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No. 28

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 11, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2020, 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, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### REMEMBERING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF H.L. RICHARDSON OF CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, lost amidst the tumult of the last couple of weeks was the quiet passing of an outspoken leader of California, H.L. "Bill" Richardson. H.L., as he was known to his friends, arrived in the California State Senate with the freshman class of 1966, part of the Reagan landslide that year.

For every one of the 22 years he served in the Senate, H.L. was a force to be reckoned with. He served for many years in the Republican leadership, but he was never ever a political insider. His enormous influence inside the senate stemmed from the fact that he never joined that club; he never lost sight of the people who elected him. And he not only worked tirelessly to serve them inside the capitol, he worked even harder to organize, inform, and mobilize them outside the capitol.

He founded a multitude of advocacy groups to empower the millions of Californians who believed in individual liberty and economic freedom. He started the Free Market Political Action Committee to support free market principles and the candidates who embraced them, and it became the inspiration and prototype of groups like the Club for Growth and Americans for Prosperity and FreedomWorks today.

In the 1970's, when Jerry Brown first came to power and appointed radical leftists to the California courts, H.L. founded the Law and Order Campaign Committee, which became the driving force between the historic recall of Chief Justice Rose Bird and two of her associates on the California Supreme Court. That organization went on for many years to restore common sense to the California courts and criminal justice system, including pressing the legislature to restore the death penalty over Jerry Brown's veto.

His passion for the Second Amendment was his most defining cause. He founded Gun Owners of California to fight the growing movement in California to disarm law-abiding citizens, and its success not only beat back Proposition 15, a 1982 initiative to ban handguns in California, it generated so many new Second Amendment voters in that election to put George Deukmejian over the top by a tiny margin of victory over Los Angeles

Mayor Tom Bradley in that Governor's race that year. Gun Owners of California continues its good work to this day, as does its spin-off, Gun Owners of America.

H.L. had a wicked sense of humor, and it was keenest when bursting bubbles of political pomposity. One of his half dozen published books, still required reading in some college classes, is titled, "What Makes You Think We Read the Bills?" His book, "Confrontational Politics," offers a civilized, but no less resolute, conservative response to Saul Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals."

California, once called "The Golden State," is today drawing more and more attention as a slow-moving train wreck. The radical left has now dominated the State's institutions for more than 20 years, and California is showing all of the political, social, and economic pathologies that accompany leftist governance: failing schools; rising crime; chronic traffic congestion; skyrocketing costs of housing, energy, and water; rampant homelessness; oppressive regulations; the highest effective poverty rate in the Nation; and a population now fleeing to other States.

Senator H.L. Richardson held back that tide for nearly 30 years. He was a mighty seawall that protected California from the left, giving one final generation of Californians the joy of living in the most prosperous and beautiful State in the Nation.

But, as age took its toll, his influence waned, the left steadily advanced, and none of us whom he inspired to follow him has been able to stop it.

On January 13, H.L. Richardson passed away at the age of 92, and with him passed the golden California of freedom, opportunity, and prosperity that he fought so hard, so long, and so effectively to preserve. Perhaps the day will come when California will see a rebirth of freedom, and on that day, H.L.'s wisdom, courage, and leadership

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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will show that generation the way back.

We can hasten that day by remembering and celebrating his life, his lessons, and his achievements.

**RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS OF THREE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN FROM ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we celebrate Black History Month across our Nation. And I want to recognize the extraordinary efforts of three African American women from Rockford, Illinois, who have honorably served three separate branches of our Armed Forces. Our Nation is indebted to them.

Later this week, the stories of Margaret Patricia Whelcher, Lana McCants, and Milana Herman will be displayed to the public at the Veterans Memorial Hall and Museum in Rockford, Illinois.

Their contributions to our country have been chronicled by local students from Harlem High School as part of the annual Harlem Veterans Project, and they have conducted interviews, shot videos, and have photographs and more.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to bring attention to their sacrifices and thank them for their service today.

Margaret Patricia Whelcher, she served in the United States Air Force from 1988 to 1991 and achieved the rank of senior airman.

Lana McCants, she served in the United States Navy from 1991 to 1997 and achieved the rank of operation specialist 3rd class.

Milana Herman served in the United States Army from 1989 to 1994 and achieved the rank of staff sergeant.

In addition to their distinguished military service, these veterans have worked to better our community. Lana is an active member of the American Legion Post 340, while Margaret and Milana routinely participate in local stand-downs, where they offer a variety of support services for at-risk veterans.

I am proud to see them represent our community with such distinction and such honor. Their selfless commitment to country and community sets a strong example for the leaders of tomorrow. It is crucial that their inspirational stories are spread far and wide.

That is why I applaud the work of those students participating in the Harlem Veterans Project. These students have sought to build a unique bond with members of the community and raise the voices of those around them.

Institutions like the Veterans Memorial Hall and Museum in Rockford, which will feature these incredible women, tell the stories of so many who have made an immense impact on the

lives of those across our region. It is only fitting that the stories of Margaret, Lana, and Milana will be displayed with the rest of them.

We must never forget those who paved the path before us. Stories like theirs make up the very fabric of our Nation. They should be cherished and celebrated.

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS WEEK**

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week marked National School Counselors Week.

School counselors play a valuable role in the lives of our Nation's students. They help students navigate challenges, both academic and personal, through all phases of education. But some counselors truly go above and beyond.

Recently, I had the pleasure of joining the American School Counselor Association for a meeting, where I met Laura Ross, the 2020 School Counselor of the Year. Laura's co-workers have called her a true hero and a champion for the work that she has done at Five Forks Middle School.

School counselors like Laura have big responsibilities and even greater opportunities to make a difference in the lives of young people. When people choose to dedicate their careers to providing support and guidance for these students, they are better equipped to tackle personal and professional challenges and better prepared to enter the workforce.

A successful career begins with a well-rounded view of what the workforce entails. Effective counseling can assist learners in better understanding their educational opportunities and career prospects, while preventing students from taking on sizable debt.

H.R. 5092, the Counseling for Career Choice Act, seeks to ensure high school students are made aware of their educational options and career prospects prior to graduation. To do that, the bill would establish a grant program for \$40 million to invest in career counseling programs for high school students.

It also invests in professional development opportunities for counselors working with these students so counselors can do their jobs to the best of their ability and stay up to date on workforce trends and postsecondary opportunities. This includes 2- and 4-year degree programs, but that also includes certificate programs, internships, and apprenticeships.

Mr. Speaker, we all owe a debt of gratitude to our Nation's school counselors. All year long, their service and support of our Nation's young people is greatly appreciated.

**REMEMBERING THE BAKU POGROMS THAT TOOK PLACE 30 YEARS AGO**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the Baku pogroms, which took place in January 1990, some 30 years ago. The Baku pogroms represented the culmination of years of atrocities by the Azeris against ethnic Armenians living in Azerbaijani communities, such as Sumgait and Kirovobad.

Time and time again, Armenians fell victim to their neighbors, as gangs of Azeris roamed the streets, smashed windows, burned cars, and attacked any Armenians they found. The gangs murdered and mutilated some women and repeatedly raped others.

In Baku, the pattern held, as looters destroyed property and tortured the murdered victims. Thousands of Armenians fled the systemic violence, world chess champion Gary Kasparov's family counted among them.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan was engaged in a systemic effort to erase this history and silence those who repeat it. I rise today so that they cannot succeed.

The history of this violence is one of the many reasons I believe that residents of Nagorno-Karabakh or Artsakh should be allowed to live in peace, freedom, and security. The United States has a crucial role to play in promoting this outcome.

For decades, U.S. aid has helped clear mines in Artsakh, saving lives, promoting development, and giving communities a sense of normalcy. Today, even though the work is not done, that aid is threatened.

Today, even though Armenia and Artsakh have embraced the Royce-Engel peace proposal, while Azerbaijan has rejected it, Artsakh could lose the mining assistance. And today, even though Armenia has transformed itself into a growing democracy, it is autocratic Azerbaijan that has received a massive, disproportionate increase in military aid from the United States.

If the administration won't help those who stand for peace and democracy, Congress must. The legacy of Baku, Sumgait, and Kirovobad remind me why. We must fight for the memories of those we lost, for their dreams of safety and security, and for the promise of a free Artsakh.

**RADICAL OPEN BORDERS POLICIES THAT ARE DANGEROUS TO OUR CITIZENS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose a truly radical piece of legislation that was recently introduced in this Chamber.

The New Way Forward Act, as it is called, introduced with the support of

more than three dozen Democratic cosponsors, decriminalizes illegal immigration, makes it nearly impossible for border authorities to detain and deport immigrants with criminal convictions, and forces taxpayers to foot the bill to bring back previously deported criminal illegal immigrants.

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Mr. Speaker, if this bill were to become law, it would enable illegal immigrants who have committed crimes abroad to be returned to the U.S., and it would allow them to gain a pathway to citizenship.

The bill eliminates the provision in current law that forbids an immigrant from entering the United States if they have committed drug crimes or any crimes involving moral turpitude. Examples of crimes involving moral turpitude include child molestation, kidnapping, rape, murder, and more. It is unthinkable that we would allow anyone who has committed those crimes to freely enter our country.

To add to the egregiousness of this legislation, it calls on the Department of Homeland Security to pay for the return of previously deported illegal immigrants. Under the bill, any immigrant deported since April 1996 would be allowed to return to the U.S. as long as they met a stunningly lax set of criteria. It is ridiculous to require American taxpayers to foot the bill to bring previously deported individuals back onto U.S. soil.

The bill would make it more difficult for ICE to detain an immigrant with a criminal record. Agents would be forced to prove that a suspect poses a danger or a flight risk without using the immigrant's past criminal history as a sole factor.

One of the Democratic cosponsors on this bill even proclaimed that it would end deportation for people who had contact with the criminal legal system. I would say it is common sense that a serious criminal conviction should lead to deportation.

Worse yet, this prevents ICE from deporting immigrants who have been convicted of crimes with an average sentence of less than 5 years. This bill would allow an alien who committed crimes like auto theft, weapons crimes, identity theft, and fraud to remain in the country.

Like many Americans, I want people to enter our country through the legal process—we want them here—and then to stay on the right side of the law. Legal immigration is what makes our country great. But we cannot pass bills, like this one, that incentivize more people to come here illegally or imposes no penalty on those who commit serious crimes.

I think most Americans would agree that we should welcome those who come to our land in a legal, merit-based way and that dangerous, illegal immigrants should not be allowed to come into our country or stay in our country.

Unfortunately, this bill makes a mockery of that principle and replaces it with a set of radical, open-border policies that are dangerous to our citizens and our communities. It is for that reason that it should be soundly defeated.

#### HONORING FALLEN SOLDIERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to honor and express my deepest sympathy, as a fellow Texan, to the family of Sergeant 1st Class Javier Gutierrez, who lost his life in battle in Afghanistan. I also want to acknowledge Sergeant 1st Class Antonio Rodriguez of New Mexico, as he lost his life in battle as well.

