness.

So often when we talk about gun violence, it leaves the crisis of gun violence and goes to mental illness; but we have not, as America, taken the steps we need to take.

Black and African American communities, we are seeing 13.2 percent of the U.S. population who are identified as Black or African American; of those, 16 percent has a diagnosed mental illness in the past year.

I had a friend of mine, she is a therapist, and we had a roundtable in the community that I hosted on mental illness. The T-shirt she wears, says: "I'm an African American. I go to church. I believe in God. And I see my therapist."

So often in our community you hear the words, "just pray about it and God will fix it." But you don't say that to someone who has heart disease. Yes, we pray and, yes, we believe in God, but we also must get the healthcare we need. Mental health is an issue that we are facing.

And when we talk about women, we just had this amazing, informative dinner tonight, and the stress, the abuse, the separation, and they were giving us examples: at 3 in the morning, hearing the weeping and crying of women who have not seen their children, would just love to put their arms around them, those who are in prison and have no clue why they are in there, and to have the guards tell them that they have to perform sexual acts if they want to see their children, and if they fail to do it, they deny them access.

When these women come out of prison, they are broken and they are wounded. And the major issue that we need to confront, when you talk about women surviving and their mental health, the number one criteria for a woman to be reunited with her children is housing.

If a woman has been imprisoned, she has no income. She comes out homeless. She is living in a shelter, and she cannot provide the housing, and so she is still not joined together with her child. And she is confronting her children, being a free woman, who are crying, saying: Mommy, when are we going to go home together again?

And another issue, think about in Washington, D.C., a two-bedroom apartment, and the law requires that, if you have a boy and a girl, you have to have at least a three-bedroom apartment. Can you imagine the costs? And how can a woman afford that?

We have so many historical issues that have impacted the socioeconomic resources, the economic resources, that there are disparities by African Americans today. The socioeconomic status, in turn, is linked to mental health.

People who are in prison, people who are homeless, incarcerated, or have substance abuse problems are at a higher risk for poor mental health. And putting people who are mentally ill in prison has become the norm in America.

Instead of us stepping up and using our ability to provide mental health, we incarcerate. And we see the victims of people with mental illness killing people through gun violence, and all we do is have a moment of silence, and we talk about, well, we knew something was wrong with them.

We heard a parent on the TV, because we just had another shooting, and he was saying: I tried to get help and no one would help me. I knew my son was mentally ill. I cried out.

We must change this in America.

I thank the gentlewoman so much for giving us an opportunity to bring this voice and, hopefully, shake America awake to this issue. We have so much work to do. We need to see our physical doctor, and we need mental health, as well, in America.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to also acknowledge the work that another Member of Congress, MAX ROSE, does in mental health related to veterans. We know so many of those veterans are, in fact, African American, coming back home after having served this country, facing already racial disparities, facing issues of race in America, as well as the trauma of what they have been through in serving us.

We are grateful for that support to those veterans so that they can sustain themselves, get back to being productive in this country. I want to thank the gentleman for that work that he has done.

But I just want to close with letting people know about some statistics and then giving them a charge.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, African Americans are less likely to receive guideline-consistent care, less frequently included in research, and more likely to use emergency rooms or primary care rather than mental health specialists. Only one in three African Americans who need mental healthcare receive it.

Plaguing issues of poverty, mass incarceration, and financial hardship have increased mental illness and suicide in the African American community.

I just want to give people a charge: Start the conversation about mental

health with your peers. Show compassion. Do not be judgmental. Your language matters.

Advocate, if not for yourself, for your family, for your community. Write down all the things that make you upset, for example, media, police brutality, poor perception/narrative of African Americans. Write it down and embrace your voice.

In the Black community, more people promoting solidarity are talking about their struggles publicly, but we need more people to share their experiences. We are at our best when human connection and connectivity happen. Share your story.

I thank the men and women who, across the Nation, are fighting to end the stigma, do the research, and make mental health treatment more accessible in the Black community, including our own, in the Virgin Islands, Dr. Janis Valmond, deputy commissioner for health promotion and disease prevention, who has provided a lot of the information I had tonight.

The Congressional Black Caucus uses this Special Order hour to let America know what is happening in our community.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my Colleague Congresswoman PLASKETT for anchoring tonight's Congressional Black Caucus Special Order on Mental Health.

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social wellbeing. It affects how we think, feel, and act.

It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.

Those experiencing mental health problems can have difficulty thinking, experience mood swings or inappropriate emotional reactions to everyday events, and behavior or engagement with others could be affected.

Many factors contribute to mental health problems, including: biological factors can include individual brain chemistry; traumatic life experiences, such as the sudden death of a loved one, involvement in a major accident, traumatic experiences during times of war or as a consequence of serious illness; family history of mental health problems.

People can experience different types of mental health disorders, such as: Uncontrolled anxiety, behavioral, eating disorders (anorexia, and bulimia are two frequently cited problems); substance abuse; mood problems such as overwhelming feelings of sadness, personality changes; psychotic behavior, and suicidal thoughts.

African American adults are 20 percent more likely to experience mental health issues than the rest of the population.

25 percent of African Americans seek treatment for a mental health issue, compared to 40 percent of white individuals.

The reasons for this drop off include misdiagnosis by doctors, socioeconomic factors and a lack of African American mental health professionals.

Adult African Americans living below poverty are three times more likely to report severe psychological distress than those living above poverty.

African Americans are less likely than white people to die from suicide as teenagers, Afri-

can American teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide than are white teenagers (8.3 percent v. 6.2 percent).

The number of professionals that provide mental health care:

Only 6.2 percent of psychologists, 5.6 percent of advanced-practice psychiatric nurses,

12.6 percent of social workers, and 21.3 percent of psychiatrists are members of minority groups.

According to the National Association on Mental Illness (NAMI), only 3.7 percent of members in the American Psychiatric Association and 1.5 percent of members in the American Psychological Association are Black.

African Americans of all ages are more likely to witness or be victims of serious violent crimes.

Exposure to violence increases the risk of developing a mental health condition such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety.

African American children are more likely than other children to be exposed to violence, which can have a profound, long-term effect on their mental health.

Some African Americans even see mental illness as a punishment from God.

Up to 85 percent of African Americans describe themselves as "fairly religious" or "religious," and they commonly use prayer to handle stress, according to one study cited by the American Psychiatric Association.

Nationally, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among all Americans—over 47,000 people died by suicide in 2017.

On average, there are 129 suicides per day. In 2017 there were an estimated 1.4 million suicide attempts.

From 1999 through 2015, 1,309 children ages 5 to 12 died of suicide in the U.S.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among Black youth (Suicide is the second leading cause of death among all youth just behind accidental deaths).

A report published in the JAMA Pediatrics, found that the rate of suicide for Black children ages 5 to 12 died by suicide exceeded that of White children.

A study in the Journal of Community Health showed that suicide rates among black girls ages 13 to 19 nearly doubled from 2001 to 2017. For black boys in the same age group, over the same period, rates rose 60 percent.

Black youth are about half as likely as their White counterparts to get mental health care.

Trauma and Suicide: Among urban males, PTSD is associated with increased suicide attempts.

African Americans living below poverty are three times more likely to report serious psychological distress than those living above poverty.

While African Americans are less likely than white people to die from suicide as teenagers, African American teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide than are white teenagers (8.3 percent v. 6.2 percent).

Less than 2 percent of American Psychological Association members are Black/African American, some may worry that mental health care practitioners are not culturally competent enough to treat their specific issues.

African Americans are 10 percent more likely to experience serious psychological distress than their white counterparts.

70 percent of youth in State and local juvenile justice systems have a mental illness

(While just 14 percent of all youth under 18 in the U.S. are Black, 43 percent of boys and 34 percent of girls in juvenile facilities are Black.). Incarcerated youth die by suicide at a rate 2 to 3 times higher than that of youth in the general population.

The LGBTQ+ community is 4 times more likely to die by suicide than their straight peers.

The 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey found 40 percent of respondents had attempted suicide in their lifetime—nearly nine times the attempted suicide rate in the United States population at large.

The Trevor Project estimates that more than 1.8 million lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth seriously consider suicide each year.

The frequency and intensity of bullying that young people face are astounding:

1 in 7 students in Grades K–12 is either a bully or a victim of bullying.

90 percent of 4th to 8th grade students report being victims of bullying of some type.

56 percent of students have personally witnessed some type of bullying at school.

71 percent of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school.

15 percent of all students who don't show up for school report it to being out of fear of being bullied while at school.

1 out of 20 students has seen a student with a gun at school.

282,000 students are physically attacked in secondary schools each month.

15 percent of all school absenteeism is directly related to fears of being bullied at school.

According to bullying statistics, 1 out of every 10 students who drops out of school does so because of repeated bullying.

Suicides linked to bullying are the saddest statistic.

David Ray Ritcheson was a victim of adolescent bullying. He was bullied, beaten and tortured nearly to death because of his race. He spent 3 months in a hospital as a result of his injuries and underwent more than 30 surgeries to repair his battered body.

His courage in the face of such violence was reflected in his willingness to come before Congress to tell his story. His courage inspired members of Congress to pass the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act which became law. [Public Law No: 111-084].

Negative attitudes about mental illness often underlie stigma, which can cause those suffering from mental illness or their families not to seek help or deny clear symptoms of mental illness.

The stigma of mental illness may cause the mentally ill to delay treatment, experience job discrimination, lead to the loss of employment, loss of housing, or cost personal relationships, and undermine successful recovery of those with mental illness or substance abuse.

To overcome stigma, we need to avoid using generic labels such as "retarded" or "the mentally ill" and terms like crazy, lunatic, or slow functioning.

According to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, most adults (88.6 percent) agreed with a statement that people are generally caring and sympathetic to persons with mental illness.

Adults with mental health symptoms (77.6 percent) agreed that treatment can help them lead normal lives.

However, only 24.6 percent of those surveyed who had mental health disorders believe that people are caring and sympathetic to persons with mental illness.

Psychiatrists advise that emphasizing abilities and not limitations, when talking about someone who has a mental illness is important for the self-esteem of the mentally ill.

Everyone has strengths that are not related to a mental illness, and these should be the focus of those seeking help for the mentally ill in their lives.

We have to change cultural and socially acceptable language and behavior toward the mentally ill—mental illness is nothing to laugh at or make light of.

Mental health care disparities exist due to:

1. Reluctance and Inability to Access Mental Health Services impacts the care of African Americans.

Approximately 30 percent of African American adults with mental illness receive treatment each year, compared to the U.S. average of 43 percent. Here are some reasons why.

2. Distrust and misdiagnosis

Historically, African Americans have been and continue to be negatively affected by prejudice and discrimination in the health care system.

Misdiagnoses, inadequate treatment and lack of cultural competence by health professionals cause distrust and prevent many African Americans from seeking or staying in treatment.

Socio-economic factors play a part too and can make treatment options less available. In 2017, 11 percent of African Americans had no form of health insurance.

3. Provider Bias and Inequality of Care

Conscious or unconscious bias from providers and lack of cultural competence result in misdiagnosis and poorer quality of care for African Americans.

African Americans, especially women, are more likely to experience and mention physical symptoms related to mental health problems.

For example, they may describe bodily aches and pains when talking about depression.

A health care provider who is not culturally competent might not recognize these as symptoms of a mental health condition.

Additionally, men are more likely to receive a misdiagnosis of schizophrenia when expressing symptoms related to mood disorders or PTSD.

Members of minority communities often experience bias and mistrust in health care settings.

This often leads to delays in seeking care.

Those seeking mental health services, must be informed on how to best determine the best person to provide them with care.

Key factors should include whether the mental healthcare providers have:

Cultural Competence in Service Delivery

Culture—a person's beliefs, norms, values and language—plays a key role in every aspect of our lives, including our mental health. Cultural competence is a doctor's ability to recognize and understand the role culture (yours and the doctor's) plays in treatment and to adapt to this reality to meet your needs.

Cultural competence is important because cultural competence in mental health care results in misdiagnosis and inadequate treatment.

African Americans and other multicultural communities tend to receive poorer quality of care.

To improve the chances of getting culturally sensitive care patients should go directly to a mental health professional because this is their area of expertise, if they do not feel comfortable right away, a primary care doctor is a great place to start.

The primary care doctor might be able to start the assessment to determine if a patient has a mental health condition or help refer them to a mental health professional.

When meeting with a provider, ask questions to get a sense of their level of cultural sensitivity.

No person seeking help should feel bad about asking questions.

Health care providers expect and welcome questions from their patients since this helps them better understand the patient and what is important to them.

Some of the essential questions that should be asked are:

Have you treated other African Americans?

Have you received training in cultural competence or on African American mental health?

How do you see our cultural backgrounds influencing our communication and my treatment?

How do you plan to integrate my beliefs and practices in my treatment?

The answers to these questions should inform the patient seeking medical care.

Its is also important for the patient to know the clues that indicate that the medical professional may be biased in how they communicate with the patient regarding their medical condition.

There have been tremendous advancements in medical care that include therapies and medications that allow persons with serious mental health conditions to lead productive and full lives.

The Affordable Care Act takes a positive step forward to address the issue of mental illness and access by making it a requirement that all healthcare plans contain care for mental illness and substance abuse.

Because of the health care law, for the first time insurance companies in the individual and small group market are required to cover mental health and substance abuse disorder services as one of ten categories of essential health benefits.

Additionally, health insurance providers must cover mental health and substance abuse services at parity with medical and surgical benefits (which means things like out-of-pocket costs for behavioral health services must generally be comparable to coverage for medical and surgical care).

The Affordable Care Act expands mental health and substance abuse disorder benefits and the parity created by the law protections approximately 60 million Americans by assuring coverage.

The Affordable Care Act is one of the largest expansions of mental health and substance abuse disorder coverage in a generation.

As part of the White House roll out of the Affordable Care Act a \$100 million commitment to improve access to mental health services was announced.

The Affordable Care Act is providing \$50 million to assist community centers provide

more mental health services. The Department of Agriculture will provide an additional \$50 million to finance rural mental health facilities.

The health care law requires most health plans to cover recommended preventive services like depression screenings for adults and behavioral assessments for children at no cost to consumers.

In the State of Texas it is expect that 5,189,000 people will have access to mental health and substance abuse assistance programs.

Post-traumatic stress disorder is a psychiatric disorder that can occur following the experience or witnessing of a life threatening event, such as military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents, or physical or sexual assault in adult or childhood.

PTSD, one of the most prevalent and devastating psychological wounds suffered by the brave men and women fighting in far off lands to defend the values and freedom we hold dear.

A suicide bomber, an IED, or an insurgent can obliterate their close friend instantaneously and right in front of their face. Yet, as American soldiers, they are trained to suppress the agonizing grief associated with those horrible experiences and are expected to continue on with the mission. And carry on they do, with courage and with patriotism.

PTSD can cause problems like: Flashback or feeling like the event is happening again; Trouble sleeping or nightmares; Feeling alone; Angry outbursts; and Feeling worried, guilty, or sad.

The fact of the matter is that most veterans with PTSD also have other psychiatric disorders, which are a consequence of PTSD.

About 30 percent of the men and women who have spent time in war zones experience PTSD.

More than half of all male Vietnam veterans and almost half of all female Vietnam veterans have experienced clinically serious stress reaction symptoms.

PTSD has also been detected among veterans of other wars.

Estimates of PTSD from the Gulf War are as high as 10 percent.

Estimates from the war in Afghanistan are between 6 and 11 percent.

Current Estimates of PTSD in military personnel who served in Iraq range from 12 percent to 20 percent.

We need to ensure that no soldier is left behind by addressing the urgent need for more outreach toward hard to reach veterans suffering from PTSD, especially those who are homeless or reside in underserved urban and rural areas of our county.

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#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HORSFORD (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

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#### 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. 2099. An act to redesignate the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in the State of

North Dakota as the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT**

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on November 18, 2019, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 2423. To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

H.R. 1123. To amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

H.R. 724. To revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, November 19, 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, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 4344, the Investor Protection and Capital Markets Fairness Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

**ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 4344**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2020-2024	2020-2029
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact .....	16	7	-7	-17	-58	-78	-78	-58	-28	-18	-59	-317

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 4634, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

**ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 4634**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2020-2024	2020-2029
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact .....	0	160	120	-120	-490	390	250	20	-570	-1,010	-330	-1,250

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.**

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

2976. A letter from the Administrator, Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Establishment of a Domestic Hemp Production Program [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-19-0042; SC19-990-2 IR] received November 7, 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.

2977. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Eligibility of the People's Republic of China (PRC) To Export to the United States Poultry Products From Birds Slaughtered in the PRC [Docket No.: FSIS-2016-0002] (RIN: 0583-AD64) received November 12, 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.

2978. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Privacy Act of 1974 [Docket ID: DOD-2019-OS-0041] (RIN: 0790-AK60) received November 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2979. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Home Mortgage Disclosure (Regulation C) [Docket No.: CFPB-2019-0021] (RIN: 3170-AA76) received November 7, 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.

2980. A letter from the Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's technical amendments — Examinations of Working Places in Metal and Nonmetal Mines [Docket No.: MSHA-2014-0030] (RIN: 1219-AB92) received November 7, 2019, 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.

2981. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; South Coast Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits [EPA-R09-OAR-2019-0272; FRL-10002-12-Region 9] November 8, 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.

2982. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Transport Element for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R01-OAR-2019-0353; FRL-10001-80-Region 1] received November 8, 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.

2983. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's direct final rule — Revisions to Safety Standard for Toddler Beds [Docket No.: CPSC-2017-0012] received November 12, 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.

2984. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Minerals Management: Adjustment of Cost Recovery Fees [18X.LLWO310000.L13100000.PP0000] (RIN: 1004-AE70) received November 6, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2985. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, NESDIS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's correcting amendment — Schedule of Fees for Access to NOAA Environmental Data, Information, and Related Products and Services; Correction [Docket No.: 181108999-9149-02] (RIN: 0648-BI60) received November 12, 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.

2986. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Groundfish Bottom Trawl and Midwater Trawl Gear in the Trawl Rationalization Program; Correction [Docket No.: 180207141-8999-03] (RIN: 0648-BH74) received November 12, 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.

2987. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-

9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY007) received November 14, 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.

2988. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY010) received November 14, 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.

2989. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Equal to or Greater Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY020) received November 14, 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.

2990. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — 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 [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY014) received November 14, 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.

2991. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2019 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Red Snapper [Docket No.: 121004515-3608-02] (RIN: 0648-XS009) received November 14, 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.

2992. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2019 Commercial Accountability Measures; Annual Catch Limit & Annual Catch Target Reductions [Docket No.: 121004518-3398-01] (RIN: 0648-XG974) received November 14, 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.

2993. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713663-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XG086) received November 14, 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.

2994. 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 Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Multi-

Year Harvest Specifications for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy [Docket No.: 190215127-9460-02] (RIN: 0648-B173) received November 12, 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.

2995. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Trawl Logbook [Docket No.: 190214113-9522-01] (RIN: 0648-B174) received November 12, 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.

2996. 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 Northeastern United States; Northeast Skate Complex; Framework Adjustment 5 and 2018-2019 Specifications [Docket No.: 180130101-8824-02] (RIN: 0648-BH57) received November 12, 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.

2997. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Commercial Trip Limit Reduction for King Mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone [Docket No.: 160426363-7275-02] (RIN: 0648-XS010) received November 14, 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.

2998. A letter from the Acting 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Amendment 13; Correction [Docket No.: 190725-0004] (RIN: 0648-B111) received November 14, 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.

2999. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Pacific Islands Regional Office, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Limits in Purse Seine and Longline Fisheries, Restrictions on the Use of Fish Aggregating Devices in Purse Seine Fisheries, and Transshipment Prohibitions [Docket No.: 180209155-8589-02] (RIN: 0648-BH77) received November 12, 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.

3000. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31278 Amdt. No.: 3875] received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3001. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31279; Amdt. No.: 3876] received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3002. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BRP-Rotax GmbH & Co KG Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0747; Product Identifier 2019-NE-26-AD; Amendment 39-19778; AD 2019-21-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3003. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Walden, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0372; Airspace Docket No.: 18-ANM-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3004. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Wray, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0371; Airspace Docket No.: 17-ANM-6] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3005. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Beechcraft Corporation) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0853; Product Identifier 2019-CE-036-AD; Amendment 39-19774; AD 2019-21-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received November 7, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia: Committee on Education and Labor. H.R. 1309. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-296, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Committee on Rules. H. Res. 708. A resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-297). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means discharged from further

consideration. H.R. 1309 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. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. SENSENBRENNER):

H.R. 5133. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anti-competitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BARRAGAN:

H.R. 5134. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to provide that care packages mailed to a member of the Armed Forces by any family member shall be carried at no cost to the family member, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 5135. A bill to give priority in allocation of rental assistance vouchers under the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to areas having the largest populations of homeless veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 5136. A bill to secure the technological edge of the United States in civil and military aviation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PENCE (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 5137. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify the treatment of certain bargain-price options to purchase at less than fair market value, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California (for herself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 5138. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States to provide safety measures to social workers, health workers, and human services professionals performing services placing such individuals in high-risk and potentially dangerous situations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. LYNCH, and Mrs. FLETCHER):

H.R. 5139. A bill to protect transportation personnel and passengers from sexual assault and harassment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 5140. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to narrow the category of households eligible to receive signals under a distant-signal satellite license, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 5141. A bill to substantially restrict the use of animal testing for cosmetics; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 5142. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to update the Federal purchase requirement to ensure the use of 100 percent renewable energy by 2050; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 5143. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require corporations to disclose to their shareholders the amounts disbursed for certain political activity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H.R. 5144. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require group health plans and health insurance coverage to have in place a process to self-audit information listed in publicly accessible provider directories of such plans and coverage; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and 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. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 5145. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to establish an advisory board focused on creating opportunities for women in the trucking industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HAGEDORN (for himself and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 5146. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require contracting officers to take a small business concern's past performance as part of a joint venture into account when evaluating the small business concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 5147. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to repeal exclusive representation, to remove any requirement that individual employees join or pay dues or fees to labor organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 5148. A bill to improve program integrity through State evaluation of institutions of higher education, requirements for student complaint submissions, and the establishment of policies and procedures to address closure of institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 5149. A bill to prohibit actions to suspend, terminate, or withdraw the United States from the Open Skies Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 5150. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, the Financial Stability Act of 2010, and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to improve access to information in the legislative and executive branches of the Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, House Administration, the Judiciary, Ethics, Financial Services, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 5151. A bill to establish a military family immigration advisory committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, and Armed Services, 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. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 5152. A bill to establish a grant program under which the Secretary of Transportation will reimburse public transportation agencies that offer free unlimited transportation passes to eligible individuals; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 5153. A bill to assist Tribal governments in the management of buffalo and buffalo habitat and for the reestablishment of buffalo on Indian lands; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Mr. HURD of Texas):

H. Res. 709. A resolution supporting the designation of "GivingTuesday" and strong incentives for all people of the United States to volunteer and give generously; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 710. A resolution calling on Congress to condemn voter suppression laws enacted by States and political subdivisions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## 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. CICILLINE:

H.R. 5133.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 5134.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 5135.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MARSHALL:

H.R. 5136.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PENCE:

H.R. 5137.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution which grants Congress the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 5138.

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

Article I Section 8

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 5139.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 5140.

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

Congress has the power to pass this bill pursuant to the Intellectual Property Clause, Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 8, and the Commerce Clause, Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 3.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 5141.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution—To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian Tribes

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 5142.

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

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

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 5143.

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

Article I, Section 4: "The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators."

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: gives Congress the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

Amendment XVI: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H.R. 5144.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 5145.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

"to regulate Commerce . . . among the several States, and with the Indian tribes . . ."

By Mr. HAGEDORN:

H.R. 5146.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power [ . . . ] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 5147.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 5148.

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

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

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 5149.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 5150.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 5151.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 5152.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 5153.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 20: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.  
 H.R. 45: Ms. KAPTUR.  
 H.R. 127: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
 H.R. 129: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.  
 H.R. 141: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.  
 H.R. 151: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.  
 H.R. 229: Mr. YARMUTH.  
 H.R. 333: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.  
 H.R. 445: Mrs. DINGELL.  
 H.R. 479: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.  
 H.R. 587: Ms. PORTER, Mr. WRIGHT, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
 H.R. 649: Ms. BONAMICI.  
 H.R. 707: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.  
 H.R. 784: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.  
 H.R. 838: Mr. COX of California and Mr. UPTON.  
 H.R. 912: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HORSFORD, Miss RICE of New York, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. MORELLE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.  
 H.R. 927: Mr. PETERS and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 935: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDEN, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 945: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 961: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1042: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 1109: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 1151: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 1171: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 1241: Mr. LAMB.

H.R. 1289: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 1309: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 1379: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 1380: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 1407: Mr. AMODEL.

H.R. 1418: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 1425: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 1607: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1695: Ms. FINKENAUER and Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 1700: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.

H.R. 1713: Ms. Sánchez.

H.R. 1754: Mrs. MILLER, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 1763: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1766: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 1779: Mr. HECK.

H.R. 1794: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1816: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1869: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. COOK, Mr. PENCE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, and Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 1872: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 1873: Mr. MEUSER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. KILMER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DELGADO, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. Cárdenas, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LAMB, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. DEAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. WILD, Mr. EVANS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1882: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 1908: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 1911: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1923: Mr. AGUILAR and Mr. KIM.

H.R. 1996: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 1998: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2062: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2069: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 2086: Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 2089: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 2130: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 2137: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 2146: Mrs. DEMINGS.

H.R. 2148: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 2158: Mr. WATKINS.

H.R. 2168: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 2191: Mr. GOLDEN.

H.R. 2195: Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 2210: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 2213: Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

- H.R. 2293: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 2311: Mr. ENGEL.
- H.R. 2319: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
- H.R. 2382: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
- H.R. 2416: Mr. PAPPAS.
- H.R. 2434: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 2435: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
- H.R. 2438: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
- H.R. 2457: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
- H.R. 2478: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
- H.R. 2491: Ms. ADAMS.
- H.R. 2517: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
- H.R. 2573: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 2629: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 2645: Ms. FINKENAUER.
- H.R. 2651: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 2681: Ms. FINKENAUER.
- H.R. 2683: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 2693: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H.R. 2732: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
- H.R. 2733: Mr. COX of California.
- H.R. 2775: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
- H.R. 2818: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
- H.R. 2836: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
- H.R. 2846: Mr. PANETTA.
- H.R. 2848: Mr. KIM.
- H.R. 2854: Mr. LYNCH.
- H.R. 2873: Mrs. LESKO.
- H.R. 2881: Mr. WITTMAN.
- H.R. 2895: Mr. TIPTON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. KHANNA.
- H.R. 2961: Mr. AGUILAR.
- H.R. 3036: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. FINKENAUER.
- H.R. 3068: Mr. LYNCH and Ms. JAYAPAL.
- H.R. 3073: Mr. TRONE.
- H.R. 3080: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
- H.R. 3103: Mr. HUDSON.
- H.R. 3107: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. TRONE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. SARBANES.
- H.R. 3121: Mr. PASCARELL.
- H.R. 3197: Mr. Luján.
- H.R. 3208: Mr. BRINDISI.
- H.R. 3219: Mr. KILDEE.
- H.R. 3274: Mr. SUOZZI.
- H.R. 3328: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
- H.R. 3373: Mr. POCAN and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 3414: Mr. KENNEDY.
- H.R. 3441: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
- H.R. 3463: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
- H.R. 3495: Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
- H.R. 3497: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CROW.
- H.R. 3552: Ms. PORTER.
- H.R. 3563: Mr. NEGUSE.
- H.R. 3564: Mr. GOHMERT and Mr. BABIN.
- H.R. 3598: Ms. SCANLON.
- H.R. 3615: Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 3637: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. CLEAVER.
- H.R. 3646: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
- H.R. 3667: Mr. COOPER.
- H.R. 3702: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 3735: Mrs. DEMINGS and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
- H.R. 3742: Mr. GOODEN.
- H.R. 3749: Mr. BAIRD.
- H.R. 3758: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
- H.R. 3760: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 3795: Ms. PRESSLEY.
- H.R. 3798: Mr. HECK.
- H.R. 3799: Mr. HUFFMAN.
- H.R. 3824: Mrs. WAGNER.
- H.R. 3934: Mr. GOHMERT.
- H.R. 3961: Mrs. LURIA, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. MCADAMS.
- H.R. 3975: Mr. VISCLOSKY.
- H.R. 4009: Mr. GROTHMAN.
- H.R. 4019: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
- H.R. 4029: Mr. STANTON.
- H.R. 4056: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
- H.R. 4069: Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH.
- H.R. 4104: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
- H.R. 4132: Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 4133: Mr. MCADAMS.
- H.R. 4172: Mr. KIM and Mr. BALDERSON.
- H.R. 4183: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
- H.R. 4189: Mr. MCKINLEY.
- H.R. 4227: Mr. TONKO.
- H.R. 4232: Mr. DESAULNIER.
- H.R. 4248: Ms. HOULAHAN.
- H.R. 4300: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4304: Mr. CRIST.
- H.R. 4348: Mr. KHANNA.
- H.R. 4351: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 4370: Mr. BUCK, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. GIANFORTE.
- H.R. 4371: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 4399: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. TURNER, Mr. DUNN, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
- H.R. 4508: Mr. BERA and Ms. HOULAHAN.
- H.R. 4509: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
- H.R. 4519: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee.
- H.R. 4527: Mr. CUELLAR.
- H.R. 4540: Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. RUSH, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. ROUDA, and Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 4556: Mr. PETERS and Ms. DELBENE.
- H.R. 4570: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
- H.R. 4571: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
- H.R. 4605: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
- H.R. 4634: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. HECK, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. KIND, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. BARR, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EMMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. STIVERS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CASE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CRIST, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 4639: Mr. KHANNA.
- H.R. 4640: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4644: Mr. ALLED.
- H.R. 4667: Ms. HOULAHAN.
- H.R. 4672: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. COX of California.
- H.R. 4674: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PASCARELL, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. POCAN.
- H.R. 4681: Mr. VARGAS and Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 4684: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
- H.R. 4704: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. LIPINSKI.
- H.R. 4708: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4709: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 4718: Ms. DEAN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 4729: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL and Mr. CICILLINE.
- H.R. 4735: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. WILD, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. LAMB.
- H.R. 4768: Mr. POCAN.
- H.R. 4787: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 4797: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 4810: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
- H.R. 4820: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
- H.R. 4826: Ms. FINKENAUER and Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 4872: Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 4887: Mr. SUOZZI.
- H.R. 4890: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
- H.R. 4894: Mrs. AXNE.
- H.R. 4897: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 4910: Mr. KENNEDY.
- H.R. 4914: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 4919: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. SIMPSON.
- H.R. 4932: Mr. PALAZZO.
- H.R. 4934: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, and Mr. GOODEN.
- H.R. 4937: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
- H.R. 4957: Mr. CASE and Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 4965: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mrs. LURIA, and Ms. FINKENAUER.
- H.R. 4978: Mr. DESAULNIER.
- H.R. 4980: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. VARGAS.
- H.R. 4985: Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 4988: Mr. SIRES.
- H.R. 4990: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
- H.R. 4995: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 4999: Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 5004: Ms. WATERS.
- H.R. 5014: Mr. CASE.
- H.R. 5015: Mr. CASE.
- H.R. 5019: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 5047: Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 5052: Mr. HECK and Ms. PINGREE.
- H.R. 5066: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
- H.R. 5068: Mrs. LEE of Nevada and Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 5084: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CISNEROS.
- H.R. 5086: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. GOODEN.
- H.R. 5092: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 5098: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
- H.R. 5119: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H.R. 5127: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARDENAS, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Ms. SANCHEZ.
- H.J. Res. 76: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. VARGAS.
- H.J. Res. 78: Mr. MEADOWS.
- H.J. Res. 79: Ms. FINKENAUER.
- H. Con. Res. 68: Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. LURIA, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
- H. Con. Res. 74: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
- H. Res. 117: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H. Res. 220: Ms. ADAMS.
- H. Res. 375: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LEWIS, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. CRIST, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DEAN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
- H. Res. 410: Ms. JAYAPAL.
- H. Res. 538: Mr. SOTO.
- H. Res. 678: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. WATKINS, and Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee.
- H. Res. 686: Mr. BUCK.
- H. Res. 688: Ms. MOORE, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. KHANNA.
- H. Res. 706: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. PHILLIPS.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

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

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019

No. 184

## 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 God, Your truth endures forever. Make us conscious of our shortcomings, limitations, and liabilities.

Lord, guide our lawmakers. Give them the humility to depend on Your leading and to receive the gift of Your grace for daily living. Create in them joy in service, courage in danger, and enthusiasm in glorifying You in our Nation and world. Inspire them to be people who will stand for right though the Heavens fall.

We pray in Your sovereign 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 address the Senate for 1 minute as in morning business.

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

### APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the minority leader is so committed to his campaign rhetoric, calling the Senate a political graveyard, that he is killing the House-passed appropriations package that funds our national defense and pays our troops.

Leader MCCONNELL has twice moved to take up the House bill that funds

the Pentagon, as well as the Departments of State, Health and Human Services, Energy, Education, and others, but the majority leader has been constantly blocked by the Democrats.

The minority leader claims to be shocked and outraged that the Senate isn't taking up partisan messaging bills from the House when it is very normal for both Houses not to take up every bill passed by the other Chamber. That doesn't apply to appropriations, however, because one thing is very certain: We have to fund the government, and those bills absolutely have to come up and be passed by both Houses.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

### APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for weeks now, almost daily, I have spoken about the need to get our appropriations process back on track and the need for bipartisan agreement to fund the Federal Government and, particularly, to provide our military commanders with the resources and stability they need.

That kind of smooth process was exactly what Congress was on track for just a few months ago. Leaders in both parties, in both Houses, and at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue signed onto a deal that set top-line funding levels and ruled out obstacles like poi-

son pills. Alas, as I have discussed at length, policy riders crept back into the process, and our discussions stalled. As a result, here we are again—behind schedule.