It is a war that is endless. Nonetheless, the service of our giants, our young men and women in uniform, is to be constantly honored.

Sergeant Gutierrez, a family man, a husband, a father, engaged in the service of his Nation, enthusiastically joining. He came from a long legacy of service to the Nation: his grandfather, another hero in our Nation, and his father, another hero in our Nation.

I pray for this family, who has now given the ultimate sacrifice and never refused to put on the uniform to fight in battle for this Nation's freedom, its justice, and its equality.

May God bless his family, and may he rest in peace.

#### DEFEAT PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PROPOSED BUDGET

Ms. JACKSON LEE. As I move to another topic, I would like to say that this is a message to my constituents and the American people.

As you have heard in the news, and were probably frightened by the excerpts, I hold in my hand a budget for America's future. This was offered by the President of the United States. It is frightening in its attack on the basic security, domestic security, of the American people.

I would venture to say that even our young soldiers have found the need for their families to sometimes have assistance with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, food stamps. Tragically, this budget digs deep to hatchet away the basic safety net that we have come to understand is not a handout for working families who may be impoverished but a hand-up.

I am startled by the cuts, draconian cuts, in this document. I am startled by \$1.6 trillion in cuts for Medicare and Medicaid.

I am startled by, in the midst of the coronavirus, a more than \$4 billion cut in funding for the NIH and the Centers for Disease Control, the very entities that provide lifesaving research and possible cures for the American people and people around the world.

The World Health Organization is begging to go into China at this time, and they are looking to have American researchers who are ready and able to

go, to determine how to stop, how to determine the origins, and how to thwart what might be a horrific pandemic around the world. How can you cut \$4 billion?

Then, the precious children in my congressional district, I have the privilege of representing a number of school districts, not just one, but a good number of school districts. Every day, the administrators, teachers, and parents, dropping their beautiful children off, are looking for an opportunity so that they, too, might serve and contribute to this great Nation. Yet, a number that is so startling it takes your breath away: \$6.2 billion in cuts for education.

After Hurricane Harvey, with 51 trillion gallons of floodwater, people are still suffering from the losses of their homes, still trying to fix flooding areas and mitigate the damage through infrastructure work. Yet, \$1.7 billion has been cut from those needs of people who have experienced heinous and horrific natural disasters and still need the repairs that are necessary.

Of course, every child knows that climate change is real. So in this Nation—the innovative, important leader of the world—we are slashing the dollars for climate research.

We are not aware as well, I guess, in this administration, that terrorism is on the rise, domestic terrorism in particular. But we must also be vigilant for the terrorism that brought down the Twin Towers on 9/11. Yet, those dollars are being cut from FEMA, \$746.9 million.

Then, let me say, as I close, that we are also saying to those who are unsheltered, the homeless, those who seek better housing, that they, too, can't get housing. Affordable housing for the homeless and others is now waning.

Mr. Speaker, I ask to defeat this budget, as we will.

#### HONORING LITTLETON ALSTON

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I rise to recognize Littleton Alston for his lifetime contributions in the fine art of sculpting, both as a renowned artist and as a professor.

Littleton was born in Petersburg, Virginia, and grew up in northeast Washington, D.C., where he had his first encounter with great art and public sculpture. He still vividly remembers looking from his home down East Capitol Street and seeing the Capitol dome.

His mother, who was divorced and raising five children on her own, acknowledged and recognized a unique gift that Littleton seemed to possess: drawing. Her devotion and his talent helped him land an opportunity to attend the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C., where he graduated from high school.

Awarded a scholarship to Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, he received his bachelor of fine arts degree in sculpture and went on to earn his master of fine arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art's Rinehart Graduate School of Sculpture in Baltimore.

There, he was the recipient of the school's top honor, the Rinehart Award. In 1989, he was accepted to the artist residency program at the Bemis Center of Contemporary Arts in Omaha. A year later, he joined the faculty of Omaha's Creighton University, where he has attained the rank of full professor of sculpture.

For the past 30 years, he has consistently given back to the community. Littleton served on the Omaha Public Art Commission for 9 years, and he has volunteered often for local charities and community service groups. He is especially proud of his educational outreach, having often led classes and workshops at schools in low-income neighborhoods.

In 2013, he was recognized by the city of Omaha for his artistic and civic contributions with a Community Excellence Award and by Governor Dave Heineman with the Community Development Excellence Award.

Littleton says he chose the art of sculpting because he believes sculpture is the best vehicle through which he can best express the joys and sorrows of the human condition. He says that he has explored many mediums and conceptual approaches. As an artist, he tries to convey the beauty and power of the sculpted form.

Littleton Alston has been commissioned to create a variety of sculptural projects, including monumental bronze figures such as: The Archangel Michael, Christ Among Children, Dr. Martin Luther King, Baseball Legend Bob Gibson, St. Ignatius of Loyola, and many others.

His work has included international artist residencies. In 2019, Littleton was selected from applicants from across the country to create a larger-than-life-size bronze statue portraying Willa Cather, a sculpture that will be one of the two statues representing the great State of Nebraska in the U.S. Capitol.

This achievement is a hallmark for our country and a homecoming for Littleton, who will become the first African American artist to create a work to be displayed in the Statuary Hall collection, a compelling achievement, 50 years in the making, for a young man who grew up in eyeshot of the Statue of Freedom.

This wonderful addition to these hallowed Halls will be dedicated to his late mother, Gilbertha Otelia Alston, a fitting tribute to the person who helped cultivate his great talent at an early age.

We are proud that Littleton; his wife, Anne; and his children, Sarah, Taylor, and Daniel, call Omaha, Nebraska, home.

I salute and thank Littleton for his impression upon the community, which will be felt for years to come.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 27 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Cheryl Coleman Hall, Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

God of infinite wisdom, of faithfulness, of mercy, of justice and love, we gather in this place at this hour by grace, and we are grateful.

We pray for clarity of mind for the work of service that must be accomplished by each one here. We pray that they will use today wisely, for today will become yesterday, and today is creating tomorrow.

We pray that broken places are made straight and the bridges we are building are strong and mighty, for we all must walk upon them.

We pray for the persons who support them, the family members, support staff, the unnamed and unknown as they carry out the awesome responsibilities of being their brothers and sisters, communities, and country's keepers.

As we gather, charged with the awesome responsibilities for which we have been called, we are reminded of all that is divine, all that is good, all that is merciful in each of us. And we pray that each of us is able to unabashedly declare at the end of the day, with sincere hearts: May the works I have done speak for me.

In the name of the One who reveals truth, the One who is the light that is showing in the darkness that cannot be extinguished, we offer this prayer.

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 Arkansas (Mr.

CRAWFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CRAWFORD 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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

#### NEW YORK WILL NEVER FORGET FLIGHT 3407 AND NEITHER SHOULD CONGRESS

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, this week marks the 11th anniversary of the tragic crash of Continental flight 3407.

On February 12, 2009, flight 3407 crashed in Clarence Center, New York, killing all passengers and crew members on board and one person on the ground. The National Transportation Safety Board determined that the crash was due to pilot error and inexperience.

Thanks to tireless advocacy of the families of flight 3407 who lost loved ones in the crash, reforms like 1500 hours of flight training for first officers have been enacted. However, more than a decade later, we still anxiously await implementation of the pilot records database to allow airlines to access records of pilots applying for jobs.

Madam Speaker, western New York will never forget flight 3407 and neither should Congress. I urge my colleagues to continue to strive for One Level of Safety and remain vigilant about aviation and safety standards.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BILLIE SUE HOGGARD

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my close friend Billie Sue Hoggard, who passed away on Sunday evening.

Billie Sue was a lifelong public servant, a political pioneer, and a devout follower of Jesus. She was a nationally board-certified teacher.

Countless students in my hometown of Jonesboro, Arkansas, across five decades and four schools, were blessed to find themselves in her classroom.

She was selected for three international teaching exchanges in China, Japan, and Mexico. Her passion for teaching could not be extinguished, coming out of a well-deserved retirement just a few years ago to go back into the classroom.

Her service to the community extended to public office as well. She was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee as justice of the peace on the Craighead County Quorum Court and as the commissioner for the Arkansas Educational Television Network.

Under her leadership of the Craighead County GOP, the county flipped all legislative seats and well over half of countywide offices. In 2017, she was awarded the "Hi, I'm Frank White" Award, the highest distinction given by the Arkansas GOP.

Billie Sue is survived by her four children and seven grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask Congress to join me in offering condolences to her family and commemorating the life and achievements of an incredible leader and servant.

God bless Billie Sue Hoggard's memory.

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#### THE DONALD TRUMP BUDGET CUTS OVER \$1.5 TRILLION FROM MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, last week Donald Trump came onto this House floor, looked the American people in the eye, and he stated: "... we will always protect your Medicare, and we will always protect your Social Security."

That statement is false. We know that statement is false because Donald Trump released his budget, and the Donald Trump budget cuts over \$1.5 trillion from Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

Let me say that again.

The Donald Trump budget cuts over \$1.5 trillion from Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

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#### CONGRATULATIONS, CHARLES WAITES McCABE

(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, congratulations to Charles Waites McCabe, a freshman at A.C. Flora High School in Columbia, son of John and Amanda McCabe.

Next Sunday, Charles will receive the extraordinary award of Eagle Scout from Troop 10 at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. He is preceded by his brother, John Franklin McCabe, Jr.; and his first cousins, Michael Joseph

Harty III, Daniel McCabe Hartly, and Christopher Robert McCabe; as well as his uncle, Robert Ainsley McCabe, Jr., in earning this prestigious honor with the Boy Scouts of America.

Charles has also been elected senior patrol leader in Troop 10, serving with Scoutmaster Flynn Bowie, as well as being elected to the Order of the Arrow.

As the father of four sons who are Eagle Scouts, I am grateful to attend courts of honor such as for Charles. This weekend, it was inspiring to be with Andrew Talkish at St. Simon and St. Jude Episcopal Church in Irmo.

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

Congratulations to Coach Dawn Staley on her continuing victories for the Gamecock women's basketball.

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#### A SIMPLE, YET PROFOUND ACT

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

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, 60 years ago this month, four African American students from North Carolina A&T performed a simple, yet profound act. They sat at Woolworth's lunch counter in front of a detestable "Whites Only" sign. They were called rabble-rousers, troublemakers, and worse. They did not yield.

In the days that followed, more students joined them, including my friend, Clarence Henderson. By continuing to sit, they were actually standing up for their God-given constitutional rights as Americans.

They may not have known it at the time, but their act of courage lit a fire of freedom that spread across our country, all the way to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial where Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke to us about his dream of a more just tomorrow.

Madam Speaker, this Black History Month, we remember the brave sacrifices that were made by so many so that each and every American would never again be judged, as Dr. King said, by the color of our skin but, instead, "by the content of their character."

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#### CONGRATULATING BUTLER COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON THEIR RECENT ACHIEVEMENT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Butler County Community College on their recent achievement. The college was recognized as the number one community college in Pennsylvania.