We need to get results on appropriations before the end of the year. So, while the House and the Senate continue negotiations on setting the allocations, we need to buy more time. The House and the Senate need to pass a continuing resolution to fund the government through December 20 and allow these talks to continue. The Senate can't originate this funding bill, but we will wait to receive legislation from the House and then vote on it before we head back to our home States.

This is what we need: a CR, as clean as possible, through December 20 to enable more progress on appropriations before the end of this year. A clean CR through December 20 would pass the Senate, and the White House has indicated that President Trump would sign it. Let me say that again. The administration indicates the President is willing and ready to sign a clean CR through December 20 so that we can finish our work.

This is our opportunity to get a bipartisan process back on track. First, with bipartisan, bicameral cooperation, we can safely fund the Federal Government through mid-December so talks can continue. Then, with more cooperation, we can reach agreement on allocations and pass as many of the 12 appropriations bills as possible before the end of the year.

### NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now, on another matter, while we wait on the House, the Senate will take the opportunity to consider three more of President Trump's well-qualified nominees to the Federal bench and the diplomatic corps.

Later today, we will vote to advance the nomination of Justice Robert

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



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Luck, of Florida—the President’s impressive nominee—to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 11th Circuit. Then we will consider Justice Barbara Lagoa, who has also been nominated to the 11th Circuit. Both are impressive nominees who have sterling qualifications—two more fine choices by President Trump. Finally, the Senate will turn its attention to the diplomatic corps and confirm Adrian Zuckerman, of New Jersey, to serve as the Ambassador to Romania.

I hope each of my colleagues will join me in supporting all three confirmations as the Senate continues to give the American people the government for which they voted.

#### HONG KONG

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on a final matter, in the last few days, the reports and images coming out of Hong Kong have become even more disturbing. The police crackdown on Hongkongers who are standing up for their freedom and their region’s autonomy has intensified.

University campuses now literally look like war zones, with government forces laying siege to groups of students and other protesters. Many observers feel the situation may be verging on something truly terrible. In the midst of this crackdown, just today, Hong Kong’s High Court ruled against the executive and actually in favor of the protesters’ rights—yet another signal it is the government that is acting beyond the bounds of its authorities.

This latest escalation against Hongkongers comes as Beijing faces international fallout from leaked documents that delineate the government’s chilling, systematic campaign against ethnic minorities in another supposedly autonomous region, Xinjiang—hundreds of pages of internal documents from the Chinese Communist Party government. It is a handbook for this Orwellian campaign to effectively erase a religious and ethnic minority in a region that, again, is supposed to be legally distinct from the rest of China. This effort is being conducted using “organs of dictatorship” and “absolutely no mercy.”

The protesters are not the problem. It is Beijing and the Hong Kong leadership that must deescalate. The Communist Party must know it will hurt them catastrophically if it turns Hong Kong into some 21st century version of Tiananmen Square. The United States would not forget it, and neither would China’s other trading partners all across the world.

So what can the United States do?

In September, I worked to add language to the State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill to modify the reporting requirements of the 1992 Hong Kong Policy Act, which, by the way, was my bill back in 1992. My additions would work to expose the current tools the Chinese Communist govern-

ment is using to subvert the autonomy of Hong Kong and to allow the U.S. Government to pay for the legal support for Hong Kong’s democracy activists.

One important step to help Hong Kong is for the House and Senate Democrats to finally get to “yes” on the appropriations process.

Last week, I had a productive meeting with the senior Senator from Florida on the subject of revising and extending the Hong Kong Policy Act through new legislation. As I indicated, I authored the original bill back in 1992 and have been keenly interested in Hong Kong’s status for decades. So I appreciate the leadership Senator RUBIO and others have shown and hope we can find a way to move this important bill. Yet, while I support additional legislation, the United States does not need to wait for new laws to act further. There are already significant tools at the administration’s disposal, and I strongly encourage them to use them.

I have been encouraged to hear clear statements on China from key members of President Trump’s team in recent months. I would encourage this President, who has seen Chinese behavior for what it is with a clarity that others have lacked, not to shy away from speaking out on Hong Kong himself. The world should hear from him directly that the United States stands with these brave men and women.

This administration has rightly understood what prior administrations have entirely missed. The old consensus was that economic modernization in China would automatically import our values of freedom and human dignity into their society. Now, every day reminds us that this simply has not happened. Instead, Beijing is using modern technology it has obtained through integration with the West to further its political and social control over its own population and expand China’s reach beyond its shores.

So, rather than focusing solely on trade, I encourage the administration to make Hong Kong’s autonomy a key topic within our bilateral diplomacy. The administration should also take advantage of the tools Congress has already provided in Global Magnitsky to target the individuals who are responsible for egregious human rights abuses. In Xinjiang and Hong Kong, the world is seeing the true face of the Communist Party of China.

The United States has a role to play in standing up for the universal principles of human rights, and I am confident we will fulfill it. Yet our allies and partners must also ask themselves whether they are prepared to live in a world that is being increasingly shaped by those who show absolutely no mercy to religious and ethnic minorities and who confront peaceful protest with violence.

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. 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### IMPEACHMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, our Republican friends have spent the past several weeks accusing Democrats of being unable to work on serious issues to help the American people because the impeachment inquiry into President Trump is such a distraction. The Republican leader has repeated this absurd claim on the Senate floor, and the President’s reelection campaign is now running ads saying Democrats refuse to work on infrastructure or healthcare or drugs because of impeachment. These ads turn truth inside out. Simply put, these ads are a lie.

Senate Democrats put together a trillion-dollar infrastructure plan that would create 15 million jobs. We did that 3 years ago. Instead of working with us on that goal, President Trump walked out of the meeting on infrastructure with Speaker PELOSI and me. We haven’t heard a peep out of the administration since then. That was long before impeachment began. We haven’t heard from the Republicans on what they want to do on healthcare. We haven’t heard from the President on a proposal he sent us on drug prices. So who is holding things up?

This Senate has been a legislative graveyard for months and months and months. It just amazes me the gall, the temerity that the President and our Republican friends have to say that Democrats, because of impeachment, are not moving forward. We have 218 bills that the House sent us. We haven’t had one discussion here on impeachment. It has taken up no time.

Leader MCCONNELL, do you want to get things done? Put one of those bills on the floor. Let us have debate.

Republican Senators, go to MCCONNELL. Tell him you want to do some stuff on the floor; that you want to legislate.

No, no, we hear silence—abject, shaky-knee silence—because our Republican friends, and I imagine the leader, are just afraid of President Trump. When he makes up these lies, they just go right along.

Many Republicans have even complained that Leader MCCONNELL has turned the Senate into a legislative graveyard. So the idea that the impeachment inquiry is preventing Congress from debating legislation on infrastructure or prescription drugs or healthcare or any other matter is completely absurd. Democrats are happy

and eager to work on those issues. Senate Democrats are waiting with bated breath for the Republican leader to put any of these bills on the floor or for any Republican to speak out and demand they go on the floor. The silence of our Republican colleagues indicates that they are going along with this strategy as well.

We meet this week in the Senate, and the majority leader has, once again, scheduled no legislative business on the floor—none. We are not debating impeachment. We are not discussing impeachment. For 3 weeks in a row, there has been not one legislative piece, not one legislative bill. That is all the evidence one needs to know which party is blocking progress in the Chamber.

The American people know it. When they are asked what they think of the Republicans in the Senate and the Republicans in Congress, the marks are very low. I imagine that is because they are getting nothing done.

Concerning the impeachment inquiry itself, the public hearings last week have brought up many troubling allegations, including the startling revelation that Ambassador Gordon Sondland told another State Department official that the President had made clear that he cares more about Ukraine investigating the Bidens than about helping Ukraine itself. The revelation added to an already substantial body of evidence that the President may—may—have abused the powers of his public office for personal political gain. I say “may” because we haven’t had the trial yet here in the Senate, should the House vote on articles of impeachment.

The President is now saying all this stuff is false; that all these witnesses are not telling the truth.

If the President believes that these witnesses are false and that the facts that are coming out of the Senate impeachment hearings are false, he should testify under oath in the House. If he wishes to present evidence to the contrary, he should do it not by tweet but by testimony under oath.

I wholeheartedly agree with Speaker PELOSI’s invitation to President Trump yesterday to testify in the House impeachment inquiry—not by tweeting and not by sending a note but by coming forward in person under oath, and let’s see what the President rejects. If the President doesn’t agree with what he has heard in public hearings and he has evidence he would like to present, he can come to the committee and testify and answer questions under oath.

He should allow his advisers, who are in fact witnesses in these matters, to testify under oath as well. The President shouldn’t spread falsehoods about the witnesses on Twitter. He should come to Congress and make his case. He should free up Pompeo and Mulvaney and all the others who might have real knowledge and let them testify.

The President and his allies in Congress criticized the testimony for being

secondhand in nature, while at the same time blocking those individuals with firsthand knowledge from testifying. Let’s end that particular hypocrisy.

President Trump, come testify. Allow your advisers to testify. If you refuse to come before the committee after Speaker PELOSI’s invitation and if you don’t let the people around you come before the committee, one question will loom before the American people: What is President Trump hiding, and why is he personally afraid to confront the facts?

Before I yield the floor, I will address a tragic pattern that has emerged in this Trump Presidency that is different from the previous one but very troubling. Too often—it seems almost weekly—President Trump announces that he is considering or even supporting a policy on which there is some bipartisan agreement and then backs off that position a few days, a few weeks, or a few months later. If there is an immediate issue, President Trump seems almost afraid not to go along with what the public wants, but because his integrity is so minimal, he must not really mean it because he just reverses himself.

After the mass shootings in El Paso and Dayton this summer, President Trump said he was considering “very strong background checks” as a response to the violence. Leader MCCONNELL echoed him. He said that a debate on gun violence would be front and center in the Senate in September.

Now 3 months later, after another high school shooting in Santa Clarita, CA, another mass shooting at a neighborhood party in Fresno, and another shooting at a Walmart in Oklahoma as recently as this morning, it has become painfully clear that President Trump and Leader MCCONNELL caved to the corrupt leadership of the NRA once again and will not move legislation to address gun violence. President Trump would rather protect his political interests than protect American lives.

Gun violence isn’t the only issue where President Trump has promised bold action, only to back off. We heard a new one this morning. Recent reports suggest the President is now wavering on his promise to ban flavored e-cigarettes, which are marketed toward our children. Once again the reporting says that the President backed off after hearing from industry lobbyists that the ban might hurt the President politically.

It is the same pattern. The President promises to do something about a serious issue—in some cases, an issue that threatens the lives of our children—and then backs off and reverses himself once the special interests weigh in.

President Trump, it is not too late. Do what you said you were going to do. It is not that hard. Ban these flavored e-cigarettes. When e-cigarettes are marketed as Gummy Bear or Captain Crunch, they are not aimed at adults; they are aimed at getting kids in high

school and junior high school—maybe even younger—to start vaping, which will ultimately harm them.

Another example occurred yesterday and again today. The Trump administration announced that it would extend a temporary license granted to Huawei, a Chinese telecom giant that our intelligence and defense agencies have deemed a national security threat. Once again President Trump failed to match his tough talk with appropriate action. If President Trump and his Commerce Department agree that Huawei is a national security threat, they ought to start acting like it. Every time President Trump goes easy on Huawei, the Chinese Communist Party takes that as a signal that they can hurt American jobs and threaten our security without repercussion.

I would urge the President to read an editorial by, I believe it is the Secretary of the Air Force in today’s Wall Street Journal—I read it this afternoon—that says what the security threat of allowing Huawei into this country would be to our Armed Forces, to our military men and women, and to our country as a whole.

I publicly praise the President and his administration when they have done the right thing. I praised the Trump administration when it announced it was going to ban flavored e-cigarettes. I praised the administration when it announced it was going to be tough on Huawei. But announcements don’t make the grade. When you back off, when you waver, when you stammer, all these announcements mean nothing. And the American people do remember it. There is an accounting.

Like on the issue of background checks and gun safety, you just can’t believe the President and his administration when they say they are going to do something. So many times when the President says he is considering some strong, bipartisan action, he backs off, usually at the behest of lobbyists or some special interests. On these issues and several others, the President has shown a profound lack of political courage. It is one of the many reasons why the President and this Republican Senate, which shivers in obeisance to him, have accomplished so little for the American people.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. 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.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING  
BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska is recognized.

TED STEVENS ARCTIC CENTER FOR SECURITY  
STUDIES

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, it was several weeks ago—actually, October 23—that here in the Senate we had the opportunity to recognize a friend of so many of us; a mentor, certainly, to me; and a leader in Alaska. We recognized the life and contributions of Senator Ted Stevens.

The Alaska congressional delegation was able to join with members of the Stevens family, many of his friends, his congressional colleagues, and a lot of former staff. We were able to unveil a portrait of Senator Stevens that had been commissioned for him as the President pro tempore of the Senate. It was a lovely ceremony and a great occasion, and now his portrait hangs back in the hall, behind where the Presiding Officer is sitting.

It was a great occasion to be remembering the contributions of Ted Stevens. He represented my State from 1968 to 2009. He was the longest serving Republican Senator in Senate history at the time that he left office.

He left office with considerable policy legacies. Those in the fishing industry remember the work he did with Senator Magnuson in creating the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which really has become the framework for our sustainable fisheries. It is something we continue to look to. He also worked in sports with the creation of the U.S. Paralympics. We remember his encouragement and all that he did with women and girls in sports regarding title IX.

We all know his background and his history. He was a pilot in World War II. Certainly, here in the Senate, he was a staunch advocate for our veterans and for all of our military. He worked hand in glove with his Senate brother and friend, Senator Daniel Inouye, chairing not only the Appropriations Committee itself but also the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations. In that role, he helped to advance so many of our national priorities.

Today is Ted Stevens' birthday. If he were alive today, he would be 96 years old. Later this evening, there is going

to be a gathering. It is an annual gathering on November 18, when friends of Ted gather to raise a glass to a wonderful man, a strong leader, a great Alaskan, and truly a friend of mine.

I think today Ted Stevens would be smiling at what Senator SULLIVAN, Congressman YOUNG, and I were able to observe this morning.

The three of us—the full Alaska delegation—were in Fort Worth, TX, at the Lockheed Martin plant, and we were able to participate in the signing as we seek to roll off the line the first F-35 that will be based there at Eielson Air Force Base. It will be the first of two squadrons with there being a total complement of 54 F-35s. It was a reminder to all of us of all we have done in the State of Alaska in our focusing on Alaska's geostrategic position, not in the country but in the world.

Ted Stevens clearly recognized that. He was a visionary in so many areas, and he was certainly a visionary when it came to understanding the promise but also the challenge of the Arctic itself and how we were to ensure that in this region. It is a region that is pretty remote and pretty isolated, but it is a region that is prepared and then, with that preparation, is able to protect.

As we think about that role today that Senator Stevens envisioned for Alaska in terms of our role in protecting and defending the country but also our broader, more global role and responsibility, I come to talk about legislation that I have introduced, along with Senator SULLIVAN, to authorize the Department of Defense to create a sixth regional center for security studies that is focused on the Arctic.

I think it is very, very clear to us that the Department of Defense, in particular, is keying in on the challenges that we face in the Arctic. With the growing prominence of the Arctic and global geopolitical and strategic affairs, now is the time to give the Department of Defense the tools as well as the abilities that it needs to foster the research and the dialogue that we think will be critical to our Nation's security.

Let me give a little bit of background in terms of these regional centers. Currently, the Department of Defense has five academic regional centers for security studies. They cover the regions of Europe, the Asia-Pacific, Africa, Near East South Asia, and the Northern Hemisphere. What these centers aim to do is to support defense strategy objectives and policy priorities through a pretty unique academic forum, as well as to foster strong international networks of security leaders.

Just to give a kind of basic comparison of what we are talking about here, in specifics, the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies is actually fully entitled the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. It was established in Hawaii back in 1995, but it is a DOD institution that provides a

forum at which current and future military and civilian leaders from the Indo-Pacific gather to address regional and global security issues and enhance security cooperation through programs of executive education, professional exchange, and building relationships of trust and confidence. Currently, over 30 countries send participants to engage, to learn, and to really build those relationships.

The Ted Stevens Arctic Security Studies Center, which is what we seek to name this Arctic center, will be modeled after the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. There being the fact that the two of them worked hand in glove for so many years—really, for decades—on these issues of national security and national defense from both the perspective of the far north as well as the Asia-Pacific, it is only fitting that we model the Ted Stevens Arctic Security Studies Center after the Arctic center named after Daniel Inouye.

Senator SCHATZ clearly understands the value of the Asia-Pacific center, and he has joined Senator SULLIVAN and me as a cosponsor of this legislation.

What we are really seeking to do here—the overarching goal of this Arctic security studies center—is to find solutions for the greatest security challenges of the circumpolar Arctic region in order to help promote a greater understanding of the Arctic—we know we have to do more there—as well as to facilitate greater engagement and potential solutions for the many challenges that we know lie ahead.

It is an evolving world up there. Let me tell you that it is an evolving world. As we are seeing the impact from climate changes, as we are seeing ice recede, as we are seeing waterways open up, as we are seeing greater access, as we are seeing greater threats, what are we doing to prepare?

I think it is important to recognize that the proposed center would be additive in nature. It is not looking to take away from any of the other very excellent efforts that support the DOD's mission in the Arctic. What we are seeking to do is to provide additional value while creating new partnerships and supporting critical research. We hope—certainly, it is the intent here—to complement current structures, like the multinational Security Forces Roundtable, led by USEUCOM and the Norwegian Defence Staff. The center will build on the Arctic Coast Guard Forum, wherein, effectively, you have senior leaders from the Coast Guards from all over the Arctic nations gather to discuss defense and security concerns.

Just this last Thursday, I had an opportunity to be part and spoke via videoconference of the importance of this strategic dialogue at the Arctic Symposiums and Arctic Senior Leader Summits, which was held by NORTHCOM and ALCOM.

Again, what we are seeking to do here is to help facilitate the array of international senior leaders and Arctic subject matter experts to come together for these substantive dialogues on the Arctic. The Arctic presents an opportunity to expand the DOD Regional Center's model to study the rapid changes in communications, technology, environment, and societies in remote and sparsely populated areas with underdeveloped infrastructure.

I mentioned that this would be additive in nature, that we seek to collaborate with other current structures that are doing good work, but we seek to have close partnerships with research centers like we have at the Wilson Center's Polar Institute, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Arctic Domain Awareness Center, as well as at the Coast Guard Academy Center for Arctic Study and Policy.

We need to have strong involvement from Native leaders and indigenous peoples. How we incorporate and how we elevate the Native expertise in the Arctic that has been informed by centuries of experience of having lived in the region must also be a priority. The center should also be used as a joint commanded venue with Canada and other Arctic partners. This would be effectively replicating the success of the model that we have with the George C. Marshall Center with Germany.

Since Senator SULLIVAN and I introduced this bill to establish this new DOD Arctic security studies center, we have gotten great input. I am pleased that we have seen a lot of interest from within our State and outside as well. Several have reached out to our offices to express their interest in supporting and developing the concept of this center.

I think we see Arctic security emerging as an area of threat as well as interest, and it certainly remains the likely spillover conflict area should confrontations occur within Europe or Asia. So great scholarship, plus international and interdisciplinary engagement from an Arctic center, would help to advance defense readiness, develop our awareness, and improve ally and partner capabilities to support multinational security cooperation across the circumpolar Arctic.

This is something that I am excited to be working on, and I know Senator SULLIVAN is as well. I invite other colleagues to join us in this effort. I think that our friend Ted Stevens would approve of this as well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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 the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Rick Scott, Steve Daines, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Marco Rubio, Lindsey Graham, John Hoeven, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, John Thune, John Cornyn, Deb Fischer, John Barrasso, James E. Risch, John Boozman, Tim Scott, Mitch McConnell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the 11th Circuit shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 61, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 357 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Alexander	Feinstein	Perdue
Baldwin	Fischer	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Reed
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Carper	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Jones	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Leahy	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Whitehouse
Cruz	McSally	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Enzi	Murkowski	
Ernst	Paul	

NAYS—30

Bennet	Cardin	Durbin
Blumenthal	Casey	Gillibrand
Brown	Cortez Masto	Hassan
Cantwell	Duckworth	Heinrich

Hirono	Murray	Stabenow
Kaine	Peters	Tester
King	Rosen	Udall
Markey	Schumer	Van Hollen
Menendez	Shaheen	Warner
Merkley	Smith	Wyden

NOT VOTING—9

Booker	Klobuchar	Sanders
Harris	Murphy	Schatz
Isakson	Roberts	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 61, the nays are 30.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, I was absent but had I been present I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 357, the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 487, Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.●

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

REMEMBERING SENATOR KAY HAGAN

● Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, our nation mourns the loss of former Senator Kay Hagan, an exemplary civil servant who thoughtfully represented the people of her beloved North Carolina. She was a role model for women across the Nation, and will be remembered as an example of committed service to the American public.

Senator Hagan was born on May 26, 1953, in Shelby, NC. She learned about the importance of public service at an early age from her uncle, U.S. Senator and former Florida Governor Lawton Chiles, and her father, Joe P. Ruthven, a Navy veteran who served as the mayor of Lakeland, FL. Senator Hagan earned her bachelor's degree in 1975 from Florida State University, followed by a juris doctorate from Wake Forest University. She worked in banking and as a stay-at-home mother before turning to politics, which gave her a valuable insight into both the private sector and the needs of everyday families.

Senator Hagan served in the North Carolina Senate, where she became one of the body's chief budget writers. This

was where Senator Hagan earned her reputation as an effective civil servant and where she laid the ground work for many of the policies she would champion when elected to Congress in 2008.

Senator Hagan was a champion for the people, working to secure healthcare for all Americans, support working families, protect the right to marry for same-sex couples, and aid in the recovery efforts following the 2008 financial crisis. Throughout this time, she proved herself to be an outstanding example of a leader guided by her moral compass and the needs of her constituents. She was a force for good. After her time in Congress, she devoted herself to studying the role of money in politics and strove to preserve government accountability to the public.

Senator Hagan's steadfast dedication to the State of North Carolina and our entire country will continue to inspire others for generations to come. She will be remembered as a role model for young women and a voice dedicated to empowering and uplifting middle-class families. Senator Hagan is survived by her husband, Chip Hagan, her children, and a host of family and friends. She will be dearly missed, and her legacy will live on through everyone she touched while serving the American people.●

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#### IMMIGRATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, earlier this week, I sat in the Supreme Court and listened to the oral arguments in the case challenging President Trump's decision to shut down the deferred action for childhood arrivals program, or DACA.

DACA is the program we fought so hard for. It is what has allowed nearly 700,000 undocumented youth across America—the bright young people we call Dreamers—to come out of the shadows and to pursue their dreams without fear of deportation. That includes nearly 17,000 Dreamers in my home State of New Jersey.

We all remember the heart-wrenching stories before DACA—kids applying for driver's licenses on their birthdays only to discover they weren't citizens; students opening college acceptance letters with pride, only to learn they couldn't receive financial aid; young people trying to enlist in the military, only to find out their undocumented status disqualified them. These are the stories that I shared with President Obama during a meeting several years ago when I made the case for DACA with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. I thought back to that meeting as I sat in the Supreme Court earlier this week. I remembered bringing along a legal memo that made clear the Federal Government had the authority to use prosecutorial discretion to protect Dreamers from deportation. After years of pushing the administration and fearless advocacy by thousands of Dreamers nationwide, President Obama eventually saw the light, and the program we now know as DACA was born.

DACA offered law-abiding young people who were brought to this country as children through no decision of their own the opportunity to come out of the shadows and step into the light to fulfill their God-given potential. And that is exactly what they did. Dreamers put their faith in our government.

They registered with the Department of Homeland Security, paid fees, passed criminal background checks, and handed over personal details about themselves and their families to authorities they have been hiding from their entire lives. They did this all to qualify for DACA's promise of a 2-year renewable work permit and protection from deportation. Dreamers put their trust in the U.S. Government, but as we all know by now, President Trump betrayed that trust. He betrayed young people like Manny Sanchez, one of the many Dreamers from New Jersey who traveled to Washington, DC, this week to make their voices heard.

Manny was brought to the United States at just 1 month old. Today he is 20, attending Brookdale Community College in Middletown, NJ, where he studies nursing and volunteers with local emergency medical services. Without DACA, he risks being deported to Mexico, a country he doesn't even know. "I wouldn't know what to do, where to go, what my future would be like," Manny said. "This is really my home."

These kids are as American as apple pie. Dreamers grew up pledging allegiance to our flag, singing our national anthem, loving our country. They are American in every way except for a piece of paper. Dreamers are succeeding in our schools, playing on our sports teams, attending our colleges, serving in our military, and loving our country because it is their country too. Their home is here. So I refuse to let their lives be ruined in the name of White nationalist fear mongering. And I refuse to let them be used as bargaining chips for this administration's anti-immigrant agenda which seeks to tie protections for Dreamers to radical cuts to legal family-based immigration and billions of dollars for the President's hateful, ineffective border wall. Should the Supreme Court strike down DACA, we will have a national emergency on our hands. It will shatter families. It will strike fear into our communities. And it will cost our economy dearly.

In New Jersey alone, ending DACA would shrink our economy by nearly \$1.6 billion a year and reduce U.S. GDP by \$460 billion over the next decade. This is not what I call law and order. This is what I call fear and chaos. There is no way to spin this. When President Trump said he wanted to "treat these young people with love," I say, "Love like this we don't need!" Ending DACA and threatening to deport hundreds of thousands of upstanding young Dreamers, that is not love. That is hate. That is why now, more than ever, we in the U.S. Senate must

show real love for our Dreamers. The House of Representatives passed a bill, the American Dream and Promise Act, a bill that would protect Dreamers and offer them the path to citizenship they deserve, a bill that would honor the service of our men and women in uniform, harness the potential of talented young students across our Nation, and help create a brighter future for all Americans.

For years, I have heard my Republican colleagues talk glowingly about America's Dreamers, talk about how they are incredible kids, talk about how we must protect them from deportation, and talk about how they deserve a path to citizenship. Well, our Dreamers deserve to know whether it was all just talk. Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL must pull this bill out of his legislative graveyard and hold a vote the American Dream and Promise Act. Let's find out exactly who in the U.S. Senate wants to keep the dream alive and who wants to snuff it out. There is no excuse for decrying the President's decision to end DACA but doing absolutely nothing about it. This is the U.S. Senate. We don't have to leave the future of America's Dreamers in the hands of the Supreme Court. We don't have to sit on our hands and wait for this ruling to come out. And we certainly don't have to let one reckless decision by President Trump ruin the lives of nearly 700,000 Dreamers and the millions of Americans who know them, love them, work with them, serve with them, and depend on them. Only Congress can provide a permanent pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. It has never been more urgent that we do so.

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#### WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims commemorates the millions of people killed and injured on the world's roads. It is also a day to thank emergency responders for their role in saving lives; to reflect on the impact of road deaths on families and communities, to draw attention to the need for improved legislation, awareness, infrastructure, and technology to save more families from the tragedy of losing a loved one.

Since the United Nations recognized the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, its observance has spread to a growing number of countries on every continent. The day has become an important advocacy tool in global efforts to reduce road casualties, and the theme of this year's World Day of Remembrance is "Life is not a car part." Additionally, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 calls on governments and their stakeholders, including NGOs and private citizens, to address the personal medical, and financial burdens associated with road deaths and injuries. More than 1 million people die

from road crashes every year, and tens of millions are seriously injured. Road traffic crashes are the No. 1 killer of young people aged 15–29 and the eighth leading cause of death among all people worldwide.

Rochelle Sobel, president of the Association for Safe International Road Travel, highlighted the gravity of this issue and the imperative to fix it:

Every 27 seconds somewhere in the world a person dies in a road crash. Those of us who have lost loved ones in a crash know only too well the ongoing pain and devastation that this tragedy causes families and communities. Road crashes are preventable. We must all work together so that the hopes and dreams of our loved ones are not shattered in the roads of the world.

We all need to do our part to take action to prevent these avoidable tragedies and to save lives.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO MIKE DETTORI

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator JAMES E. RISCH and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, I congratulate Mike Dettori, Fairfield District Ranger on the Sawtooth National Forest, who is retiring after 40 years of service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service.

Mike began as District Ranger for the Fairfield Ranger District in 2004 after considerable experience in many areas for the Forest Service. In 1980, he started as a Range Management Specialist on the Kamas Ranger District of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Kamas, UT. He then went on to serve as a Rangeland Management Specialist on the Lost River Ranger District of the Challis National Forest in Mackay, ID, after graduating with a bachelor of science degree in rangeland science from the University of Nevada in 1982. He then served as an interdisciplinary rangeland management specialist for the Yankee Fork Ranger District in Clayton, ID, and rangeland management specialist for the Big Summit Ranger District in Prineville, OR, before serving as acting district ranger on both the Livingston and Big Timber Ranger Districts in Montana. He also served as forest range staff on the Gallatin National Forest and on an incident management team.

Throughout his decades of Federal service, Mike has been a steady leader and sensible voice contributing to the science and management of the districts and the well-being of the staff. He has not only been an integral part of the agency, but also an important community member, as he has also given his time to serve in many community organizations.

Thank you, Mike, for your service and leadership and for your contributions to the management of wonderful parts of our great State and country all these years. We wish you much happiness in your well-earned retirement.●

##### TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER BECK WALKER

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, Jennifer Beck Walker has used her career to show that perseverance, dedication, and a strong work ethic can not only lead to success but make positive change in communities. In 1987, Jennifer became an intern at the Purchase Area Development District in Mayfield, KY. Over the years, she worked up through the ranks in various roles, married her husband Eric, and had 2 sons, Wyatt and Aidan. Jennifer was named the executive director of the PADD in 2008 and her commitment to the growth and development of the region has been unsurpassed. Today, I congratulate Jennifer on her retirement and send my best wishes for her future.●

##### RECOGNIZING MOUNTAIN VIEW DENTAL CLINIC

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. However, in honor of Veterans Day on November 11, this month I will honor a veteran-owned small business for each of the 10 days the Senate is in legislative session. The personal sacrifices made by America's veterans have protected the very freedoms and values that give each of us and our children the ability to achieve the American dream. The skills veterans learn as members of the military are invaluable and undoubtedly contribute to Idaho's flourishing veteran business community. I am proud of the sacrifices veterans have made to protect our country and that they are choosing Idaho to call home when they complete their service in the military.

As your U.S. Senator from the great State of Idaho, it is my pleasure to recognize Mountain View Dental Clinic in Soda Springs as the veteran-owned Idaho Small Business of the Day for November 18, 2019.

Mountain View Dental Clinic is owned by U.S. Air Force veteran Dr. Jerry Walker, DMD. Walker was born and raised in Rexburg before moving to Pennsylvania to attend dental school. Luckily for Idaho, Walker returned home to the Gem State to open his practice and serve the Soda Springs community. With more than 18 years of clinical experience, Walker and his employees pride themselves on building trust with their clients.

Walker and his staff provide routine dental care services such as cleanings and oral cancer screenings, in addition to cosmetic services tailored to fit the needs of each patient. The team at Mountain View Dental Clinic works hard to remain at the forefront of dental research and technology, ensuring that patients enjoy a comfortable experience at the dentist.

Congratulations to Dr. Jerry Walker and all of the employees at Mountain View Dental Clinic for being selected as the Veteran-owned Idaho Small Business of the Day for November 18, 2019. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

##### RECOGNIZING MISHA'S CUPCAKES

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize a small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit at the heart of our economy. It is my privilege to honor a Florida small business that not only creates a great product but also invests time and effort into charitable work for the Greater Miami area. This week, it is my pleasure to honor Misha's Cupcakes of Coral Gables, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Established in 2005, Misha's Cupcakes offers a variety of delicious baked goods at its multiple storefronts throughout South Florida. After hearing about a small cupcake company in Los Angeles which produced 1,000 cupcakes a day, founder Misha Kuryla became inspired and believed she could replicate the same process. She began baking cupcakes out of her kitchen, and after strategically giving away several free samples, landed her first wholesale account from a local bakery. What started as small, home-based operation has developed into a thriving company, employing nearly 70 Floridians. Misha's Cupcakes now produces more than 10,000 baked goods every day at its stores and warehouse. In addition to selling baked goods locally, Misha's Cupcakes sells its products nationally through its website. This website offers customers not only the ability to order products such as cookies and brownies but also to request donated cupcakes for a charity event or fundraiser.

Misha's Cupcakes' dedication to community service has been central since its founding when Misha donated several hundred cupcakes to a local breast cancer awareness event. Since then, this business has remained committed to serving its community. It has participated in a wide range of community service events, including donating baked goods to local food banks and organizing a Hurricane Dorian relief drive for the people of the Bahamas. Such dedication to service has made Misha's Cupcakes a valuable member of South Florida's community.

Residents of South Florida have responded to Misha's Cupcakes' involvement in their community by becoming loyal customers. In addition to receiving rave reviews, the business was named "Best Cupcakes in Miami" by the Miami New Times in 2014 and "Best Cupcakes in Florida" by the Daily Meal in 2017. Misha herself has also been honored by the community for her dedicated work. In 2012, she was named an "uncommon thinker" by her alma

mater, Florida International University—FIU—and participated as a speaker at FIU's 2017 Women's Leadership Summit.

Misha's Cupcakes is a great example of the integral role community oriented small businesses play in our unique American economy. I commend their efforts to provide a quality product while simultaneously making local involvement a priority. Congratulations again to the entire team at Misha's Cupcakes. I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2019, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 15, 2019, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 724. An act to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1123. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2423. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4863. An act to promote the competitiveness of the United States, to reform and reauthorize the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes.