This is quite an achievement, but Butler County Community College is no stranger to success. For the fifth

time since 2015, BCCC has been recognized as the best of the best in the Commonwealth. This annual accolade, presented by BestColleges.com, assesses academic quality, affordability, and online competency to determine who provides the best overall experience for students.

Butler County Community College is setting learners of all ages and backgrounds up for success by providing an affordable education that readies students for a 21st century workforce. Thanks to this model, BCCC students are graduating with more opportunities and less debt.

I am proud of the educational excellence that Butler County Community College has to offer for students in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District and the surrounding area, and they are certainly well deserving of this recognition.

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#### REPEAL THE ABORTION MANDATE OR RISK LOSING IMPORTANT FEDERAL FUNDS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, last month, Health and Human Services issued a notice of violation to my home State of California that is in direct violation of the Weldon amendment, by requiring all health insurers to cover abortions in their plans.

Governor Newsom has 11 days left to comply with Federal law by repealing the abortion mandate or risk losing important Federal funds.

In the shadow of the 47th anniversary of *Rowe v. Wade*, it is important that we buck the status quo that increasingly takes human life for granted. While Governor Newsom continues to blatantly disregard people's personal and religious views, I will continue to stand here as part of the fight to make sure Americans are never forced to pay for other people's abortions.

Madam Speaker, I urge Governor Newsom to quickly repeal California's abortion mandate and get back in line with the rule of law.

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#### GREAT NEWS ON THE ECONOMY THIS WEEK

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

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, great news on the economy this week: The economy added 225,000 jobs in January, and unemployment for Americans is at a 50-year low.

But the booming economy has resulted in worker shortages throughout the economy, whether it is for Aubrey Vincent of Lindy's Seafood in my district or for Alan Jones at Manor View Farms.

Right now, there are simply more seasonable jobs open than there are

Americans available to fill them. And tens of thousands of full-time American jobs rely on the availability of sufficient temporary H-2B visa workers to meet temporary seasonal labor needs.

Today, I rise to thank the Trump administration for its past decisions to release extra temporary H-2B visas. I realize that Congress should have determined the number needed and included that in legislation, but Congress failed, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the administration to continue to support these seasonal businesses and release an adequate number of additional H-2B visas.

□ 1215

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2546, COLORADO WILDERNESS ACT OF 2019; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 79, REMOVING DEADLINE FOR RATIFICATION OF EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 844 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 844

*Resolved*, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2546) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this section and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-50 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of

the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 79) removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the joint resolution shall be considered as adopted. The joint resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 3. House Resolution 842 is hereby adopted.

SEC. 4. On any legislative day during the period from February 14, 2020, through February 24, 2020—

(a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and

(b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 5. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 4 of this resolution as though under clause 8(a) of rule I.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, on Monday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 844, providing for consideration of two measures, H.R. 2546, Protecting America's Wilderness Act, and H.J. Res. 79, Removing Deadline for Ratification of Equal Rights Amendment.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2546 under a structured rule, with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Natural

Resources. It makes in order 12 amendments and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 79 under a closed rule, with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule deems as passed H. Res. 842, a resolution to clarify that a simple majority is needed for passage of H.J. Res. 79.

Finally, the rule provides for standard district work period instructions from February 14 through February 24.

Madam Speaker, it has been almost 100 years since the equal rights amendment was first introduced in Congress. It has been 45 years since it was passed by Congress. In this year, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote in this country, it defies logic that we are still in a holding pattern when it comes to recognizing the equal rights of women under the United States Constitution.

Therefore, I am proud to oversee the rule for H.J. Res. 79, which will remove the questionable deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

When Alice Paul, Crystal Eastman, and other suffragists and women's rights pioneers set out to pass the equal rights amendment, they knew they had a long and fierce battle ahead of them. The first version of the ERA was introduced in 1923, and it took almost 50 years for both the House and the Senate to approve it. When the amendment was finally approved in 1972, the preamble to the amendment contained a 7-year deadline for ratification.

Thirty-five of the 38 required States ratified the ERA in their State legislatures during that initial 7-year timeline. The ERA had broad bipartisan support from Members of Congress and Presidents Nixon, Carter, and Ford but was unable to cross the finish line in the brief time allowed.

Why the ERA did not become a constitutional amendment in the seventies is up for debate, but it was in large part due to vicious, antifeminist rhetoric and actions by conservative activists who sought to trample on the rights of all women to work for an equal wage, to control their own reproductive health, and to participate as equal members of our society, in the name of protecting the traditional values of a privileged few.

In the years that followed, courts have recognized and protected various aspects of women's equality under the law through interpretation of the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause. But as even Justice Antonin Scalia famously recognized, nothing in our Constitution, as currently written, forbids discrimination on the basis of sex.

Therefore, final passage and ratification of the ERA is critical in guaranteeing equal rights to me, to you, to my daughter, and to all women and girls across this country. We will not go back.

The equal rights amendment would permanently and explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. Laws change, as do the people interpreting them, but we are a Nation governed by our Constitution. The rights given to us through the Constitution are inalienable, and the protections they provide us with are invaluable.

We hear from the other side of the aisle that discrimination against women is already illegal. This argument might be more persuasive if it was not being presented by a party that is, if anything, less diverse than it was in the 1970s. When a party reflects a predominantly White, male, and conservative voter base, it is easy to see why that party might not understand the need for basic additional constitutional protections.

Women continue to face obstacles to full equality, including unequal pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual and domestic violence, and inadequate healthcare access. One in three women experience sexual violence in their lifetimes; one in five women are sexually assaulted on college campuses; and 56 percent of girls in grades 7 through 12 are sexually harassed in any given school year. Moreover, 60 to 70 percent of women face sexual harassment during their careers, with Black and Brown women disproportionately impacted.

Women are paid less than their male counterparts for equal work. Women are treated differently in job interviews and can be determined a burden for a company if they are pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant. These indiscretions are only compounded when we look at women of color and women with disabilities.

Women in general in this country make 80 cents to a man's dollar. Women with disabilities make about 65 cents to a man's dollar and 7 cents less than a man with disabilities. Black women make about 63 cents on a White man's dollar; Native women make about 57 cents; and Hispanic women make approximately 54 cents on a White man's dollar. The wages for trans women fall by nearly one-third after transitioning.

A woman who works full-time year-round typically loses \$430,480 in a 40-year work-life period. That means this woman would have to work nearly 11 years longer to make up this lifetime wage gap.

This also has a serious financial impact on retirement. The average Social Security benefit for women 65 and older is about \$13,867 per year, compared to \$18,039 for men of the same age.

So, I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: If paying women less than men is already illegal, if treating women differently in the workplace and other professional settings is already prohibited by existing law, why does it still happen?

The answer is simple: because it is relatively easy to navigate around ex-

isting laws to protect women. It is easy to treat women differently in a way that is legal and in line with the law.

That is unacceptable, and that is why we need the equal rights amendment.

When women earn less for equal work, families earn less for equal work. If you choose to deliberately short-change the American family and deny them financial security, then, clearly, we have different values.

Although the ERA was passed with bipartisan support, and strong support from Republican women, we saw in the Rules Committee last night and in debate about this rule and bill that the spirit of the late Phyllis Schlafly has overtaken today's Republican Party, which now seeks to cloak deep-seated misogyny in anti-choice rhetoric.

Passing the equal rights amendment is long overdue. I am excited to be part of a Democratic majority that will remove this arbitrary deadline for ratification and finally allow States to exercise their constitutional authority to pass this critical and fundamentally American amendment.

This rule will also provide for consideration of H.R. 2546, the Protecting America's Wilderness Act. This is a package of public lands bills from the Natural Resources Committee that will designate more than 1.3 million acres as wilderness or potential wilderness areas, preserving those public lands for generations to come.

Few things in the United States are as universally cherished by Americans as public lands. Our country is home to more than 111 million acres of designated wilderness, and these lands help us to combat climate change, provide for an array of ecological diversity, and offer recreational activity to Americans, young and old.

As we continue to endure devastating and worsening effects of climate change, providing for millions of additional acres of wilderness allows for these areas to continue to serve as critical carbon sinks to capture and mitigate carbon dioxide in our atmosphere.

Additionally, wilderness areas are some of our most naturally resilient landscapes. This allows them to endure periodic wildfires and other disturbances, like floods, with relatively little human impact or intervention. This helps save the government money, as opposed to a more active style of forest management.

□ 1230

This legislation not only helps to combat climate change, it also supports access to clean water, protects pristine wildlife habitats, and bolsters the outdoor recreation economies of Colorado, California, Washington, and more.

The Protecting America's Wilderness Act was crafted in direct coordination with the stakeholders and local voices that it will impact. I thank Chairman GRIJALVA, Congresswoman DEGETTE, and the members of the Natural Resources Committee for the lengths they

went to in order to make this bill a success and one that will preserve and protect pristine wildlife habitats, clean water, and access to outdoor recreational opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative SCANLON for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Before I get to the points, I know that we differ on policy, but I have to tell you that I was offended by what I thought were racist and sexist comments made by my Democratic colleague about the Republican party makeup, and I totally disagree with her.

Madam Speaker, to begin, I would like to clarify what H.J. Res 79 is. It is not the equal rights amendment. It is a date change. The legislation is a joint resolution removing the deadline for ratification of the equal rights amendment in States that the amendment shall be valid and adopted as part of the Constitution whenever ratified by the legislatures of three-quarters of the States.

Democrats say this is about equal rights for women. Well, I am a woman, and so I, obviously, support equal rights for women. But I oppose H.J. Res 79 for the following reasons:

First: The bill is totally unconstitutional.

When the ERA originally passed on March 22, 1972, Congress explicitly set a deadline for ratification stating that the amendment shall be valid when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within 7 years from the date of its submission by the Congress. That meant that the final deadline was March 22, 1979, almost 41 years ago.

By the end of this initial deadline, only 35 of the 38 States needed had ratified it, so Congress with a simple majority vote, which is questionable, extended the deadline once to 1982, but no other States joined in ratification. Thus, the equal rights amendment was dead.

It is also imperative to note that five of the 35 States rescinded their ratifications. So then the count was down to only 30 States.

In fact, the U.S. Department of Justice issued a legal opinion just last month reiterating that the ERA ratification timeline is expired.

Ultimately, when the 1972 ERA's deadline passed without ratification by three-fourths of the States, the proposed amendment expired and is, therefore, no longer pending. The 1972 ERA, therefore, can no longer be ratified because it no longer exists.

In one of its works, the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, which we all turn to, states that the ERA formally died on June 30, 1982. The U.S. Supreme Court also dismissed all cases related to the ERA because it held the cases to be moot, saying that the ERA ratification date had expired.



Regardless of one's view on whether or not the equal rights amendment should be adopted, the fact remains that the equal rights amendment was not ratified by the necessary 38 States by the deadline set forth in the text of the amendment itself.