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY) announced that on today, November 18, 2019, he has signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 724. An act to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1123. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2423. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4863. An act to promote the competitiveness of the United States, to reform and reauthorize the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### 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-3186. 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. 3874" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3187. 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. 3873" (RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3188. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0404)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3189. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Safety Standard for Toddler Beds" (16 CFR Part 1217) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3190. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Connect America Fund" ((FCC 19-104) (WC Docket No. 10-90)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3191. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0522)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3192. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness

Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0718)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3193. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0724)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3194. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aeronautics (Formerly Known as Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems)" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0520)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3195. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Textron Aviation Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Beechcraft Corporation)" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0853)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3196. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; BRP-Rotax GmbH & Co KG Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0747)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3197. 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. 3875" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3198. 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. 3876" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3199. 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; Wray, CO" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0371)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3200. 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; Walden, CO” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0372)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3201. 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; Wando Terminal Crane Movement; Charleston, SC” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0741)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3202. 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; Humboldt Bay Bar and Entrance Channel, Eureka, CA, Noyo River Entrance Channel, Ft. Bragg, CA, and Crescent City Harbor Entrance Channel, Crescent City, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0813)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3203. 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; Monte Foundation Fireworks Display, Soquel Cove, Capitola, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0819)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3204. 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; Explosive Venting of Potentially Hazardous Material South Bay, San Francisco Bay, Union City, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0851)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3205. 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; Naval Training Operations, U.S. Naval Magazine Indian Island, WA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0741)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3206. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Petaluma River, Haystack Landing (Petaluma), CA” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2018-0091)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3207. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Security Zone; Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD” ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0738)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3208. 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; Object Removal Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers, PA and NJ” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0850)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3209. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Area; Saint Simons Sound, GA” ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0803)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3210. 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-2019-0849)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3211. 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; Leif Erickson Day Row and Run, Charlevoix, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0757)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3212. 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; Mackinaw City Fall Colors Fireworks, Mackinaw City, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2019-0758)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3213. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Skate Complex; Framework Adjustment 5 and 2018-2019 Specifications” (RIN0648-BH57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3214. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, 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, Restrictions on the Use of Fish Aggregating Devices in Purse Seine Fisheries, and Transshipment Prohibitions” (RIN0648-BH77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3215. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Groundfish Bottom Trawl and Midwater Trawl Gear in the Trawl Rationalization Program; Correction” (RIN0648-BH74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3216. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Ma-

rine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Multi-Year Harvest Specifications for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy” (RIN0648-BI73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3217. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Schedule of Fees for Access to NOAA Environmental Data, Information, and Related Products and Services; Correction” (RIN0648-BI60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3218. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to Safety Standards for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs and Play Yards” (16 CFR Part 1220 and 1221) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3219. 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 Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XY503) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3220. 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-XY049) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3221. 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 Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XY503) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3222. 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 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-XY028) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3223. 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 Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648–XY027) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3224. 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 Island Pelagic Fisheries; 2019 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Big-eye Tuna Fishery; Closure” (RIN0648–XG925) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3225. 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 Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2019 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Gray Triggerfish; July through December Season” (RIN0648–XS014) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3226. 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 CT” (RIN0648–XX024) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3227. A communication from the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center Analyst, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Interim Rule” ((7 CFR Part 1470) (RIN0578–AA67)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3228. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility” ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2019–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3229. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility” ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2019–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3230. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility” ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2019–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3231. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility” ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2019–0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3232. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3233. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2019; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3234. A communication from the Acting Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2018 Data Mining Report to Congress”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3235. A communication from the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department’s Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties semiannual report for the first and second quarters of fiscal year 2019 (October 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3236. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2019; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM–157. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to support federal funding for ports, harbors, and critical marine infrastructure in the Great Lakes region including the Soo Locks construction project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 160

Whereas, the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway system is the longest deep-draft waterway in the world spanning from Duluth, Minnesota to the Atlantic Ocean. This commercial waterway provides cost-effective and reliable transportation for cargo, including iron ore, coal, steel, machinery, cement, and petroleum products that are staples in everyday life—whether that be for road improvements or the energy powering our cities; and

Whereas, the economic importance of the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway system cannot be overstated. Commerce along the seaway supported over 200,000 jobs and generated over \$35 billion in economic activity in 2017 alone. Maintaining the ports, harbors, and critical infrastructure of the seaway is necessary to protect American industry and jobs; and

Whereas, maintaining and updating the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan is of utmost importance, not only to the residents of Michigan but to all Americans. Nearly 80 percent of domestic iron ore—the primary material used to manufacture steel critical to the auto industry and construction—travels from mines in Minnesota and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula through the Soo Locks; and

Whereas, even a six-month unplanned closure at the Soo Locks would devastate steel, automobile, and other heavy equipment production throughout North America, decreasing U.S. gross domestic production by \$1.3 trillion and costing more than 11 million jobs. The effect would ripple across national supply chains and eventually lead to a full shut down of steel production in Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Congress has appropriated an initial \$32 million to begin construction at the Soo Locks; however, the \$1 billion project will require continued appropriation from Congress through the completion of the project. The economic risk of a Soo Locks closure is too great to delay funding for even one year; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we urge Congress and the President to support federal funding for ports, harbors, and critical marine infrastructure in the Great Lakes region including the Soo Locks reconstruction project; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM–158. A bill adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida requesting the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress to approve the replacement of the statute of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith in the National Statuary Hall Collection with a statue of Mary McLeod Bethune; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### SENATE BILL NO. 472

Whereas, in March 2016, the Florida Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, Senate Bill 310, authorizing the replacement of the statue of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith in the National Statuary Hall Collection with a statue of a prominent Florida citizen recommended by the ad hoc committee of the Great Floridians Program within the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, and

Whereas, one of the three prominent Florida citizens recommended by the ad hoc committee is Mary McLeod Bethune, and

Whereas, Mary McLeod Bethune was born on July 10, 1875, in Mayesville, South Carolina, and she was the first member of her family, including all of her 16 siblings, born free following the conclusion of the Civil War, and

Whereas, beginning at a young age, Mary McLeod Bethune became engaged with learning and teaching after receiving an opportunity to attend Trinity Presbyterian Mission School in her hometown, and her dedication was evidenced through attending as many classes as she could and teaching her parents and siblings what she had learned, and

Whereas, Mary McLeod Bethune was awarded a scholarship allowing her to enroll at the then-Scotia Seminary for Girls in Concord, North Carolina, from which she graduated in 1893, and she went on to continue her studies at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, and

Whereas, upon graduating from the Moody Bible Institute, Mary McLeod Bethune became a teacher and taught at schools in

Georgia and South Carolina before moving to Florida to teach at the Palatka Mission School, and

Whereas, through observing the burgeoning black population in the area prompted by labor needed for railroad construction, Mary McLeod Bethune decided to follow through with her dream of opening her own school, and

Whereas, Mary McLeod Bethune bought a small cottage in Daytona Beach to allow for the opening of the Daytona Literary and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in 1904 and through her commitment to fund-raising, the school's enrollment grew from 5 to 250 students in just 2 years, and

Whereas, the school continued to grow, which eventually resulted in its merger with the Cookman Institute for Men in Jacksonville to form Bethune-Cookman College, where she later served as president, and

Whereas, Mary McLeod Bethune's advocacy continued with her founding of the National Council of Negro Women and her appointment as Director of the Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and

Whereas, through her position as the highest ranking African-American woman in the Federal Government, Mary McLeod Bethune was able to assist African-American youth in finding employment and worked with the Women's Army Corps during World War II to recruit African-American female officers, and

Whereas, upon her death in 1955, Mary McLeod Bethune's inspirational leadership was praised by many, including former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who lauded "her wisdom and her goodness," and

Whereas, in 1995, the United States National Park Service established the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site in Washington, D.C., which has preserved the townhouse that was once her personal residence and the first headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women, and

Whereas, Mary McLeod Bethune's legacy continues to be felt in Florida through the continued success of Bethune-Cookman University, whose enrollment is currently approaching a record high of 4,000 students, and

Whereas, it is appropriate to honor Mary McLeod Bethune as one of two Floridians memorialized in statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection given her significant and continuing impact on this state, Now, therefore, *be it*

*Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. The Legislature of the State of Florida hereby respectfully requests the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress to approve the replacement of the statue of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith in the National Statuary Hall Collection with a statue of Mary McLeod Bethune. Contingent upon such approval by the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, ownership of the statue of General Edmund Kirby Smith shall transfer to the state in accordance with 2 U.S.C. S. 2132(d). The Division of Cultural Affairs of the Department of State shall take possession of the returned statue, and make the statue available for public display.

Section 2. This act shall serve as an official request to the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress pursuant to 2 U.S.C. S. 2132.

Section 3. On the effective date of this act, the Department of State shall deliver a copy of this act to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

POM-159. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to impeachment protocols; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 764. A bill to provide for congressional approval of national emergency declarations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-159).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

\*Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

By Mr. BLUNT for the Committee on Rules and Administration.

\*Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

#### 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. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2879. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention and Services program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2880. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States to provide safety measures to social workers, health workers, and human services professionals performing services placing such individuals in high-risk and potentially dangerous situations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 2881. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to make not less than 280 megahertz of spectrum available for terrestrial use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2882. A bill to establish a community wildfire defense grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 2883. A bill to apply the provisions relating to consumer liability for unauthorized transfers to small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2884. A bill to apply the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to small business debt to the same extent as such Act applies to consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2885. A bill to prohibit the transfer or sale of certain consumer health information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2886. A bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JONES:

S. 2887. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to combat rural teacher shortages across the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2888. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify the treatment of certain bargain-price options to purchase at less than fair market value, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 2889. A bill to safeguard data of Americans from foreign governments that pose risks to national security by imposing data security requirements and strengthening review of foreign investments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2890. A bill to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for sensible development in Douglas County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 428. A resolution authorizing the taking of pictures and filming in the Chamber of the Senate for use by the Capitol Visitor Center; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. WARREN)):

S. Res. 429. A resolution recognizing the importance of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 and the laws derived from the Civil Rights Act of 1866; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 172

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 172, a bill to delay the reimposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2021.

S. 227

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 227, a bill to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 457, a bill to require that \$1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 598

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 598, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase certain funeral benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 651

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 651, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs.

S. 670

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 670, a bill to make daylight savings time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 805, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of

Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes.

S. 877

At the request of Mr. KAINE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support individuals with younger onset Alzheimer's disease.

S. 1130

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1130, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life.

S. 1254

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1254, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to review and report on certain laws, safety measures, and technologies relating to the illegal passing of school buses, and for other purposes.

S. 1257

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1257, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts to include rollovers for charitable life-income plans for charitable purposes.

S. 1397

At the request of Ms. SMITH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1397, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide for a national Federal write-in absentee ballot for domestic use.

S. 1468

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1468, a bill to support the successful implementation of the 1991 Paris Peace Agreement in Cambodia, and for other purposes.

S. 1476

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1476, a bill to waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals disabled by Huntington's disease.

S. 1569

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1569, a bill to amend the Federal

Election Campaign Act of 1971 to allow certain expenditures for cybersecurity-related services or assistance.

S. 1757

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) 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. 1838

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

S. 1992

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1992, a bill to amend the FAST Act to repeal a rescission of funds.

S. 2112

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2112, a bill to enhance the rights of domestic workers, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) 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. 2367

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2367, a bill to support the preparation and retention of outstanding educators in all fields to ensure a bright future for children and youth in under-resourced and underserved communities in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a

cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter dollars in commemoration of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2550

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2550, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems.

S. 2570

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) 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. 2680

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2680, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for Palestinian terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 2699

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2699, a bill to reauthorize the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009, and for other purposes.

S. 2742

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2742, a bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

S. 2783

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2783, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 2794

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2794, a bill to provide for the creation of the Missing Armed Forces Personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of Missing Armed Forces Personnel records, and for other purposes.

S. 2874

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2874, a bill to terminate certain waivers of sanctions with respect to Iran issued in connection with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 6, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 98

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Senators of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury.

S. RES. 260

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 260, a resolution recognizing the importance of sustained United States leadership to accelerating global progress against maternal and child malnutrition and supporting the commitment of the United States Agency for International Development to global nutrition through the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

S. RES. 343

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 343, a resolution congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia.

S. RES. 410

At the request of Mr. JONES, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 410, a resolution establishing a McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program in the Senate.

S. RES. 411

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

MORAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 411, a resolution affirming that States maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing for oil and natural gas production on State and private lands, that the President has no authority to declare a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing on State and private lands, and that the President should not attempt to declare a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing on Federal lands (including the Outer Continental Shelf) or lands held in trust for an Indian Tribe, unless the moratorium is authorized by an Act of Congress.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 428—AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF PICTURES AND FILMING IN THE CHAMBER OF THE SENATE FOR USE BY THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 428

*Resolved,*

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF TAKING OF PICTURES AND FILMING IN THE SENATE CHAMBER FOR USE BY THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to subsection (b), paragraph 1 of rule IV of the Rules for the Regulation of the Senate Wing of the United States Capitol and Senate Office Buildings (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) is temporarily suspended—

(1) for the purpose of permitting the taking of pictures and filming while the Senate is in session or in recess; and

(2) for a period not to exceed a total of 7 days, of which the dates, locations, and times shall be determined by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

(b) LIMITATION ON USE OF IMAGES.—The pictures taken and film made under subsection (a) may only be used by the Capitol Visitor Center for exhibits, digital interactive displays, and video presentations in the Capitol Visitor Center that have been approved by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

(c) ARRANGEMENTS.—The Capitol Visitor Center, in collaboration with the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate and the Secretary of the Senate, shall make the necessary arrangements to carry out this resolution, including such arrangements as are necessary to ensure that the taking of pictures and filming conducted under this resolution does not disrupt any proceeding of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 429—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1866 AND THE LAWS DERIVED FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1866

Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr.

WYDEN, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 429

Whereas, in the aftermath of the Civil War, the reunified United States struggled to reconstruct the war-torn States and establish laws granting newly freed slaves the same rights afforded to White citizens;

Whereas the reconstruction of the United States following the conclusion of the Civil War necessarily included the integration of newly emancipated African Americans into broader society and, with that emancipation, the receipt by those emancipated African Americans of civil and legal protections;

Whereas, as a response to the uncertain and unequal status of newly freed slaves, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was ratified by the States on December 6, 1865, formally abolishing slavery “within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction”;

Whereas, on April 9, 1866, Congress overrode a Presidential veto to enact the Act of April 9, 1866 (commonly known as and referred to in this preamble as the “Civil Rights Act of 1866”) (14 Stat. 27, chapter 31), a law written to protect and clarify the newly bestowed rights of persons of African descent;

Whereas the Civil Rights Act of 1866 declared that all persons born in the United States are entitled to be citizens, without regard to race, color, or previous condition of slavery or involuntary servitude;

Whereas the Civil Rights Act of 1866 was enacted—

(1) to establish that all persons born in the United States are to be considered citizens;

(2) to clearly define the rights guaranteed by United States citizenship; and

(3) to make it unlawful for any person to deprive another person of those rights on the basis of race;

Whereas the Civil Rights Act of 1866 served the role of overriding “Black Codes”, laws enacted in southern States to restrict the freedom of African Americans and keep formerly enslaved persons from thriving in society;

Whereas the first section of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 created an avenue for citizens who fell victim to intentional racial discrimination by allowing a citizen to go before a Federal court and allege that the citizen was discriminated against while engaging in lawful activity;

Whereas the first section of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 was used to challenge the laws established by southern States to limit the rights and opportunities of newly freed slaves;

Whereas, under section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981), which is derived from section 16 of the Act of May 31, 1870 (commonly known as and referred to in this preamble as the “Enforcement Act of 1870”) (16 Stat. 140, chapter 114) and the first section of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, African American citizens are given the right to enforce contracts, give evidence in court, sue and be sued, and purchase, sell, and convey real and personal property;

Whereas, in 1975, the Supreme Court recognized in *Johnson v. Railway Express Agency, Inc.*, 421 U.S. 454 (1975), that section 16 of the Enforcement Act of 1870 allowed for private employers to be held accountable for discrimination within their ranks;

Whereas section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) applies to all contracts, including those between employer and employee, and has become a vital tool for employment discrimination claimants;

Whereas section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) stands as one of the only laws protecting against employers openly discriminating on the basis of race when contracting with other parties;

Whereas it is well established that section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) has been invoked to challenge race discrimination in employment matters and has held bad actors accountable for contract discrimination;

Whereas, in 1989, in *Patterson v. McLean Credit Union*, 491 U.S. 164 (1989), the Supreme Court narrowly interpreted section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) to apply only to contract formation, finding that only certain points in a contractual engagement could be subject to the protections afforded in that section;

Whereas the ruling in *Patterson v. McLean Credit Union*, 491 U.S. 164 (1989), functioned as a major setback to ensuring that all aspects of the interaction between an employee or individual with a business would be free of racial discrimination;

Whereas, in 1991, Congress, by statute, as part of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-166; 105 Stat. 1071), disagreed with a plethora of Supreme Court decisions that undermined Federal antidiscrimination laws and challenged the restrictive interpretation of section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) expressed by the Supreme Court in *Patterson v. McLean Credit Union*, 491 U.S. 164 (1989);

Whereas the 2008 decision in *CBOCS West, Inc. v. Humphries*, 553 U.S. 442 (2008), further determined that section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) prohibits not only direct discrimination, but retaliation against those alleging discrimination;

Whereas the intent of Congress is clear through the legislative history of section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981), which definitively illustrates that the law was meant to provide and enforce robust protection against race discrimination in contracting;

Whereas section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981)—

(1) in subsection (a), provides that “[a]ll persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall have the same right . . . to make and enforce contracts . . . as is enjoyed by white citizens”; and

(2) in subsection (b), defines “make and enforce contracts” to “include the making, performance, modification, and termination of contracts, and the enjoyment of all benefits, privileges, terms, and conditions of the contractual relationship”;

Whereas section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) clearly enumerates the protections afforded to minorities in the United States when contracting with businesses and makes clear that all aspects of the creation, modification, and termination of contracts are subject to the scrutiny of that section;

Whereas the most direct interpretation of section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) ensures that all racial minorities in the United States be granted the opportunity to enter into contractual agreements free of discrimination; and

Whereas section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) serves as a critically important tool to ensure that no person is denied the ability to contract with another on the basis of race: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and honors the historical significance of section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981) and the instrumental contributions of that law to the pursuit of equal protection for all citizens of the United States;

(2) reaffirms its commitment to the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, to the Act of April 9, 1866 (commonly known as and referred to in this resolving clause as the “Civil Rights Act of 1866”) (14 Stat. 27, chapter 31) (and the laws derived from that Act), and to the civil rights and liberties of all racial minorities across the United States; and

(3) reaffirms the congressional intent behind the first section of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 (and the laws derived from that Act), which was, and remains, the protection of the rights of minorities seeking refuge from racial discrimination in business.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 2 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 5:40 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, November 18, 2019, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office.

REPEALING EXISTING SUBSTANDARD PROVISIONS ENCOURAGING CONCILIATION WITH TRIBES ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 252, S. 2071.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2071) to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time 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 bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2071

*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 “Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act”.

**SEC. 2. REPEAL OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE LAWS RELATING TO INDIANS.**

(1) Section 2080 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 72) is repealed.

(2) Section 2100 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 127) is repealed.

(3) Section 2 of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 449, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 128), is repealed.

(4) The first section of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 424, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 129), is amended under the heading “CHEYENNES AND ARAPAHOES.” by striking “; that the Secretary of the Interior be authorized to withhold, from any tribe of Indians who may hold any captives other than Indians, any moneys due them from the United States until said captives shall be surrendered to the lawful authorities of the United States”.

(5) Section 2087 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 130) is repealed.

(6) Section 3 of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 449, chapter 132; 25 U.S.C. 137), is repealed.

(7) Section 2101 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 138) is repealed.

(8) Section 7 of the Act of June 23, 1879 (21 Stat. 35, chapter 35; 25 U.S.C. 273), is repealed.

(9) The first section of the Act of March 3, 1893 (27 Stat. 612, chapter 209), is amended—

(A) under the heading “MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORTS.” (27 Stat. 628; 25 U.S.C. 283), by striking the last 2 undesignated paragraphs; and

(B) under the heading “FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.” (27 Stat. 635; 25 U.S.C. 283), by striking the second undesignated paragraph.

(10) Section 18 of the Act of June 30, 1913 (38 Stat. 96, chapter 4; 25 U.S.C. 285), is amended by striking the tenth undesignated paragraph.

(11) The Act of June 21, 1906 (34 Stat. 325, chapter 3504), is amended under the heading “COMMISSIONER.” under the heading “I. GENERAL PROVISIONS.” (34 Stat. 328; 25 U.S.C. 302) by striking the fourth undesignated paragraph.

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**AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF PICTURES AND FILMING IN THE CHAMBER OF THE SENATE FOR USE BY THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 428 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. 428) authorizing the taking of pictures and filming in the Chamber of the Senate for use by the Capitol Visitor Center.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 428) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

**ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 19, 2019**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 19; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Luck nomination with the post-cloture time expiring at 2:15 p.m.; further, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:28 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 10 a.m.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month and the outstanding work the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) in the fight against the rare and debilitating disease, pulmonary hypertension (PH).

Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) is high blood pressure that occurs in the arteries of the lungs. It reflects the pressure the heart must apply to pump blood from the heart through the arteries of the lungs. As with a tangled hose, pressure builds up and backs up forcing the heart to work harder and less oxygen to reach the body. PH symptoms generally include fatigue, dizziness and shortness of breath with the severity of the disease correlating with its progression. If left undiagnosed or untreated it can lead to heart failure and death.

I am proud to represent the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) headquartered in Silver Spring. PHA is dedicated to extending and improving the life of those affected by PH. PHA was the first organization in the world dedicated to providing comprehensive PH patient and caregiver support; medical education; specialty care services that improve patients' quality of life; and research funding. As a result of PHA's advocacy for continued investment in medical research and sustained scientific progress, there are 14 Food and Drug Administration-approved targeted treatment options for two forms of PH.

When individuals are diagnosed with PH quickly and begin appropriate therapy, their prognosis and life-expectancy improve dramatically. However, it currently takes an average of 2.5 years to receive a diagnosis and three quarters of patients have severe PH when they are finally diagnosed. Without treatment, historical studies have shown a mean survival time of 2.8 years after diagnosis for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). Patients with advanced PH cannot benefit as greatly from available therapies and often face dramatic and costly medical interventions, including 24-hour IV infused medication, increased risk for hospitalization and in some cases heart-lung transplantation.

I am proud to work with PHA in their efforts to increase awareness of PH and create new programs that promote early and accurate diagnosis and quality care for PH patients.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing November as Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month and to continue supporting federal activities that improve the lives of patients impacted by PH including research programs at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### STEVEN SUMMER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Summer, who after 45 years in the healthcare arena, including 13 years leading the Colorado Hospital Association, is retiring. From Medicaid expansion to advancing hospital safety improvements, Steven's four and a half decades of service have resulted in work to improve the quality, access, and payment innovations in healthcare systems.

Steven began his career with the Association of American Medical Colleges, moving first to the Maryland Hospital Association, and then serving as President and CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association, before capping his career for the past 13 years at the helm of the Colorado Hospital Association. These positions reflect his talent for bringing people together and fostering and strengthening collaboration in developing healthcare policy and finding healthcare delivery system solutions—and all with a smile on his face.

Steven's consensus-building approach contributed to Colorado's successful Medicaid expansion, the creation of Colorado's Telehealth Network, and advanced an innovative substance use disorder treatment partnership between emergency physicians and hospitals to find alternatives to opioids, which serves as a model for other states. Programs like the alternatives to opioids effort have been incorporated in federal opioid legislation and many of CHA's initiatives under his leadership have informed federal policy and decision-making in Washington.

Throughout his career, Steven has provided countless time and resources to his community by serving on local and state healthcare boards and commissions, volunteering with the Kavod Senior Life Home, and many local programs like school and youth organizations.

I congratulate Steven on a lifetime of service and wish him all the best in retirement.

### RECOGNIZING JUSTIN BRADLEY FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON- GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM- MENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Justin Bradley of Lolo for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and his service to his community.

Mr. Bradley is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps from 2001 to 2006 serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in the Philippines and Afghanistan with two additional

deployments to Japan. He received multiple commendations during his time in the Marines, including the Combat Action Ribbon, a NATO Ribbon, and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal.

Following his service in the Marine Corps, he returned to serve his community at the Department of Corrections in the Probation and Parole Division. There, he has dedicated himself to the protection of the community through accountability and never complaining about the long hours. In addition to this role, he works closely with the Missoula County Sheriff Crime Task Force, the High Intensity Drug Task Force, and the U.S. Marshalls. Mr. Bradley is known to help fellow officers individually in developing proper firearm safety, as well as self-protection for when they are on the job.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Justin Bradley for his service and his dedication to his community.

### IN HONOR OF ROBERT M. RECHNITZ

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Robert M. Rechnitz. Mr. Rechnitz, a longtime resident of the Locust section of Middletown, New Jersey, passed away on October 12, 2019 after a vibrant life filled with numerous professional and personal accomplishments.

Robert (Bob) Rechnitz was a prominent member of the community and a fixture of the thriving arts and humanities landscape in Monmouth County. As co-founder and executive producer of Two River Theater, Bob was committed to providing an outlet for creative expression and a preeminent institution for the public to enjoy. In addition to his extensive background and work in theater, Bob was an esteemed educator, stalwart preservationist and dedicated philanthropist. He lived his life in service to his community and his achievements and generosity have been recognized by many awards and tributes over the years.

His love of nature and the theater and his commitment to social and humanitarian causes left an indelible impact on the community. From his support of the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and Monmouth University to his contributions to Monmouth Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center, to name just a few, his philanthropic endeavors will benefit generations to come.

Bob leaves behind a loving family, including his devoted wife and partner Joan, their children Emily, Adam and Joshua, son-in-law John Paladino, daughter-in-law Elizabeth Fordi, grandchildren Max and Flora Paladino and Esme Rechnitz, as well as many dear friends and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Robert M.

• 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.

Rechnitz for his devotion to his family and his immeasurable contributions to the greater Monmouth County community.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY MEYERS

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Meyers, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS), for his many years of service and leadership in state government, including his four-year tenure as Commissioner.

Prior to joining NHDHHS, Jeff previously served as an Assistant Attorney General for the state's Department of Justice, as well as the New Hampshire Senate's legal counsel, and as chief counsel to former Governor John Lynch. During Jeff's time with NHDHHS, he was the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, leading the agency's efforts to implement programming, strategies and services. In 2016, Jeff was nominated by Governor Maggie Hassan and confirmed by the New Hampshire Executive Council as Commissioner of the state's largest agency.

As Commissioner, Jeff has managed significant initiatives including the implementation of the state's bipartisan New Hampshire Health Protection Program, which expanded access to health insurance for thousands of underserved Granite Staters. In addition, he negotiated a federal waiver to support the capacity of the state's behavioral health system and has promoted the integration of mental health and substance use disorder services with medical care. I commend Jeff Meyers for his leadership as NHDHHS Commissioner, his commitment to our state and wish him all the very best in his professional endeavors.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Jeff Meyers for all he has done to better health and well-being in our state and look forward to our future work together.

RECOGNIZING GREGORY GROVE  
FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON-  
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-  
MENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gregory Grove of Eureka, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Grove is a veteran of the United States Navy. He served from 1983 to 1984 as a Diesel Engine Technician.

Mr. Grove is best known for his coaching of the local Special Olympics team. His passion and dedication to children has made a huge impact in the community. Mr. Grove leads with a tender heart and truly loves being a positive influence on our youth. He has been involved

with the Big Brothers program, Boy Scouts, 4-H, and coached Little League baseball. For ten years he has coached for Special Olympics. He's also an incredible Santa Claus. If you saw Mr. Grove, you could tell why his smile makes every little face he sees light up during Christmas time. He is also a member of American Legion Eureka Post No. 74 and plays an important role in the Highway Fatality Marker program in Lincoln County.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Gregory Grove for his service to his country and community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORI TRAHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, on November 15, 2019, my vote was not recorded on the McAdams amendment to H.R. 4863 (Roll Call No. 619). I would like to reflect how I intended to vote: YEA on Roll Call No. 619.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, due to business that took me off the House floor on November 15, 2019, I was unable to vote in time to express my support of the McAdams amendment to the United States Export Finance Agency Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 619.

RECOGNIZING DONALD  
HELMBRECHT FOR THE 2019 MON-  
TANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN  
COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Helmbrecht of Victor for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and dedication to veteran causes in his community.

Mr. Helmbrecht served in the U.S. Army for seven years, spending time in both Vietnam and Korea. Mr. Helmbrecht received multiple commendations during his military service including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

His dedication to his country and community continued after his time serving in the Army. Mr. Helmbrecht serves on the American Legion Honor Guard with Corvallis Post 91 where he helps maintain the American Legion roadway cross program, as well as veteran crosses. Additionally, he is an active volunteer in his church, and for many other community activities.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Donald Helmbrecht for his service and dedication.

CELEBRATING PATHWAYS EARLY  
EDUCATION CENTER OF  
IMMOKALEE'S 55TH ANNIVER-  
SARY

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in recognition of American Education Week, I rise today to congratulate Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee on celebrating their 55th anniversary and to commend them for their dedication and exemplary service to Southern Florida.

Originally named Immokalee Child Care Center of Immokalee, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee was founded in 1962 by members of the Church Women United, who recognized a need for childcare facilities in their community. At the time, working parents, specifically migrant workers, were left with few options for childcare. This led to parents having to make a difficult decision—leave their children unattended or take them to the fields during the workday. Both options posed significant dangers for these children. Knowing that this practice cannot continue, dedicated members and community groups worked together to raise funds and open a facility, which immediately served twenty-five children.

Since its founding, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee has not strayed from its mission of providing quality education and developmental services for the children of Southern Florida. Presently, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee serves 125 students from diverse backgrounds and continues to grow. Their curriculum centers on developing critical social, emotional, linguistic and academic skills for their students to ensure that each child has the ability to meet age-appropriate milestones. However, understanding that children need more than just in-classroom teaching to be successful, Pathways plays an active role in supporting children and their families after the school day ends. They identify students who need additional assistance and partner with agencies who provide them with access to mental health services, food and shelter needs, and healthcare options.

Having had the privilege of working with Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee for a number of years, I continue to be impressed by their steadfast commitment to each and every child they teach. It cannot be stated enough how important early childhood education centers, like Pathways, are for empowering students to reach their full potential. I am proud that Florida's 25th Congressional district is home to such a dedicated childcare center.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee for their fifty-five years of service to Southern Florida and the Immokalee community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable organization.

HONORING THE ISLAMIC CENTER  
OF CULPEPER

**HON. RASHIDA TLAI**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Islamic Center of Culpeper on the occasion of the ground breaking of their new mosque.

Culpeper, Virginia is home to a growing, close-knit Muslim community known as the Islamic Center of Culpeper, (ICC). For many years the ICC community has been worshipping in a very small space lacking proper heating in the brutal winters and air conditioning in the scorching summers. The facility even lacked an adequate washing facility to perform ablution before prayers. The ICC searched for nearly five years before finding and purchasing a parcel of land in January of 2016. Immediately, they made plans to begin constructing a brand-new mosque to serve as a place of worship and a place for community.

The ICC had no idea of the challenges they would face.

Since 1995, every pump and hall permit application submitted to the Culpeper County Government by a house of worship had been approved, but in April of 2016, the County denied ICC's permit application.

The County also ordered a moratorium on any new pump and haul applications, which barred ICC from any attempts to re-apply, and in advance of one of the local zoning hearings, protesters hung a banner stating, "NO ISLAMIC CENTER!" in big black letters.

The ICC fought back.

Muslim Advocates and Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer filed a lawsuit against the County on behalf of ICC, following a lawsuit by the Department of Justice and one month later, the ICC and the County reached a settlement. The ICC could move forward with their plans to build a mosque, and the County issued a statement welcoming the ICC and compensated the community for their expenses.

Please join me in honoring the ICC and their resilience as they celebrate this milestone project.

RECOGNIZING ROGER KNOELL FOR  
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roger Knoell of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Knoell is a veteran of the United States Navy serving in the Vietnam War. Over his twenty years of service, Mr. Knoell received multiple medals and awards, including the Submarine Dolphin Warfare Pin, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Upon returning to his community, Mr. Knoell dedicated his time to veteran groups in Butte.

As a member of the American Legion, he served as a key member in the selection of the of Butte for the new Southwest Montana Veterans Home. Outside of his work with veterans' groups, Mr. Knoell serves on the Board of Directors for the Legion Oasis Apartment Complex, which provides low- and medium-income housing for the residents of Butte. He is also known to be a great Butte promoter, bringing events to the community such as the Harley Owners State Rally, and the United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Roger Knoell for his service to his country and his dedication to the Butte Community.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

**HON. RUSS FULCHER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Apprenticeship Week.

In my home state of Idaho, more than 1,500 students participate in registered apprenticeships. This is a jump of fifty percent in just the last two years. More than 280 Idaho companies participate in apprenticeship programs. They include companies like Micron Technology, that enroll about 350 people every year in their apprenticeship program. But success in apprenticeship programs is about more than numbers. Take the story of Bryan Brandel, who comes from my hometown of Meridian. Bryan grew up watching his father and grandfather work as linemen for the phone company. Bryan seemed to be following in their footsteps when he enrolled in a Vocational Technology program at Meridian High School. He learned practical skills, including how to weld. As Bryan was completing high school, his father and grandfather encouraged him to pursue a traditional four-year degree. He finished his degree; but wasn't sure what to do next. He went on to graduate school, still not sure what he was going to do. Months before completing his dissertation, Bryan realized that he did not want to pursue Ecology or Biology. He thought about his passion. That took him back to his high school Vocational Technology program. He made the bold step of becoming a lineman in the electric utility industry. After finishing school at Northwest Lineman College, he started working for Idaho Power, completing their lineman apprenticeship program. He obtained a journeyman position on a line crew, and today is a line crew foreman. Bryan's story is typical of the many young adults in our communities who follow traditional education paths that might not be right for them. Because of his experience, Bryan actively promotes apprenticeships for Idaho Power. He speaks to high school students about the wonderful opportunities they bring. His story is truly inspirational. Apprenticeship programs create good-paying jobs, allow students to complete programs debt-free, and provide a sense of accomplishment. They give Idahoans like Bryan, and all Americans, opportunity and purpose in our market economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CY-  
BERSECURITY CAREER AWARE-  
NESS WEEK

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, November 11th marks the start of National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week. This week-long campaign focuses on local, regional and national interest to engage the community on not only the importance of cybersecurity but career opportunities in the field.