Just last night, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, certainly not known as a conservative, said Virginia's recent adoption of an ERA resolution was long after the deadline passed. She went on to say, "I would like to see a new beginning. I'd like it to start over. There's too much controversy about latecomers. Virginia—long after the deadline passed. Plus, a number of States have withdrawn their ratification." Remember the five I talked about. "So if you count a latecomer on the plus side, how can you disregard States that said we've changed our minds?" And deratified.

In addition, the Democrats' sneaky act to slip into this resolution language that would deem that a mere majority vote instead of the two-thirds vote needed on a constitutional amendment, has significant constitutional and legal ramifications.

Should my Democratic colleagues wish to proceed with seeking to add the ERA to the Constitution, the appropriate method would be to follow the procedure outlined in the Constitution: Passage by a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Congress, followed by ratification by three-quarters of the States. And it seems as recently as last night, Supreme Court Justice Ginsburg agrees.

Secondly: The ERA amendment is not necessary.

Women's equality of rights under the law is already recognized in our Constitution in the Fifth and 14th Amendments.

Women do deserve fairness and equality under the law. Through established law such as Title IX, the Equality Opportunity Act of 1963, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Pregnancy Discrimination Act, and Equal Pay Act, plus State and local laws, women have made huge strides against institutional discrimination against women in education, employment, sports, politics, and many other aspects of society.

The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently ruled that both the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment and the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment guarantee women equal protection under the law.

That is why the ACLU women's rights director Lenora Lapidus wrote in response to what Ms. SCANLON brought up about Justice Scalia, "it has been clearly understood that the 14th Amendment prohibits discrimination based on sex. In decision after decision, many authored by conservative Supreme Court Justices, this principle has been reaffirmed."

Third: If ratified, the ERA would be used by pro-abortion groups to undo pro-life legislation and lead to more

abortions and taxpayer funding of abortions.

Don't take my word for it. Let's look at what pro-abortion groups have done and what they are saying now.

Abortion activists have already utilized State-level ERAs to require taxpayer-funded abortion.

In 1998, the New Mexico Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the State ERA required the State to fund abortions since procedures sought by men like, prostate surgery, are funded. A lawsuit in Connecticut used similar arguments and achieved the same objective, full taxpayer-funded abortion.

In 2019, Planned Parenthood and Women's Law Center filed a lawsuit in Pennsylvania arguing that the Pennsylvania's ERA means abortion must be included in medical coverage for women because men aren't denied coverage for anything.

In another example, NARAL Pro-Choice America—which is a pro-abortion group—in a March 13, 2019, national alert asserted that the ERA would reinforce the constitutional right to abortion. It would require judges to strike down anti-abortion laws.

Further, in a 2019 letter to the House Judiciary Committee, the ACLU stated, "The equal rights amendment could provide an additional layer of protection against restrictions on abortion, contraception, and other forms of reproductive healthcare."

And the pro-ERA website itself, EqualRightsAmendment.org, explicitly states that ratifying the ERA into the U.S. Constitution would "provide a strong legal defense against a rollback of women's rights, including but not limited to *Roe v. Wade*."

In conclusion, H.J. Res 79 is unconstitutional. The ERA is unnecessary since constitutional, Federal, State and local laws already guarantee equal protections, and the ERA, if ratified, would be used by pro-abortion groups to undo pro-life laws.

Also included in this rule is H.R. 2546, the Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

My Republican colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee have expressed concern that each of the bills in this package will remove large swaths of land in rural areas from development, threaten the economic base of these regions, and reduce the effectiveness of fire prevention plans.

My Democratic colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee have continued the disappointing trend of moving bills that are not supported by the Members who represent the impacted lands. In fact, all the wilderness designations in H.R. 2546 are located outside the bill sponsor's district. Instead, most are located in Representative SCOTT TIPTON from Colorado's district, who opposes the bill.

One of the greatest concerns about this piece of legislation is that significant opposition from local counties, communities, and stakeholder groups

seem to go ignored. The consensus is that these bills will negatively impact individual homeowners, agricultural entities, water providers, first responders, and the recreation tourism industry.

Today, it seems what we simply have before us are examples of:

Legislating in other Members' districts without their support or any attempt to collaborate.

Increased risk of wildfires due to the lack of management and inability to use mechanical means to fight or prevent fire within all newly designated wilderness areas.

Lack of support from local leaders and stakeholders across each of the bills in this legislation.

Concerns about threats to private property rights when the vast majority of land proposed to be added to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area is non-Federal.

I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, certainly we see a laundry list of reasons for opposition to this bill.

We hear that it is unconstitutional. Although, in fact, nothing in the Constitution speaks to deadlines that Congress may set.

We usually hear our colleagues from across the aisle invoking Justice Ginsburg to argue that for some reason we should start over with this century-long process.

Justice Ginsburg has obviously been a champion on these issues, and to the extent that remarks that she has made are being quoted, I understand that they were expressing a personal view about the ideal circumstances in which the ERA could pass, not a legal view about what is required.

It is probably better to remember that Justice Ginsburg has been a champion for the ERA since it was approved by both Houses of Congress in a bipartisan way in the 1970s. And as she reiterated just yesterday, "The union will be more perfect when that simple statement—that men and women are persons of equal citizenship stature—is part of our fundamental instrument of government."

Please note, this is a tactic of distracting and dividing. Last night I asked our colleague if he would be willing to vote for the ERA if, in fact, we were to start over, which he said he would not. And we certainly do not see members of the Republican party saying that they would vote for the ERA if it would be reintroduced.

What we are seeing here is simply an effort to quash the ERA, to end it, to put it to rest, to not have it be made part of our Constitution.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE).

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise today in order to form a more perfect union, and I do that by supporting today's rule and the underlying



resolution which will finally allow for the 28th Amendment to the Constitution, the equal rights amendment.

The equal rights amendment will enshrine the fundamental principle that every American be afforded equal rights under the law, including women.

In 1971 and 1972, Congress overwhelmingly passed the equal rights amendment. And just a few weeks ago Virginia became the 38th State to ratify it and the last State needed to amend our Constitution.

□ 1245

H.J. Res. 79 would remove the deadline for States to ratify the equal rights amendment, clearing the path for full equality of rights for women.

Because women are still subject to significant pay disparities and sexual harassment, our work is far from over.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support today's rule and the underlying resolution and join me in voting for a more perfect union.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), my good friend.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to oppose H.J. Res. 79. This resolution seeks to unconstitutionally remove the deadline for ratification of the equal rights amendment.

In 1972, Madam Speaker, when I was 10 years old, Congress originally set the deadline for ratification at 7 years by two-thirds vote. Before the original time period expired, Congress then passed a 3-year extension, which also passed before the necessary number of States ratified the amendment.

Today, 37 years after the constitutional time has expired, it is quite clear that, because of a new focus on a so-called right to taxpayer-funded abortion, the equal rights amendment does not have support from a two-thirds majority of Congress or, likely, from two-thirds of the States, certainly, as we have seen at least five States have already rescinded.

Instead of following the guidance of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and starting the amendment process over again as the Founders intended—and this is, let me just say, Madam Speaker, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg's legal view as a member of the U.S. Supreme Court. It is her legal view. It is her constitutional view. Instead, Democrats are attempting, today, to retroactively and unconstitutionally remove this deadline by a simple majority vote.

For decades, Congress has expressed the will of the American people and not used taxpayer dollars for abortion. Whether they were Democrat or Republican Presidents, split Chambers of Congress or one party in control of both branches of government, there has been bipartisan agreement on appropriations language to limit taxpayer-funded abortions and support basic pro-life protections across our country.

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

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Missouri.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, if the Democrat majority wants to test that bipartisan agreement and upend decades of precedent, they are welcome to use the simple, clear process laid out in Article V of the Constitution to propose and adopt a new and legal ERA amendment.

Let me be clear, Madam Speaker. I support equal rights for women, as does the U.S. Constitution, but skirting that process for partisan gain sets a dangerous and un-American precedent.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to protect our democracy and to vote "no."

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

I include in the RECORD a January 15 New York Times article, entitled: "Why the Equal Rights Amendment is Back."

[From the New York Times, Jan. 15, 2020]

WHY THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IS BACK

(By Patrick J. Lyons, Maggie Astor and Maya Salam)

Of all the laws the Virginia legislature may pass now that Democrats have won control of it, none have been so long in the making as the Equal Rights Amendment. First proposed almost a century ago and passed by Congress in 1972, the E.R.A., which would add a provision to the Constitution guaranteeing equal rights to men and women, could have sweeping implications if it takes effect.

Both houses of the Virginia Legislature approved the ratification resolution on Wednesday. Supporters hope that will lift the amendment over the threshold to become part of the federal Constitution. But there is considerable dispute over whether the state's action will have any legal effect or merely be symbolic.

Here's what it is all about.

What does the amendment say?

The E.R.A. is three sentences long, and the key one is the first: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The other two are about putting it into effect.

By some estimates, 80 percent of Americans mistakenly believe that women and men are already explicitly guaranteed equal rights by the Constitution. But it currently does so only for the right to vote. The amendment is intended to remedy that omission.

Supporters say adopting the E.R.A. would, among other things, sweep away discrimination in the workplace; help women to achieve pay equality and allow men to get paid paternity leave; require states to intervene in cases of domestic violence and sexual harassment; and guard against discrimination based on pregnancy and motherhood. It may bolster protections for gay and transgender people as well.

Opponents have argued that the amendment would, among other things, undermine family structure; intrude on religious practice; and lead to the outlawing of separate men's and women's bathrooms, single-sex college dormitories and other accommodations. Some also argue that the E.R.A. is unnecessary because the 14th Amendment already guarantees everyone the "equal pro-

tection of the laws." The Supreme Court has indeed read the 14th Amendment to ban many forms of sex discrimination. But supporters of the E.R.A. say there are still gaps in existing laws, both at the federal and state level, that need to be addressed comprehensively.

How did the amendment stall, and come back to life?

Amendments to the Constitution require the assent of three-quarters of the states—these days, 38 out of 50—to take effect. When Congress passed the amendment in 1972, it set a deadline for reaching that goal—originally 1979, later extended to 1982. But only 35 states ratified the amendment in time, in large part because of an opposition campaign led by Phyllis Schlafly, a proudly anti-feminist Republican.

There the issue lay until 2017, when a Democratic state senator in Nevada, Pat Spearman, persuaded the Legislature to ratify the amendment, even though the deadline had long passed. That move revived interest across the country, and Illinois followed suit in 2018. An effort in Virginia fell short a year ago, but after Democrats won in November, they promised to try again.

Is Virginia's assent enough to get to 38 states?

That's a bit cloudy. Virginia is the 38th state to approve the Equal Rights Amendment, but over the years, five of those states—Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska, South Dakota and Tennessee—have voted to rescind their ratifications, and it is possible that opponents would challenge the amendment on that basis.

They would not have precedent on their side. After the Civil War, several states tried to take back their ratifications of either the 14th or 15th Amendments, but they were counted in the Yes column anyway, and all of those states later re-ratified the amendments.