Cybersecurity IT workers play a vital role in upkeeping the integrity of our systems, networks, and programs as well as pioneering new ways to promote system strength against unforeseen threats. In a highly interconnected and increasingly globalized world, there has never been a more important time than now to raise awareness.

Unfortunately, America is facing a critical shortage of people trained in cybersecurity. There are currently over 300,000 jobs nationally that need to be filled in the cybersecurity workforce and globally, an expected shortfall of 1.8 million cybersecurity professionals by 2022. This deficit can easily be filled by American talent and continued commitment to making educational resources available early.

In my own district, we are playing our part by educating the public about what role cybersecurity plays in their everyday lives and how impactful a career in cybersecurity can be. To raise awareness of the importance of cybersecurity, several of our local colleges along with CareerSource Brevard, Brevard School District, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast and Florida High Tech Corridor to name a few, will come together to discuss the role of cybersecurity in our economy, in enhancing public safety and national security.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week.

RECOGNIZING NEIL NEARY FOR  
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neil Neary of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and commitment to the American Legion.

Mr. Neary is a veteran of the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War. He was a member of the engineering corps and received commendations including the Good Conduct Medal. After his service in the Army, Mr. Neary brought back his spirit of service to his community as a member of American Legion Post 1 in Butte.

As a member of the Montana American Legion for 62 years, Mr. Neary has been an important figure for the Legion. He served in various roles over the years and was the Department of Montana State Commander for three

of those years. Mr. Neary's long service and leadership in the Montana American Legion has made him a patriotic role model for many in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Neil Neary for his dedication and commitment.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes last week (11/12 through 11/15) due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted:

YEA on Roll Call No. 610; YEA on Roll Call No. 611; YEA on Roll Call No. 612; YEA on Roll Call No. 613; YEA on Roll Call No. 614; NAY on Roll Call No. 615; NAY on Roll Call No. 616; YEA on Roll Call No. 617; YEA on Roll Call No. 618; YEA on Roll Call No. 619; YEA on Roll Call No. 620; YEA on Roll Call No. 621; YEA on Roll Call No. 622; YEA on Roll Call No. 623; and NAY on Roll Call No. 624.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the second vote series on October 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 578.

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RECOGNIZING THOMAS PRICE FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Price of Eureka, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Price is a veteran of the United States Navy. He served from 1944 to 1946 on the USS *Missoula* APA 211 earning the Pacific 2 Star Award and attaining the rank of Seaman First Class. He was on board the USS *Missoula* when the flag was raised on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945.

Serving his community, Mr. Price has worked with special needs children for 25 years. He's given ten scholarships to local high school graduating seniors. He's also spent many years serving on boards for the local nursing home and Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Mr. Price even puts on a weekly bingo game and donates the proceeds to local charities throughout his community.

Mr. Price is a humble man who continually helps others. He has a generous heart and always blessed the people in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Thomas Price for his dedication and service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 13, 2019 during roll call no. 612, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3537, Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 613, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 499, Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 614, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3734, SERV Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

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HONORING MR. ARTHUR MAX BACON'S RETIREMENT

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of an extraordinary Georgian, Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

Max Bacon is a lifetime civil servant. He began his career at his local branch of the United States Postal Service, only retiring as the town's Postmaster in 2006 after 40 years. For some of that same time, he also served the citizens of Smyrna on their City Council for 6 years, after which he carried on his father's legacy and was elected as the Mayor of Smyrna in 1985. When he retires from his post at the end of this term, he will hold the title of the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.

Mayor Bacon is a life-long resident of Smyrna's 15 square miles. He attended Smyrna Elementary School and graduated from Campbell High School in 1966. In that time, he has seen it transform from a small community to a lively, diverse suburb at the edge of Atlanta in Cobb County. Since Mayor Bacon began his tenure as mayor, Smyrna has more than doubled in residency, growing to become the second most-populated city in the county. However, that growth did not come without its challenges, which Mayor Bacon has maneuvered handedly, allowing the city to reinvent itself over the years.

Through his long span of leadership, Mayor Bacon has received numerous prestigious awards. Some highlights of those are: the 1993 Georgia Municipal Association Community Leadership Award, the Cobb County 1997 Citizen of the Year from the Marietta Daily Journal, the 2001 Citizen of the Year Award from the Smyrna Area Council of the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, and the 2015

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award by Campbell High School.

Mayor Bacon will be remembered for serving his tireless efforts to serve his hometown and improve the lives of its residents. A mark of a true leader is doing what you think is right, even if it is not the most politically popular choice. Throughout his time as the head of the city of Smyrna, Max Bacon did just that. He is leaving behind an extraordinary legacy, and it is only fitting that we commemorate his contribution to the Smyrna, and the greater Georgia community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Max Bacon on his retirement, and I extend my sincerest wishes for his continued health and happiness.

May God continue to bless Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

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RECOGNIZING HAROLD RIENSCHER FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold Riensch Senior of Reed Point, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Riensch is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He is a Vietnam veteran who served in the 3rd Tank Battalion, 3rd Marine Division earning awards like the Navy Cross, and attaining the rank of Master Gunner Sergeant.

During the Vietnam War, Mr. Riensch and his crew were assigned to recover a disabled tank. During this mission, their vehicle detonated a mine. While repairing their vehicle, the Marines came under heavy fire. In an instant, two of Staff Sergeant Riensch's crew were killed and two others were wounded leaving him alone to defend his injured crew and damaged vehicle. With the help of a few grenades and unmatched bravery, Mr. Riensch was able to fight off the Northern Vietnamese soldiers by himself until backup arrived. His quick action and heroism saved the lives of his two fellow Marines.

After completing his military service, Mr. Riensch served as a member of the Stillwater County Weed control Board and President of the local community landowner's association. His friends and neighbors say Mr. Riensch never hesitates to help when asked upon.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Harold Riensch Senior for his dedication and service.

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IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF STEVE F. DEMPSEY

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sheriff Steve Dempsey

from King George. Steve's service to his community goes without question, and I believe he is worthy of recognition.

Sheriff Dempsey's extensive training included both the Metropolitan Police Academy in Washington, D.C. where he was K-9 certified and the FBI Academy where he was able to learn countless hours of information on how to handle increasingly difficult situations ranging from terrorism to financial crime.

Sheriff Dempsey, along with his wife Charlene and their family, comes from a long line of public servants—as is evident in Sheriff Dempsey's commitment to his community. Steve was in the Virginia National Guard and served until 1978. He has been with the King George County Sheriff's Department for 39 years, serving as both an officer and a mentor. He was the first K-9 officer in the county and served as a patrol deputy for 7 years. And, on top of all this, he has taught for almost 20 years at the regional academy; passing on vital experience and lessons to members of law enforcement who benefit from his teachings.

Not stopping there, he served as the Special Olympics Chair for the Commonwealth from 2017 to 2018 and is currently serving as President of the Virginia Sheriff's Association. I am filled with pride to know all the good that this man has done for his community and our district.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments, hard work, and dedication of Sheriff Dempsey. Words alone cannot express our pride, and I am proud to represent him. May God bless him and his family.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF RUTH HYMAN

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday this year. It is my honor to join with her family and friends in marking this incredible milestone and wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

A lifelong resident of Long Branch, New Jersey, Ms. Hyman was the youngest of eight children. Her parents, Ida and David Hyman, were founding members of Congregation Brothers of Israel and instilled in their children the importance of hard work and community service. Throughout her life, Ms. Hyman has striven to be an active and charitable member of her community, supporting Congregation Brothers of Israel, the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, and Jewish and Family Children's Services, among many others. In addition, Ms. Hyman established and operated a long-running women's apparel business and worked as an editor of technical manuals for the federal government. Her involvement with numerous local charities and organizations reflect her passion to help others and improve our communities and her success and accomplishments serve as an example of what hard work can attain.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday. Her generous spirit and impact on the commu-

nity continue to be felt throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

#### RECOGNIZING JAMES WATKINS FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Watkins of Dillon for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and his community.

Mr. Watkins served in both the United States Air Force and Montana Army National Guard, serving a combined 22 years. Mr. Watkins received multiple commendations during his service, including the Army Commendation Medal.

Mr. Watkins has been a member of the American Legion Post 20 since 1968 and served in various capacities. Every year, he coordinated the placement of American Flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Part of this project was his work locating and arranging the headstones for all veterans in Dillon Mountain View Cemetery. In addition, Mr. Watkins makes, maintains, and places the white crosses for the Montana American Legion White Cross Highway Fatality Marker Program in Beaverhead County.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending James Watkins of Dillon for his dedication and service to his country and community.

#### NEW HOME, NEW BYLAWS, SAME MISSION: WPAOG HISTORY PART IV (1996-2019) SECTION B

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD Section B of the fourth and final installment of an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates:

#### 2009-15: THE FOR US ALL CAMPAIGN BREAKS RECORDS

"In the summer of 2008, the Association and the Academy began to consider a new comprehensive campaign for West Point. The campaign, called For Us All: The Campaign for West Point, officially launched in January 2009. By the time the campaign ended on December 31, 2015, more than \$420 million had been either pledged or received, well exceeding the original \$350 million campaign goal.

During the For Us All Campaign, WPAOG continued to achieve new levels of support for the Academy and the Long Gray Line. The average of total annual donations to West Point/WPAOG rose to \$40.7 million per year, more than 40 percent higher than the average annual donations during the Bicentennial Campaign. More impressively, 58 percent of living alumni made one or more donations. Approximately 50,000 graduates, families, and friends of West Point partici-

pated in the For Us All Campaign. The priorities for the For Us All Campaign were divided into five areas. With a goal of \$200 million, the largest category was designated as "For the Cadets" and sought gifts to fund scholarships (from research through Academic Individual Advanced Development or AIAD opportunities), endowments (in support of academic departments, cadet clubs and teams), and Academy Centers (e.g., the Combating Terrorism Center and the Center for Oral History).

Individuals and classes also committed gifts to numerous brick and mortar projects, including the Frederic V. Malek West Point Visitors Center, the Foley Enners Nathe Lacrosse Center, the West Point Cemetery Columbarium, and more. But, as George Gilmore '71, one of the members of the For Us All Campaign Cabinet said in 2013, "We will see the effects of this campaign not in new buildings or new playing fields but rather in how well prepared our junior officers arrive in the Army." Indeed, in a world of increasing threats to the nation's security, economic stability, and fundamental values, producing leaders of character became more important than ever, and the For Us All Campaign, above all, was focused on ensuring that the Academy had the resources available to fully prepare the next generation of leaders for the Army and the nation.

Since the For Us All Campaign concluded in 2015, WPAOG has continued to build on gains achieved, increasing donations to an average of \$49 million annually and raising graduate participation to all-time highs, driven by innovative initiatives such as the All-Academy Challenge. During this period, WPAOG has also won the highest awards of recognition for management practices and transparency from Charity Navigator (four stars) and GuideStar (Platinum Seal of Transparency), and the Development team has earned "Overall Performance" and "Sustained Excellence" (a five-year award won by only 16 colleges) in fundraising awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), a 3,700-member global professional association focused on advancing education.

#### FURTHER EXPANDING WPAOG SERVICES

WPAOG continued to expand its Alumni Support activities and services into the new millennium as well. Today, WPAOG provides services to 82 classes, 141 West Point societies worldwide, and to more than 53,000 individual graduates. Since launching in 2011, WPAOG's comprehensive reunion services have also proved popular with graduates: in 2019, WPAOG hosted 29 class reunions for more than 14,700 returning graduates and their guests. The WPAOG Gift Shop has steadily expanded its unique product line and services to reunion classes, graduates, cadets and their families, exceeding \$1 million in annual sales for the first time in 2005, and recently achieving \$2 million in sales. Profits from the Gift Shop support our alumni services.

In September 2006, AOG premiered a new award initiative to engage cadets with the presentation of the inaugural Nininger Award for Valor at Arms to Major Ryan L. Worthan '97. Conceived by E. Doug Kenna '45 and funded in perpetuity by Kenna and his wife Jean, the award is named after First Lieutenant Alexander "Sandy" Nininger '41, who was killed in action in the Philippines during World War II and posthumously received the Medal of Honor (the first American army soldier to be so honored in the war). It is given to a recent graduate who has displayed heroic action in battle. Like AOG's Distinguished Graduate Award, the Nininger is an award for which the recipient is meant to be representative of a larger body; in this

case, of “all West Point-commissioned officers who have heroically led Soldiers in combat.” However, unlike the DGA, which has been historically presented to senior members of the Long Gray Line, the recipient of the Nininger Award must be “a decorated and relatively recent graduate on Active Duty,” according to the award’s criteria. “Age is what makes the Nininger Award special,” said Captain Anthony Fuscellaro ’05, the 2013 recipient. “Cadets have an easier time connecting with the Nininger Award winners because they could be in their boots soon and see a lot of the same things they have seen.”

There have been four board chairmen, Ted Stroup ’62, Jodie Glore ’69, Larry Jordan ’68 and the current chair, Joe DeFrancisco ’65, since the new governance model was adopted in 2006. These dedicated alumni servants, along with the WPAOG Board, have provided WPAOG with strong leadership and oversight that has allowed for a consistent upward trajectory in its service to both West Point and the Long Gray Line. Other major initiatives introduced by WPAOG in the last decade include the Dettre Memorial Assistance Program, started in 2008 upon a donation from Mrs. Betty Dettre in honor of her late husband, Major General Rexford H. Dettre ’43JAN, which supports graduate burials at West Point cemetery; comprehensive reunion support services as previously mentioned, which debuted in 2011; and the Rockbound Highland Home Program, which launched in 2017 and offers personal benefits through its “Grad Pass,” “Grad Perks,” and “Grad Insider Tour” options so that each graduate who returns to West Point feels warmly welcomed back. A year later, the Rockbound Highland Home Program won two CASE “Gold” Awards in the categories of “Alumni Relations” and “Alumni Relations Events and Affinity Programs.”

Just recently, WPAOG has unveiled a new, enhanced Career Services Program, which is designed to equip all West Point graduates with the confidence to successfully navigate each phase of their post-military career transition; Grad Link, a mobile app which expands upon the popular “Find a Grad” feature on WPAOG’s website to offer the easiest and most powerful way to network with fellow grads; and Sallyport, a secure online portal that provides West Point Societies with three primary services; membership management, communications, and event management.

#### PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Over the course of its 150-year existence, the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy has evolved into a truly one of a kind organization, one that is simultaneously an independent alumni association serving graduates with services and programs, and also a foundation that solicits and manages funds on behalf of the institution it supports. At many universities, alumni support is a subset of a that school’s development operation and staffed by employees of the school. A few are independent organizations with their own board of directors, but they neither solicit nor manage money for their alma mater.

The delicate balance between the foundation side of AOG and its alumni support operations had been an issue of great concern for Robert Lamb ’46, Secretary-Treasurer for AOG (1970-72) and then its first Executive Vice President (1972-90) in his 1990 essay “Two Decades of Change,” but after reviewing the last two-plus decades of AOG history it is clear that the fundraising-fraternal fellowship duality of WPAOG’s evolved nature has proved symbiotic: the more that bonds between members of the Long Gray Line are strengthened by WPAOG, the more grad-

uates support their alma mater; and the more generously graduates give of their time, talent, and treasure, the more services WPAOG is able to offer to help make the Long Gray Line the most highly connected alumni body in the world.

With its new expansion of Alumni Support and communications to keep graduates connected and engaged, today’s WPAOG stands poised to lead support for both graduates and West Point well into the 21st century. Or, going back to Anderson’s original principles when he proposed the idea of an Association of Graduates in 1869 in his letter to Thayer: “to perfect and perpetuate this truly national institution” and “for the promotion of social and fraternal intercourse,” later resolved in the Association’s preliminary meeting in which he participated.”

#### RECOGNIZING GEORGE WRIGHT FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Wright of Laurel for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our country and dedication to his community.

Mr. Wright served in the U.S. Army during World War II, operating construction equipment in order to create infrastructure for fellow troops. Mr. Wright received multiple commendations for his service, including the Bronze Star and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his service, Mr. Wright came home to serve his community. Mr. Wright owned equipment that made it possible for him to help fix what was needed, from cars to roads and much more. He was a fixture on ranches when roads washed out or cattle needed rescuing during floods.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending George Wright for his dedication and service.

#### 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, November 19, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense audit.

SR-222

9:35 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Sean O’Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 2877, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, and John Bobbitt, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine highly automated vehicles, focusing on Federal perspectives on the deployment of safety technology.

SH-216

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-430

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russian influence in Belarus.

RHOB-2200

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen E. Biegun, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Health Care

To hold hearings to examine Alzheimer’s awareness, focusing on barriers to diagnosis, treatment, and care coordination.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women’s Issues, Kelly C. Degnan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, David T. Fischer, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, Robert S. Gilchrist, of

- Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sung Y. Kim, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Yuri Kim, of Guam, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, and Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State, Andeliz N. Castillo, of New York, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Alma L. Golden, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and a routine list in the Foreign Service. S-116
- 2:15 p.m.  
Joint Economic Committee  
To hold hearings to examine connecting more people to work. SD-106
- 2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Cybersecurity  
To hold closed hearings to examine implementation of the 2018 Department of Defense Cyber Strategy. SVC-217
- Committee on Foreign Relations  
Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy  
To hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities for advancing United States interests in the United Nations system. SD-419
- Committee on Indian Affairs  
Business meeting to consider S. 227, to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and S. 982, to increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine honoring a nation's promise to Native veterans, including S. 1001, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and S. 2365, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize urban Indian organizations to enter into arrangements for the sharing of medical services and facilities. SD-628
- 3 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities  
To hold hearings to examine biological threats to United States national security. SR-222
- NOVEMBER 21
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine Federal payments to local governments provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Payments in Lieu of Taxes programs, including S. 430, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, S. 1643, to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Forest and Refuge County Foundation, to provide for the establishment of the Natural Resources Permanent Fund, and S. 2108, to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers. SD-366
- Committee on the Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Philip M. Halpern, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Bernard Maurice Jones II, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, and Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut. SD-226
- 11 a.m.  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government  
To hold an oversight hearing examine the Federal Communications Commission, focusing on the spectrum auctions program. SD-138
- 2 p.m.  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
- DECEMBER 3
- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine testimony from the Government Accountability Office on privatized housing findings to include responses from the military services on ongoing reports of substandard housing conditions and services. SD-G50
- 9:45 a.m.  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the future of United States policy towards Russia. SD-419
- DECEMBER 4
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower  
To hold a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management to examine United States Navy ship and submarine maintenance. SD-106
- 2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Personnel  
To hold hearings to examine testimony about servicemember, family, and veteran suicides and prevention strategies. SR-222
- DECEMBER 11
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the Inspector General's report on alleged abuses of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. SD-226
- POSTPONEMENTS
- NOVEMBER 20
- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower  
To receive a closed briefing on Navy aircraft carrier survivability. SVC-217

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6615–S6629*

**Measures Introduced:** Twelve bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2879–2890, and S. Res. 428–429. **Page S6625**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 764, to provide for congressional approval of national emergency declarations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–159) **Page S6625**

**Measures Passed:**

**Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act:** Senate passed S. 2071, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians. **Pages S6628–29**

**Senate Chamber Photos and Filming:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 428, authorizing the taking of pictures and filming in the Chamber of the Senate for use by the Capitol Visitor Center. **Pages S6627, S6629**

**Luck Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit. **Pages S6618–19**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 61 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. EX. 357), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6619**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, with the post-cloture time expiring at 2:15 p.m. **Page S6629**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S6622**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S6622**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S6622–24**

**Petitions and Memorials:** **Pages S6624–25**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S6625**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S6625–27**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S6621–22**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S6628**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—357) **Page S6619**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2019. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S6629.)

### Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

#### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:** Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Rules and Administration:** Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 21 public bills, H.R. 5133–5153; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 709–710 were introduced. **Page H8958**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H8959–60**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1309, to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–296, Part 1); and

H. Res. 708, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–297). **Pages H8957–58**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Gomez to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8911**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H8913**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:04 p.m. and reconvened at 4:17 p.m. **Page H8913**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Reforming Disaster Recovery Act of 2019:** H.R. 3702, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide disaster assistance to States, Puerto Rico, units of general local government, and Indian tribes under a community development block grant disaster recovery program, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yealand-nay vote of 290 yeas to 118 nays, Roll No. 625; **Pages H8914–26, H8939–40**

**Tribal Access to Homeless Assistance Act:** H.R. 4029, amended, to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to enable Indian Tribes and tribally designated housing entities to apply for, receive, and administer grants and subgrants under the Continuum of Care Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; **Pages H8926–27**

**Amending the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow the Securities and Exchange Commission to seek and Federal courts to grant disgorgement of unjust enrichment:** H.R. 4344, amended, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow the Securities and Exchange Commission to seek and Fed-

eral courts to grant disgorgement of unjust enrichment, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yealand-nay vote of 314 yeas to 95 nays, Roll No. 627; **Pages H8929–32, H8941–42**

**Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019:** H.R. 4634, amended, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yealand-nay vote of 385 yeas to 22 nays, Roll No. 626; and **Pages H8932–37, H8940–41**

**Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019:** H.R. 4300, amended, to provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care. **Pages H8937–39**

**Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Representative Lamborn. **Page H8942**

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

**Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act of 2019:** H.R. 5084, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity. **Pages H8927–29**

**Senate Referral:** S. 2099 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. **Pages H8955–56**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8913.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yealand-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8940, H8940–41, and H8941. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### SENATE AMENDMENT TO COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3055, the “Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2020” [Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Further Health Extenders Act of 2019]. The Committee granted, by nonrecord vote, a rule providing for consideration of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3055, the “Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2020”. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment inserting the text of Rules Committee Print 116–38, in lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides one hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lowey and Representative Granger.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* business meeting to consider S. 242, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to release reversionary and reserved interests in certain land in the Coconino National Forest in the State of Arizona, S. 258, to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains Ranger District located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, S. 500, to amend title 54, United States Code, to estab-

lish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, S. 876, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the energy industry, including the solar, wind, cybersecurity, and other low-carbon emissions sectors or zero-emissions sectors of the energy industry, S. 1079, to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 1081, to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, S. 1262, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, S. 1739, to enable projects that will aid in the development and delivery of related instruction associated with apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs that are focused on serving the skilled technical workforce at the National Laboratories and certain facilities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, S. 2368, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to support licensing and relicensing of certain nuclear facilities and nuclear energy research, demonstration, and development, S. 2418, to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to modify a definition and the disposition and authorized uses of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues under that Act and to exempt State and county payments under that Act from sequestration, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, S. 2425, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish the CHP Technical Assistance Partnership Program, S. 2508, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a council to conduct a survey and analysis of the employment figures and demographics in the energy, energy efficiency, and motor vehicle sectors of the United States, S. 2556, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments, S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, S. 2668, to establish a program for research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies, S. 2688, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an Office of Technology Transitions, S. 2702, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an integrated energy systems research, development, and demonstration, S. 2714, to amend the America COMPETES Act to reauthorize the ARPA-E program, S. 2799, to require the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a joint Nexus of Energy and Water Sustainability Office, and the nominations of Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy, James P. Danly, of Tennessee, to be a Member

of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Katharine MacGregor, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works*: to hold hearings to examine S. 1087, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make changes with respect to water quality certification, and state perspectives on other potential reforms to the implementation of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine securing the United States research enterprise from China's talent recruitment plans, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary*: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence*: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

### House

*Committee on Agriculture*, Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit, hearing entitled "Review of Credit Conditions: Report from the Farm Credit Administration (FCA)", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Department Operations, hearing entitled "Review of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights", 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Safe, Accountable, Fair, and Environmentally Responsible Pipeline Act of 2019; H.R. 2339, the "Reversing the Youth Tobacco Epidemic Act of 2019"; H.R. 4995, the "Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act of 2019"; H.R. 4996, the "Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act of 2019"; H.R. 1603, the "Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now Act of 2019"; H.R. 535, the "PFAS Action Act of 2019"; H.R. 2699, the "Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2019"; H.R. 3851, the "Brand USA Extension Act"; H.R. 4779, to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes; H.R. 4229, the "Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability Act"; H.R. 4227, the "Mapping Accuracy Promotes Services Act"; H.R. 5000, the "SHARE Act"; H.R. 4998, the "Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act"; H.R. 4461, the "Network Security Information Sharing Act of 2019"; H.R. 2881, the "Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2019"; H.R. 4500, the "Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2019"; H. Res. 575, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that all stakeholders in the deployment of 5G communications infrastructure should carefully consider and adhere to the recommendation of "The Prague Proposals"; and H.R. 5035, the "Television Viewer Protection Act", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, Full Committee, hearing entitled "America for Sale? An Examination of the Practices of Private Funds", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "FY2020 Budget and U.S.-Africa Relations", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment, hearing entitled "The Importance of the Open Skies Treaty", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism, hearing entitled "What's Next for Lebanon? Examining the Implications of Current Protests", 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, Subcommittee on Border Security, Facilitation, and Operations, hearing entitled "Examining the Human Rights and Legal Implications of DHS 'Remain in Mexico' Policy", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation, hearing entitled "The Road to 2020: Defending Against Election Interference", 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled "The Patent Trial and Appeal Board and the Appointments Clause: Implications of Recent Court Decisions", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing entitled "Reviewing the Broken Promises Report: Examining the Chronic Federal Funding Shortfalls in Indian Country", 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Reform*, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled "Toxic, Forever Chemicals: A Call for Immediate Federal Action on PFAS", 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled "The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency: Bringing Our Nation's Heroes Home", 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

*Committee on Rules*, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1309, the "Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act", 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure, hearing entitled "Smart Construction: Increasing Opportunities for Small Businesses in Infrastructure", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled "Concepts for the Next Water Resources Development Act: Promoting Resiliency of our Nation's Water Resources Infrastructure", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled "Further Examining Forever GI Bill Implementation Efforts", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Impeachment Inquiry: Ms. Williams and Lt. Col. Vindman", 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Full Committee, hearing entitled "Impeachment Inquiry: Ambassador Volker and Mr. Morrison", 2:30 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

### Joint Meetings

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:* to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment to examine the importance of the Open Skies Treaty, 10 a.m., 2172, Rayburn Building.

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## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of November 19 through  
November 22, 2019

### Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Robert J. Luck, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Barbara Lagoa, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

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:* November 21, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold an oversight hearing examine the Federal Communications Commission, focusing on the spectrum auctions program, 11 a.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Armed Services:* November 20, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense audit, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

November 20, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to hold closed hearings to examine implementation of the 2018 Department of Defense Cyber Strategy, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

November 20, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine biological threats to United States national security, 3 p.m., SR-222.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* November 20, business meeting to consider S. 2877, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, and John Bobbitt, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* November 20, to hold hearings to examine highly automated vehicles, focusing on Federal perspectives on the deployment of safety technology, 10 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* November 19, business meeting to consider S. 242, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to release reversionary and reserved interests in certain land in the Coconino National Forest in the State of Arizona, S. 258, to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains Ranger District located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, S. 500, to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, S. 876, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the energy industry, including the solar, wind, cybersecurity, and other low-carbon emissions sectors or zero-emissions sectors of the energy industry, S. 1079, to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 1081, to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, S. 1262, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, S. 1739, to enable projects that will aid in the development and delivery of related instruction associated with apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs that are focused on serving the skilled technical workforce at the National Laboratories and certain facilities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, S. 2368, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to support licensing and relicensing of certain nuclear facilities and nuclear energy research, demonstration, and development, S. 2418, to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to modify a definition and the disposition and authorized uses of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues under that Act and to exempt State and county payments under that Act from sequestration, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, S. 2425, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish the CHP Technical Assistance Partnership Program, S. 2508, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a council to conduct a survey and analysis of the employment figures and demographics in the energy, energy efficiency, and motor vehicle sectors of the United States, S. 2556, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments, S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, S. 2668, to establish

a program for research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies, S. 2688, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an Office of Technology Transitions, S. 2702, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an integrated energy systems research, development, and demonstration, S. 2714, to amend the America COMPETES Act to reauthorize the ARPA-E program, S. 2799, to require the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a joint Nexus of Energy and Water Sustainability Office, and the nominations of Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy, James P. Danly, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Katharine MacGregor, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD-366.

November 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Federal payments to local governments provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Payments in Lieu of Taxes programs, including S. 430, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, S. 1643, to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Forest and Refuge County Foundation, to provide for the establishment of the Natural Resources Permanent Fund, and S. 2108, to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers, 10 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* November 19, to hold hearings to examine S. 1087, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to make changes with respect to water quality certification, and state perspectives on other potential reforms to the implementation of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 10 a.m., SD-406.

November 20, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of Sean O'Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, 9:35 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* November 20, Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine Alzheimer's awareness, focusing on barriers to diagnosis, treatment, and care coordination, 2 p.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* November 20, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen E. Biegun, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary of State, 10:15 a.m., SD-419.

November 20, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, Kelly C. Degan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, David T. Fischer, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, Robert S. Gilchrist, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sung Y. Kim, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Yuri Kim, of Guam, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Al-

bania, Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, and Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State, Aneliz N. Castillo, of New York, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Alma L. Golden, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and a routine list in the Foreign Service, 2 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

November 20, Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy, to hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities for advancing United States interests in the United Nations system, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* November 20, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* November 19, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine securing the United States research enterprise from China's talent recruitment plans, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* November 20, business meeting to consider S. 227, to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and S. 982, to increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine honoring a nation's promise to Native veterans, including S. 1001, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and S. 2365, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize urban Indian organizations to enter into arrangements for the sharing of medical services and facilities, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* November 19, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 10 a.m., SD-226.

November 21, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Philip M. Halpern, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Bernard Maurice Jones II, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, and Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, 10 a.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence*: November 19, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

November 21, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

### House Committees

*Committee on Appropriations*, November 20, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “The Department of Energy’s Role in Addressing Climate Change”, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services*, November 20, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities, hearing entitled “Climate Change in the Era of Strategic Competition”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

November 21, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “The Department of Defense Organic Industrial Base: Challenges, Solutions and Readiness Impacts”, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Budget*, November 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Reexamining the Economic Costs of Debt”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

*Committee on Education and Labor*, November 20, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Labor Department’s Apprenticeship Program”, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, November 20, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: The Challenges Facing Frontline Communities”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services*, November 20, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “An Examination of Regulators’ Efforts to Preserve and Promote Minority Depository Institutions”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

November 20, Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance, hearing entitled “Safe and Decent? Examining the Current State of Residents’ Health and Safety in HUD Housing”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

November 21, Task Force on Financial Technology, hearing entitled “Banking on Your Data: The Role of Big Data in Financial Services”, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security*, November 20, Full Committee, markup on A Resolution Offered by Chairman Bennie G. Thompson Authorizing Issuance of Subpoena on documents related to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Operations, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

*Committee on House Administration*, November 21, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day: Committee on House Administration”, 8:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, November 20, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5038, the “Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2019”; H.R. 3884, the “Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act of 2019”; legislation on the Satellite Television Community Protection and Promotion Act of 2019; H.R. 3991, the

“Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Through Improvements to Patent Litigation Act of 2019”; and legislation on the Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Through Promoting Competition Act of 2019, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, November 20, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1708, the “Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act”; H.R. 2199, the “Central Coast Heritage Protection Act”; H.R. 2215, the “San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act”; H.R. 2250, the “Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act”; H.R. 2546, the “Colorado Wilderness Act of 2019”; H.R. 2642, the “Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act”; H.R. 2854, the “Protect Our Refuges Act of 2019”; and S. 216, the “Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation Equitable Compensation Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, November 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Fighting Flu, Saving Lives: Vaccine Science and Innovation”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

November 20, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “A Task of EPIC Proportions: Reclaiming U.S. Leadership in Weather Modeling and Prediction”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, November 20, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5078, the “Prison to Proprietorship Act”; H.R. 5065, the “Prison to Proprietorship for Formerly Incarcerated Act”; legislation on the Capturing All Small Businesses Act of 2019; and legislation on the Unlocking Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2019, 11:30 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, November 20, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5120, the “SAFER Pipelines Act of 2019”; H.R. 5047, to require the Administrator of General Services to conduct an annual audit of properties leased to private parties, and for other purposes; legislation on the Stop Sexual Assault and Harassment in Transportation Act; and H.R. 5119, to amend title 49, United States Code, to require certain air carriers to provide reports with respect to maintenance, preventative maintenance, or alterations, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, November 20, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 3495 and legislation to establish a pilot program for the issuance of grants to eligible entities, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

November 20, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “Go-Live March 2020: The Status of EHRM Readiness”, 2 p.m., HVC-210.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, November 20, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “U.S.-Japan Trade Agreements”, 10 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, November 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Impeachment Inquiry: Ambassador Sondland”, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

November 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Impeachment Inquiry: Ms. Cooper and Mr. Hale”, 2:30 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

November 21, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Impeachment Inquiry: Dr. Hill and Mr. Holmes”, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

*Select Committee on the Climate Crisis*, November 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Creating a Climate Resilient America: Reducing Risks and Costs”, 1:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

### Joint Meetings

*Joint Economic Committee*: November 20, to hold hearings to examine connecting more people to work, 2:15 p.m., SD-106.

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: November 19, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment to examine the importance of the Open Skies Treaty, 10 a.m., 2172, Rayburn Building.

November 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Russian influence in Belarus, 10 a.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Tuesday, November 19

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Tuesday, November 19

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Robert J. Luck, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Robert J. Luck, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Barbara Lagoa, of Florida, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

*(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)*

## House Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

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# Congressional Record

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