What about the deadline?

That is the big question now. It could be repealed, or challenged in court, or both.

Most amendments to the Constitution have not had explicit ratification deadlines. The most recent one, the 27th, had been pending for more than 200 years before it was finally ratified in 1992.

Supporters argue that the deadline for the E.R.A. is unenforceable because it is stated only in the preamble to the amendment, and not in the amendment itself.

The Supreme Court said in 1921 that amendments had to be ratified within a reasonable time after passage, and that Congress had the authority to set a deadline, as it has almost always done since then. But in 1939, the court ruled that the question of whether ratification of an amendment was timely and valid was "non-justiciable"—in other words, it was up to Congress, and none of the courts' business.

Congress extended the deadline for the Equal Rights Amendment once—by three years—and supporters say it could do so again, or repeal the deadline entirely. A bill to do that was introduced in the Democratic-controlled House in April and attracted broad support. It would also have to pass the Republican-controlled Senate, where its prospects are less clear, though it has sponsors there from both parties.

Legal experts disagree, however, on whether Congress has the power to remove the deadline retroactively, and that issue could land in court.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, for nearly a century, advocates have tried to add a provision to the Constitution guaranteeing equal rights to men and

women. By some estimates, 80 percent of Americans mistakenly believe that women and men are already explicitly guaranteed equal rights by our Constitution, but it currently does so only for the right to vote. The equal rights amendment will help remedy that omission.

It is necessary that Congress consider this amendment to the Constitution to help women achieve pay equality, require States to intervene in cases of domestic violence and sexual harassment, and guard against discrimination based on pregnancy and motherhood.

Contrary to the arguments we are hearing today, this is not an abortion amendment; this is equal rights for women.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I am waiting for another speaker, but I will yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, there are a couple of things that my colleague from the Rules Committee, Ms. SCANLON, said. She said something to the effect of nothing in the Constitution sets a deadline. Well, I have to disagree with that. Actually, it is not just me; it is the Supreme Court. A 1921 Supreme Court decision, *Dillon v. Gloss*, affirmed that:

Congress has the power to fix the definite time limit for ratification of a proposed constitutional amendment under its authority to determine the mode of ratification for an amendment under Article V of the Constitution.

As I said before, this expired back in 1979. I mean, that is 41 years ago. Then, of course, back then, Congress came forward, and my understanding is they just did a majority vote instead of the two-thirds that I believe is needed to deal with a constitutional amendment.

But no other States had ratified. In fact, by the 1979 deadline, five States had withdrawn their ratification. So you were at 35, then it went down to 30, and it is dead.

When my colleague says Justice Ginsberg supports the ERA, I know that. That is my point. She does support the ERA. But even she said we need to start all over again because the deadline has passed.

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to make in order a resolution to prevent any moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing on Federal lands unless authorized by Congress.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, this amendment would affirm that States

should maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing and prevent any President from imposing a ban on hydraulic fracturing.

Many of the Democratic candidates for President have pledged to ban hydraulic fracturing in the United States, a campaign promise straight out of the “keep it in the ground” playbook.

While this widely used practice is often vilified by proponents of the Green New Deal, in fact, hydraulic fracturing is heavily regulated by the States and governed by stringent industry standards throughout the country.

Thanks to hydraulic fracturing, U.S. gas bills have fallen by \$13 billion collectively every year from 2007 to 2013. The U.S. is leading the way in emissions reductions through innovation in the energy sector. In 2017, U.S. carbon emissions reached the lowest level ever since 1992, and per capita emissions reached the lowest level since 1950.

And, very importantly, the U.S. has become an energy exporter, and we no longer have to rely on OPEC oil like we did in the 1970s. Fracking and U.S. energy independence strengthens our national security.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. ARMSTRONG), my good friend.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding, and I join the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) in urging my colleagues to defeat the previous question so we can consider H. Res. 659.

Hydraulic fracturing provides enormous benefits to the American people, including energy security, national security, economic growth, and reduced carbon emissions.

The Baaken oil patch, stretching across western North Dakota, is an essential contributor to producing 1.5 million barrels of oil per day and over 2 billion cubic feet of associated gas per day.

The United States is uniquely situated in the world economy. We are one of the very few if not the only country that is both food and energy secure. I am proud that North Dakota is a big part of that energy security.

Let us not forget that a mere 10 years ago, if Iran would have shot down a U.S. drone, seized the British ship in the Strait of Hormuz, conducted a terrorist attack on a Saudi oil facility, and shot rockets at U.S. troops in Iraq, oil would have skyrocketed to over \$115 a barrel and stayed there.

Do you know what happened the day after those attacks? Oil went down \$1.29.

Fracking directly employs over 2 million Americans, including 35,000 people in my home State.

In 2020, the U.S. is expected to become a net energy exporter.

In 2019, we doubled our natural gas exports.

Fracking offsets other carbon energy sources, which the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has noted

was an important reason for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S.

With continued technological advancements like carbon capture storage and utilization, we can continue to develop these American energy reserves while decreasing carbon emissions.

Simply put, America is stronger and our enemies are weaker because of fracking. Any attempt to ban or limit fracking makes us less safe and less prosperous.

A fracking ban will do nothing to reduce carbon emissions—in fact, it will do the opposite—but it will destroy my entire State’s economy and send us back to the days where we rely on OPEC to fuel our economy.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, may I inquire if the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) is prepared to close. We are prepared to close.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my good friend.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Part of one of the underlying bills, H.R. 2546, the Protecting America’s Wilderness Act, includes language to expand the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area by some 191,000 acres, an area known as the Rim of the Valley Corridor.

In 2008, Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to study whether to designate all or a portion of the Rim of the Valley Corridor as part of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. In 2016, the National Park Service recommended an expansion of 173,000 acres.

The bill today expands the area by more than that to 191,000 acres, including new areas that were not listed in the study. They are completely disconnected from the Rim of the Valley Corridor; yet they are included in the exclusion.

□ 1300

In addition, the National Park Service testified in June 2019 against the proposed expansion of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, citing a need to focus resources on the deferred maintenance backlog.

The proposed land expansion would include Soledad Canyon, a mineral-rich area where the Bureau of Land Management has issued contracts to mine millions of tons of sand and gravel for southern California. Our strong economy has led to an increase in manufacturing and construction. The problem is that the supply of construction materials, like those that can be found in this area, is declining.

This legislation, the underlying legislation, would make it incredibly onerous for contracted companies to move forward with agreed-upon projects. Democrats often talk about the importance of a large infrastructure bill, yet the passage of this bill would increase the costs of essential materials that such projects do require.

The bottom line is that the land under consideration is currently in dispute, and decisions that will significantly change the landscape and activity of an area should not occur without consensus.

Last night, the Rules Committee reported a rule that included consideration of two amendments that may help address these concerns. Representative McCLINTOCK offered an amendment to allow the Secretary of Agriculture or Secretary of the Interior to exclude from wilderness designations any areas that do not meet the definition of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act.

Representative WESTERMAN offered an amendment to strike all designations of potential wilderness under the bill.

Those are commonsense amendments, and when the appropriate time comes, I urge all Members to support the amendments. The underlying bill is flawed, and I will oppose it on passage.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close if the gentlewoman from Arizona is prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I want to urge my Democratic colleagues to halt their attempts to change the rules and bring back an expired amendment that would rewrite our Constitution. Not only is this unprecedented, but it is wrong, and it is unconstitutional.

I believe Congress should oppose pointless legislation to remove the deadline and focus, instead, on upholding women's rights, dignity, and opportunity.

I urge my colleagues to reject this resolution and work together to promote truly helpful legislation for women.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on the previous question and "no" on the underlying resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, H.J. Res. 79 is a long-overdue, bedrock civil rights effort, while the Protecting America's Wilderness Act is an effort that took input from a broad coalition of stakeholders to end up with a bill to positively impact local communities and further our national interest in preventing climate change.

As Members of Congress, we have a duty to uphold and protect the Constitution and the charge of our Founders to continue to form a more perfect Union. Passing the equal rights amendment is truly representative of that oath to ensure that all Americans are treated equally and afforded equal rights under the law.

I would like to recognize some of the women in organizations who have gotten us to this point: Alice Paul, who graduated from college in my district; Crystal Eastman; Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, who issued the

first public call for women's equality at Seneca Falls in 1848; the National Organization for Women and the League of Women Voters, which organized and activated so many Americans of both parties in support of this movement; and so many of the other countless advocates who have fought tirelessly for women's equality.

This resolution is for all of them and for all the women and girls seeking to further advance equality and fighting for a more just America.

This resolution is a bold step forward in the ongoing fight for equal rights. I recognize that I would not be here without the sacrifices made by the women who came before me. Their passion and strength paved the way for me and for so many of my colleagues to get to where we are today.

But the battle is not yet won. Let's pass this rule, pass this resolution, and show our children that all Americans deserve equal rights and protection under the Constitution.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mrs. LESKO is as follows:

#### AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 844

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 6. That immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 659) affirming that States should maintain primacy for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing for oil and natural gas production on State and private lands and that the President should not declare a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing on Federal lands (including the Outer Continental Shelf), State lands, private lands, or lands held in trust for an Indian Tribe unless such moratorium is authorized by an Act of Congress. The first reading of the resolution shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the resolution are waived. General debate shall be confined to the resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the resolution shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the resolution are waived. When the committee rises and reports the resolution back to the House with a recommendation that the resolution be adopted, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and amendments thereto to adoption without intervening motion. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the resolution, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the resolution.

SEC. 7. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 659.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

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

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

Mrs. LESKO. Madam 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 question will be postponed.

#### 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.

#### SMITHSONIAN WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM ACT

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1980) to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1980

*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 "Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Since its founding, the United States has greatly benefitted from the contributions of women.

(2) Historical accounts, monuments, memorials, and museums disproportionately represent men's achievements and contributions and often neglect those of women. For example—

(A) a study of 18 American history textbooks concluded that 10 percent of the material documented contributions of women;

(B) 9 statues out of 91 in the United States Capitol's National Statuary Hall depict women; and

(C) only one of the 44 monuments operated by the National Park Service specifically honors the achievements of women after the 2016 designation of the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument.

(3) There exists no national museum in the United States that is devoted to the documentation of women's contributions throughout the Nation's history.

(4) Establishing a comprehensive women's history museum representing a diverse range of viewpoints, experience, and backgrounds is necessary to more accurately depict the history of the United States and would add value to the Smithsonian Institution.

#### SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF MUSEUM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, to be named by the Board of Regents in consultation with the council established under section 4.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the museum established under this section shall be to provide for—

(1) the collection, study, and establishment of programs relating to women's contributions to various fields and throughout different periods of history that have influenced the direction of the United States;

(2) collaboration with other Smithsonian Institution museums and facilities, outside museums, and educational institutions; and

(3) the creation of exhibitions and programs that recognize diverse perspectives on women's history and contributions.

#### SEC. 4. COUNCIL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a council to carry out the duties set forth under subsection (b) and other provisions of this Act.

##### (b) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The council established under this section shall—

(A) make recommendations to the Board of Regents concerning the planning, design, and construction of the museum established under section 3;

(B) advise and assist the Board of Regents on all matters relating to the administration, operation, maintenance, and preservation of the museum;

(C) recommend annual operating budgets for the museum to the Board of Regents;

(D) report annually to the Board of Regents on the acquisition, disposition, and display of objects relating to women's art, history, and culture; and

(E) adopt bylaws for the operation of the council.

(2) PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—The council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have sole authority to—

(A) purchase, accept, borrow, and otherwise acquire artifacts for addition to the collections of the museum;

(B) loan, exchange, sell, and otherwise dispose of any part of the collections of the museum, but only if the funds generated by that disposition are used for additions to the collections of the museum; or

(C) specify criteria with respect to the use of the collections and resources of the museum, including policies on programming, education, exhibitions, and research with respect to—

(i) the life, art, history, and culture of women;

(ii) the role of women in the history of the United States; and

(iii) the contributions of women to society.

(3) OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES.—The council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have authority—

(A) to provide for preservation, restoration, and maintenance of the collections of the museum; and

(B) to solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, and devises of personal property for the purpose of aiding and facilitating the work of the museum.

(4) ENSURING DIVERSITY OF POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS IN EXHIBITS AND PROGRAMS.—In carrying out its duties, the council shall ensure that the exhibits and programs of the museum reflect the diversity of the political viewpoints held by women of the United States on the events and issues relating to the history of women in the United States.

##### (c) COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The council shall be composed of 25 voting members as provided under paragraph (2).

(2) VOTING MEMBERS.—The council shall include the following voting members:

(A) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

(B) One member of the Board of Regents, appointed by the Board of Regents.

(C) 23 individuals appointed by the Board or Regents. In appointing members under

this subparagraph, the Board of Regents should give special consideration to appointing—

(i) members of the Congressional Commission;

(ii) board members of the National Women's History Museum, a nonprofit, educational organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that was incorporated in 1996 in the District of Columbia and that is dedicated for the purpose of establishing a women's history museum; and

(iii) scholars and representatives of organizations that are committed to the study of women's history.

(3) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Board of Regents shall make initial appointments to the council under paragraph (2) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

##### (d) TERMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, each appointed member of the council shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(2) INITIAL APPOINTEES.—As designated by the Board of Regents at the time of appointment, of the voting members first appointed under subparagraph (C) of subsection (c)(2)—

(A) 8 members shall be appointed for a term of 1 year;

(B) 8 members shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and

(C) 7 members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member of the council may be reappointed, except that no individual may serve on the council for a total of more than 2 terms. For purposes of this paragraph, the number of terms an individual serves on the council shall not include any portion of a term for which an individual is appointed to fill a vacancy under paragraph (4)(B).

##### (4) VACANCIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy on the council—

(i) shall not affect the powers of the council; and

(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(B) TERM.—Any member of the council appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

##### (e) COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a member of the council shall serve without pay.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the council shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the council.

(f) CHAIRPERSON.—By a majority vote of its voting members, the council shall elect a chairperson from its members.

##### (g) MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The council shall meet at the call of the chairperson or on the written request of a majority of the voting members of the council, but not fewer than twice each year.

(2) INITIAL MEETINGS.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the first meeting of the council, the council shall meet not fewer than 4 times for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the council under this subchapter.

(h) QUORUM.—A majority of the voting members of the council holding office shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of con-

ducting business, but a lesser number may receive information on behalf of the council.

#### SEC. 5. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF THE MUSEUM.

##### (a) DIRECTOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The museum established under section 3 shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary, taking into consideration individuals recommended by the council established under section 4.

(2) DUTIES.—The Director shall manage the museum subject to the policies of the Board of Regents.

(b) STAFF.—The Secretary may appoint two additional employees to serve under the Director, except that such additional employees may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service.

(c) PAY.—The employees appointed by the Secretary under subsection (b) may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

#### SEC. 6. EDUCATIONAL AND LIAISON PROGRAMS.

(a) PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.—The Director of the museum established under section 3 may carry out educational and liaison programs in support of the goals of the museum.

(b) COLLABORATION WITH SCHOOLS.—In carrying out this section, the Director shall carry out educational programs in collaboration with elementary schools, secondary schools, and postsecondary schools.

#### SEC. 7. BUILDING.

##### (a) IN GENERAL.—

##### (1) LOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Regents shall designate a site for the museum established under section 3.

(B) SITES FOR CONSIDERATION.—In designating a site under subparagraph (A), the Board of Regents shall select from among the following sites in the District of Columbia:

(i) The site known as the "South Monument site", located on the National Mall and bordered by 14th Street Northwest, Jefferson Drive Southwest, Raoul Wallenberg Place Southwest, and Independence Ave Southwest.

(ii) The Northwest United States Capitol site, bordered by 3rd Street Northwest, Constitution Avenue Northwest, 1st Street Northwest, and Pennsylvania Ave Northwest.

(iii) Any other appropriate location as identified by the Board of Regents in consultation with the council established under section 4.

##### (C) AVAILABILITY OF SITE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The sites described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B) shall remain available until the date on which the Board of Regents designates a site for the museum under subparagraph (A).

(ii) TRANSFER TO SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—If the site designated for the museum is in an area that is under the administrative jurisdiction of a Federal agency, as soon as practicable after the date on which the designation is made, the head of the Federal agency shall transfer to the Smithsonian Institution administrative jurisdiction over the area.

(D) FACTORS CONSIDERED.—In designating a site under subparagraph (A), the Board of Regents shall take into consideration each of the following factors:

(i) An estimate of the costs associated with each potential site.

(ii) An assessment of the suitability of the space of each potential site, including size, proximity to other buildings and transportation, and other external environmental conditions, as appropriate.

(iii) The recommendations of the Congressional Commission.

(E) CONSULTATION.—The Board of Regents shall carry out its duties under this paragraph in consultation with each of the following:

(i) The Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission.

(ii) The Chair of the Commission on Fine Arts.

(iii) The Chair of the Congressional Commission.

(iv) The chair and ranking minority member of the Committees on Appropriations and Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(v) The chair and ranking minority member of the Committees on Appropriations, House Administration, and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(F) PRIORITY.—In designating a site under subparagraph (A), the Board of Regents shall give priority to a site which is on or near the National Mall.

(b) CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING.—The Board of Regents, in consultation with the council established under section 4, may plan, design, and construct a building for the museum, which shall be located at the site designated by the Board of Regents under subsection (a).

(c) NONAPPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO MONUMENTS AND COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—Chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to the museum.

(d) COST SHARING.—The Board of Regents shall pay—

(1) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from Federal funds; and

(2) 50 percent of the costs of carrying out this section from non-Federal sources.

#### SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) The term “Board of Regents” means the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

(2) The term “Congressional Commission” means the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women’s History Museum, established under section 3056 of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3810).

(3) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

#### SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Smithsonian Institution to carry out this Act, including the planning, design, construction, and operation of the museum established under section 3, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2021 and each succeeding fiscal year.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization under this section shall remain available until expended.

(c) USE OF FUNDS FOR FUNDRAISING.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization under this section may be used to conduct fundraising in support of the museum established under section 3 from private sources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act.

H.R. 1980 will establish a comprehensive women’s history museum within the Smithsonian Institution. We cannot tell the story of America without telling the story of women in America.

From the days leading up to our founding through today, the United States has benefited from the contributions, accomplishments, and sacrifices of women.

In the 1760s, the Daughters of Liberty came together to protest unjust laws like the Townshend Acts, helping to spark the American Revolution. Soon after the Revolution, Abigail Adams urged her husband, John, and other Members of the First Continental Congress to: “Remember the ladies.” She would later become one of President Adams’ most influential advisers and confidants.

In the years leading up to the Civil War, Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery and guided dozens of slaves to freedom throughout the Underground Railroad, and she didn’t stop there. She went on to raise money for newly freed slaves and joined other women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony in their fight for women’s suffrage.

During World War II, 6.5 million women entered the labor force to support the war effort, including my own late mother, who helped build airplanes in south San Francisco to fight the Nazis. They were exercising new power with jobs outside the home, and this power has continued to grow over time, albeit more slowly than many of us would like.

Later in the 20th century, Rosa Parks sparked the Montgomery bus boycott, and Sandra Day O’Connor took the bench as the first woman ever appointed to the Supreme Court.

More recently, Speaker NANCY PELOSI became the first and second female Speaker of the House. In 2018, a record 102 women were elected to the House of Representatives.

However, these and countless other accomplishments by women notwithstanding, historical accounts, monuments, and museums disproportionately represent the achievements of men while neglecting those of women. Furthermore, studies have shown that history textbooks discuss the accomplishments of men exponentially more often than those of women. This should change.

The contributions and experiences of American women deserve celebration and recognition, and I can think of few better ways to celebrate and recognize

American women than by establishing a women’s history museum at the Smithsonian, our country’s preeminent museum and research institution.

The Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act mirrors the highly successful National Museum of African American History and Culture Act. Like that bill, this bill calls for a 50–50 split between Federal and non-Federal funding, a model that worked very well for the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

The House Administration Committee considered this legislation at a hearing with Secretary Lonnie Bunch in September. During our markup in November, we agreed to an amendment offered by the minority to ensure diversity of political viewpoints in exhibits and programs.

Women have come a long way since the Daughters of Liberty began boycotting British goods and organizing protests in the 1760s. But despite how far we have come, we still have a long way to go. I am hopeful that today, a century after women were granted the right to vote, we will take a critical step in creating a museum to recognize these achievements and inspire our daughters and our daughters’ daughters to follow in the footsteps of the incredible women who came before them as we continue our unending work to form a more perfect Union.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1980, which would establish a national women’s history museum within the Smithsonian Institution.

Throughout our history, women have made enduring and significant contributions to our Nation’s scientific, cultural, economic, artistic, and civic life. It is critical to preserve and share these stories because women’s history is America’s history.

That is why I, like the 293 bipartisan cosponsors of this bill, support a museum in our Nation’s Capital dedicated to showcasing these contributions.

This bill is the result of much hard work. A bipartisan commission extensively studied the complex issues surrounding the establishment of a museum. Their final report, issued in 2016, recommended the creation of a comprehensive national women’s history museum and that it be part of the Smithsonian Institution. H.R. 1980 embodies this recommendation.

It is critical that the eventual new museum reflects the full spectrum of views among American women, including conservative voices and opinions. During committee markup of this bill, my colleague MARK WALKER’s amendment to ensure the diversity of political viewpoints in the museum’s exhibits and programming was unanimously adopted.

The Smithsonian faces a challenging task ahead. Creating a new museum

takes an enormous amount of effort and resources, with cost estimates approaching \$650 million.

Further, the Smithsonian has ongoing major capital improvement projects, a nearly \$1 billion deferred maintenance backlog, and storage capacity issues.

As I have stated before, I think it is imperative that we, as policymakers, holistically consider all the multifaceted components with these projects and how they fit into the long-term strategic plan of the Smithsonian.

These are challenges but should not be obstacles to moving forward. With strong leadership at the Smithsonian and the partnership of Congress, a Smithsonian women's history museum can become a reality. I look forward to one day visiting it and sharing that experience with my own daughter.

Before I yield, I would like to commend my colleague across the aisle, Representative MALONEY, and my colleague standing to my right, the lead Republican sponsor, Mr. FITZPATRICK, on their dedication to pushing this bill through the legislative process. I thank both of them and their staffs for their hard work to get here.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, we are fortunate that the author of this bill, the gentlewoman from New York, is here with us today. She is someone who has been pursuing this idea for our country for so many years, and she would never give up until we got to this day.

Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), who has been tireless and persistent. We would not be here today without the effort of Chairwoman MALONEY.

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Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, ZOE LOFGREN, for her leadership in so many ways and for being part of this success today. It would not have happened without the gentlewoman, and I am deeply grateful.

There is a saying that women hold up half the sky. I would say that is an understatement. Women have made an incredible, lasting contribution to our country since its founding, yet there is not one comprehensive women's museum dedicated to women's achievements and their contributions to our great country anywhere in America.

We have sliver museums like an arts museum or First Ladies museum or an Annie Oakley museum or Women of the West, but not a comprehensive museum, which the Smithsonian is planning with research and the ability to have exhibits across the country to tell the story of American women.

Under the leadership of Speaker NANCY PELOSI and Majority Leader STENY HOYER, we will be changing that today by voting on H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act.

This is a bipartisan effort. We have an overwhelming number of cosponsors—293—thanks to the efforts of all of my colleagues, including Congressman BRIAN FITZPATRICK, who is the lead on the other side of the aisle; Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE; Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, who is chairing a committee meeting now; and the Problem Solvers Caucus led by JOSH GOTTHEIMER and TOM REED—bipartisan—Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS; and many, many others.

I am particularly grateful to Congressman FITZPATRICK for reaching out to me before this Congress even began to tell me he wanted to be a leader—as his brother was—on this bill and get it across the finish line.

I also express my appreciation to Michael Fitzpatrick, BRIAN's brother, who supported this bill as a leader for many years. He is greatly missed. He was a great statesman, and he is part of the success with us today.

The journey of this moment started for me with a walk around the National Mall. I was looking at all the museums, and I saw them dedicated to air, space, spies, law enforcement, textiles, the Postal Service, arts—all enriching institutions.

But I found myself asking: Where are the women?

Where is half the population of this country?

Today, with the passage of H.R. 1980, the House is taking a step toward changing that.

Unfortunately, women have been left out of the telling of our Nation's history. Sadly, if you walk around this Capitol, Madam Speaker, and you count the over 100 statues, only nine are of women.

If you look at our 2,500 National Historic Landmarks across our Nation, only 5 percent of our national landmarks honor women. And studies have shown women are underrepresented in the textbooks that we use in our public schools.

Getting to this point has been a very long road that took from 1998 to 2014 for Congress to finally pass my bill that I worked on for years with then-Representative MARSHA BLACKBURN to create a congressional commission to study the establishment of a women's museum.

This bipartisan commission was appointed by Republican and Democratic leadership and chaired by Jane Abraham, a Republican, who has become an incredible partner in this effort. Eighteen months later, the commissioners submitted a unanimous report that the U.S. needs and deserves—and it is long past due—a Smithsonian women's history museum and set out a vision of how to build it.

We took those recommendations and put them into a bill, with the Smithsonian's input, that is before us today.

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman an additional 1 minute.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today we will pass this important bill, and I hope the Senate will quickly do the same. I am grateful for the leadership of Senators COLLINS and FEINSTEIN who are leading this effort in the Senate.

My response to those who ask why this museum is so important is, if we do not even recognize women, how can we empower them?

We need the efforts and the ability to excel, but from all of our residents, male and female, to win in a competitive world. That is why this bill should be supported by every Member of this House and, hopefully, the Senate.

This is not about politics, it is not about partisanship, and it is not a Democrat or a Republican issue. It is an American issue recognizing the contributions of our mothers, our sisters, and our daughters. This is about giving all women our rightful place in history.

Madam Speaker, I thank ZOE LOFGREN so much, and I urge a strong, strong vote in support of this bill.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, again, I thank my colleague, Mrs. MALONEY, for making this bill a reality in partnership with my good friend, as I mentioned in my opening statements, Mr. FITZPATRICK.

This is the epitome of bipartisanship here on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Levittown, Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK), who left his favorite job out in the world as a special agent fighting corruption at the FBI.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member DAVIS for yielding, and I thank Chairwoman MALONEY for her leadership, her partnership, her friendship, and passion that she has shown to get us here today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly support the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act. I was proud to join the chairwoman in introducing this legislation last year. I am even happier to be here today to support it on the floor.

Madam Speaker, women's contributions to the development of our Nation are immense, however, only 5 percent of the approximately 2,400 national monuments honor women, and as the first museum in the United States dedicated to the full story of women's history, this museum will tell the diverse story of the women who helped shape the United States of America.

H.R. 1980 will finally establish a comprehensive women's history museum in the Smithsonian Institution. The museum will honor and document women's contributions to United States history and exhibit diverse perspectives across our history. For too long the contributions of women and the contributions that they have made to our



Nation have been overlooked and underappreciated. This is unacceptable. Women have been making contributions to America since our founding, and it is time that they get the recognition they deserve.

This bipartisan bill sends a message loud and clear that women deserve an entire museum to show the important role that they have played in building the greatest Nation on Earth. It is time for Congress to authorize the creation of this national museum, and I am proud to stand with Chairwoman MALONEY and all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, as the saying goes, if you can see it, you can be it. Let's show women across America, young and old, the contributions that they and their predecessors have made to the United States of America can be theirs as well.

Again, I thank Chairwoman MALONEY so much for engaging our bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus to be very instrumental in getting us here today.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE), who is a leader for women in Congress and in the country.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Madam Speaker, it is with great excitement today that I stand in strong support of the bill to establish the women's museum in the Smithsonian chain of museums in our country.

I want to share a story with you, Madam Speaker. When I walked through the doors of the Smithsonian African American Museum, someone asked me: How do you feel?

I said, I feel like this country has finally recognized the contributions and who I am in this country.

We have not been able to make that commitment to women. When we all walk into museums in this great country, it is a reflection for the generations to come of the struggles and the accomplishments that different cultures and populations have had on this great country.

I stand here today because of the women before me who have struggled and fought. I stand on their shoulders. I want to be a woman of whom the girls behind me will be able to say: Because of her, I can be.

This is a vote for our children, the girls who are coming after, and the little boys who need to learn and respect the history of women in this great country.

I stand in support, and I ask all my colleagues to please support this. This is a step that we, as women, must not let go of.

I want to recognize my colleague, Chairwoman MALONEY, who has never given up on this.

Madam Speaker, as women, we know we have to work twice as hard, but we get the job done.

Vote on this museum.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to

the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN), who is a fighter for her whole territory.

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I am here today standing in support of H.R. 1980, because I firmly believe in honoring women trailblazers who have shaped history and the story of our country, women who demonstrate leading by example.

It is just what BRENDA LAWRENCE was saying: we need to demonstrate how we can achieve that empowerment tool, and I think this museum is going to be just that.

Women like our first female Supreme Court Justice from Puerto Rico, Sonia Sotomayor; our first Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor; civil rights activist Rosa Parks; astronaut and astrophysicist, Sally Ride; the first Latina to be elected to Congress, former Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen; and Representative Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress; are the better examples.

Each of them in her respective field illustrated the strength and the commitment of women when they set themselves a goal. They are just a few of the women who transformed the American landscape, making it possible for me to be here today as the first female representative of Puerto Rico and now the vice-chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus.

According to the Census, women are 50 percent of the total population of the country—165 million women in America—yet there is not one comprehensive museum dedicated to the history of women in the United States; and of the 2,400 national monuments, only 120—just 5 percent—honor women.

The role of women in the building of this Nation was not properly recognized while it was happening. We must create a space where that history that was not told in their own time can be studied, propagated, and given the high relief it deserves.

Madam Speaker, I support this bill because I think it is time to honor how women shaped what is America today.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, speaking of women leaders in this institution, it is bitter-sweet because she is not coming back after this year, but I stand here and yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS), who is my good friend and my classmate from the 2012 and 2013 cycle.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act.

I want to thank Representative MALONEY for championing this important legislation. Her determination to honor American women, which started back in 1998 and the fact that she has brought this type of legislation forward ever since then is a true testament to her grit.

I also want to thank the chairwoman of the House Administration Committee. I want to thank the ranking member of the House Administration Committee. I really welcome their leadership, and they have seen the importance of this legislation.

The Smithsonian Institution was established in 1846 to increase the diffusion of knowledge, and I can think of no better subject matter on which to increase and diffuse knowledge today in 2020 than educating Americans and those who visit our country about the amazing American women who have come before us.

A museum dedicated to American women's history will help ensure that my daughter and my son—future generations—understand the impact that our women have had on our country's past; and with a greater understanding of our country's past we can better navigate the future.

Establishing this museum to collect, study, and establish programs covering historical contributions of women will inspire generations of women to come—women like Jeannette Rankin, the first woman to ever come to this body, the U.S. House, from Montana in 1916 before women even had the right to vote.

□ 1330

Women like Lucille Ball, and we all love Lucy, she was the first woman to run a television studio and capture the attention of viewers around the globe.

Women like Dr. Mae Jemison, an engineer and physician, she was the first African American woman to travel to space.

Women like these three—and there are thousands more—who deserve to have their stories shared with folks around the world and people here at home.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this strong bipartisan piece of legislation to create this national museum dedicated to American women's history. It will celebrate the achievements of American women.

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I think it is important to note that in this 116th Congress, where you had a record-breaking number of women come to this body—101 women, more than ever before, and hopefully, even more will be coming in future Congresses—I urge passage of this important piece of legislation.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), my good friend, classmate, a leader on women's issues, and somebody I knew before we both got elected to this institution.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from



across the river in Illinois. I have the great privilege of representing Missouri's Second Congressional District, and he is a leader in this Congress, but most of all, he is a wonderful friend and colleague.

Madam Speaker, I also commend my good friend, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY from New York. We have worked in a bipartisan fashion on so many issues, especially when it comes to the scourge of human trafficking, violence against women, taking care of the most vulnerable in our society. I thank her for her commitment.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act. This important bill will honor the immense contributions that women have made to our country by establishing the first national women's history museum.

Women from my hometown of St. Louis have a proud history of service and heroism. During the First World War, a brave group of St. Louis women volunteered to go to war-torn France to start a hospital for injured Allied soldiers. They were among the first Americans to deploy to Europe and some of the very last to leave. When they departed for France in May 1917, the United States had not even entered the war, and many remained in France for a year after the armistice. They treated more than 60,000 patients before they returned home to St. Louis.

Through their courage, ingenuity, determination, and integrity, American women have been instrumental in the growth of the United States as a global force for good. I am so proud that their stories will be remembered for the next generation of women leaders.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan piece of legislation.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, our speakers have all been detained at markup so I would invite the gentleman to close, and then I will also close.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I support this wonderful piece of legislation. It is talking about leadership. You can't get much better leadership than Chairwoman MALONEY. This is an issue she has been tenacious on.

It is one I am proud to work with the majority party on. At a time when America doesn't think we are a bipartisan institution, I hope today is one of those instances where they can turn on C-SPAN, or maybe it will get reported in the 24-hour news cycle, but we are going to come together to do something that is great, not just for America but America's history.

Madam Speaker, since I have some time left, we are talking about women, strong women who have been a part of this institution. She doesn't know I am

doing this because she is sitting right next to me, but we are going to see the retirement of an institution here in this House. Come April 1, my House Administration minority staff is going to lose our institution, our institutional knowledge, Ms. Mary Sue Englund.

Mary Sue has worked for government for 31 years, 27 years here in the House. Working with the likes of Bill Thomas makes me look easy, I think. I don't know all the rest of them before I got here, but the chairpersons of the committee before I got here, I know Mary Sue, when I met her, she was working for then-Chair Candace Miller, and she worked for Chairman Gregg Harper. For her to stay on and work with us in the minority, I am honored.

It is people like Mary Sue who make this institution great. It is people like Mary Sue who are going to be missed. And it is people like Mary Sue who I enjoy embarrassing today because I didn't tell her I was going to do this.

Madam Speaker, if the folks in the gallery would rise today to give Mary Sue the sendoff that she deserves.

Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Clearly, I will not use that all, but you want to talk about empowered women? I am joined here in this House today by three young ladies who are the daughters of somebody I used to work with when I was a staffer.

Ray Fitzgerald died too soon, in 2009. Ray, a former staffer, went back home to Naperville, Illinois. When his youngest daughter, Lucy, was 1, he succumbed to a deadly stomach cancer.

Those three girls, along with their mom, Kristin, are fighting the fight to eradicate stomach cancer and working with us each and every day.

I am proud to see that we are going to have a museum that is going to recognize the people like Mary Sue and the Fitzgeralds—Kristin, Nora, Maggie, and Lucy.

We have to make sure that we continue this fight. Even after today's bipartisanship is shown, we have to make sure that we stand together in a bipartisan way, because if we don't, then we don't have the ability to get a brighter future for Nora, Maggie, and Lucy Fitzgerald, along with their mom, Kristin.

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will just say a few words here in closing.

First, I again thank CAROLYN MALONEY, who, for the last 22 years, has worked to be here on this day.

I think it took CAROLYN 22 years, a female Speaker of the House, 101 women in the House, and a female

chair of the Committee on House Administration to come together and get to this day where I believe we are going to finally approve this bill and send it over to the Senate. Hopefully, it will be such a large vote that the Senate will feel a degree of pressure to do the right thing.

Madam Speaker, just a word of caution on how long it takes after we vote to approve this and the Senate, hopefully, and the President, hopefully, will sign it, if we pass it.

Secretary Lonnie Bunch is the secretary for the Smithsonian Museum. He has done a fabulous job. But one of his claims to fame is that he brought the National Museum of African American History from an idea to reality. He knows how to do this. And he cautioned us that from the moment you say go to the moment you open the doors to the museum, it is about 10 years.

You have to raise the money. You have to get the scholars to do the scholarship and the exhibition. So unless you take that first step, you don't get there.

That is the advice he gave us last September: If you don't take the first step, you never get there. So this is the first step, and it is an important one.

Madam Speaker, I want to say that along with the fabulously important and famous women who this museum will honor, it is also going to go to the heart of America, the women who maybe weren't famous but built the country, the women like my mother, who walked out of their homes and built airplanes so the United States could win World War II; the women who raised their children, who worked many jobs, who ran the PTA, who helped form the next generation; the women who are the beating heart of this country will be honored by this museum.

Madam Speaker, you really don't know where you are going unless you have some sense of where you came from. That is why this museum will help all American women and men to have a brighter American future.

I will just say this: We do not fool ourselves that having this wonderful museum will solve all the problems that American women face. We still have no family leave policy in this country, so women are squeezed between taking care of their children, taking care of aging parents, not having an opportunity to get time off from work to do the things that life calls them to do. We still have pay disparity in this country. We still lack constitutional protections under the equal rights amendment until we resolve the issue on the latest wonderful vote in Virginia. All of those things remain.

But this museum will be a point of pride. It will be a touchstone. It will be something that every boy and girl in America will be able to know about because it is not going to be just a building. It is going to be a virtual reality, Secretary Bunch has told us, a virtual reality throughout the United States.

Madam Speaker, this is a proud day for this institution. We can support this bill. We can send it to the Senate and look forward to the day when we join Congresswoman MALONEY in walking through the doors of the women's history museum.

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act.

On March 31, 1776, future First Lady Abigail Adams wrote to her husband, John Adams, urging him and the other members of the Continental Congress to "remember the ladies" when fighting for America's independence from Great Britain and drafting a new form of government.

Unfortunately, despite this nation's great history, we were slow to take Abigail Adams' advice to heart. It took 144 years to grant women the right to vote, an historic event I talked about a week ago in a floor speech commemorating the 100th anniversary of New Jersey's ratification of the 19th Amendment.

Even this Congress has downplayed the contributions of women in history as evidenced by the treatment of Portrait Monument, the statue in the Capitol of the three greatest leaders of the suffrage movement, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott.

The Portrait Monument was unveiled with great fanfare in 1921 shortly after the ratification of the 19th Amendment, but for decades it was relegated to an isolated area of the Crypt without a plaque explaining the contributions of the three women or a description of the female artist who sculpted it.

For decades, Congress cited the cost of moving the statue as reason enough for keeping it in the Crypt. In the 1990s, the sponsor of today's bill, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, led an effort to raise the funds to move the statue upstairs to the Rotunda. It was not until 1997 that the statue was moved to its current place of honor.

That date is significant for our purposes today. Susan Whiting, the chairman of the board for the National Women's History Museum organization has stated that "[The statue] was the beginning of the entire process of eventually building a museum."

It's been a long road since 1997 to build a Women's History Museum but passing this bill today will be one giant step closer to our goal.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act. This legislation will authorize the Smithsonian Institution to establish a Women's History Museum, which will be located alongside our existing Smithsonian museums in our nation's capital.

The contributions by women to the history and advancements of the United States are historic and consequential. Women have always served this nation, from nurses in the Revolutionary War to the ceaseless quest today for equal pay, civil liberties, and equal access to health care.

I am particularly determined to ensure that the contributions and perspectives of women of color are reflected in this proposed institution, as our country must demonstrate their historic and unquestionable significance. The

creation of the Smithsonian Women's History Museum will allow all people in this nation and the world to better recognize and appreciate the significant contributions women have made throughout history.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge my colleagues to pass the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act unanimously and immediately.

First, I congratulate my friend and colleague, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY, on her decades of hard and successful work making the case for a women's museum.

Women are underrepresented in our nation's historical accounts, monuments, memorials, and museums.

Our past, present and as of now, our future are all marked by the absence of women's stories.

From Native American women and early pilgrims; to Abigail Adams when she wrote to her husband to "remember the ladies"; to the suffrage movement; to the one thousand, one hundred, and two Women Airforce Service Pilots that revived our World War II effort; to Rosa Parks to Title Nine.

And I could go on and on and on.

Clearly, women have transformed the history of our country.

But the story of American women is not just in the historical moments. It is also the contributions of women in every aspect of our society.

There is a missing contextualization of the enormous impact that women have had in film, literature, science, government, education, culture, sports, and more.

We have the opportunity to tell the full story, so why are we only telling half of our history?

With these contributions showcased in a museum, we will no longer ask—Why don't we have a woman's National Museum?

But instead, we will celebrate how fitting it is for every girl and every woman to identify with our country's past and want to play a significant role in our future.

You can't be what you can't see.

Frankly, I cannot believe that this museum does not already exist.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the passage of this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1980, 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. LESKO. Madam 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 844;

Adoption of House Resolution 844, if ordered; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1980.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2546, COLORADO WILDERNESS ACT OF 2019; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 79, REMOVING DEADLINE FOR RATIFICATION OF EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 844) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2546) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 79) removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment; and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 186, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 57]

YEAS—222

Adams	Costa	Golden
Aguilar	Courtney	Gomez
Allred	Cox (CA)	Gonzalez (TX)
Axne	Craig	Gottheimer
Barragan	Crist	Green, Al (TX)
Beatty	Crow	Grijalva
Bera	Cuellar	Haaland
Beyer	Cunningham	Harder (CA)
Bishop (GA)	Davids (KS)	Hastings
Blumenauer	Davis (CA)	Hayes
Blunt Rochester	Davis, Danny K.	Heck
Bonamici	Dean	Higgins (NY)
Boyle, Brendan	DeFazio	Himes
F.	DeGette	Horn, Kendra S.
Brindisi	DeLauro	Horsford
Brown (MD)	DelBene	Houlihan
Brownley (CA)	Delgado	Hoyer
Bustos	Demings	Huffman
Butterfield	DeSaulnier	Jackson Lee
Carbajal	Deutch	Jayapal
Cárdenas	Dingell	Jeffries
Carson (IN)	Doggett	Johnson (GA)
Cartwright	Doyle, Michael	Johnson (TX)
Case	F.	Kaptur
Casten (IL)	Engel	Keating
Castor (FL)	Escobar	Kelly (IL)
Castro (TX)	Eshoo	Kennedy
Chu, Judy	Españillat	Khanna
Cicilline	Evans	Kildee
Cisneros	Finkenauer	Kilmer
Clark (MA)	Fletcher	Kim
Clarke (NY)	Foster	Kind
Clay	Frankel	Krishnamoorthi
Cleaver	Fudge	Kuster (NH)
Clyburn	Gallego	Lamb
Connolly	Garamendi	Langevin
Cooper	Garcia (IL)	Larsen (WA)
Correa	Garcia (TX)	Larson (CT)

Lawrence O'Halleran  
 Lawson (FL) Ocasio-Cortez  
 Lee (CA) Omar  
 Lee (NV) Pallone  
 Levin (CA) Panetta  
 Levin (MI) Pappas  
 Lieu, Ted Pascrell  
 Lipinski Perlmutter  
 Loeb sack Peters  
 Lofgren Peterson  
 Lowenthal Phillips  
 Lowey Pingree  
 Luján Poca n  
 Luria Porter  
 Lynch Pressley  
 Malinowski Price (NC)  
 Maloney, Carolyn B. Quigley  
 Maloney, Sean Raskin  
 Matsui Rose (NY)  
 McAdams Roybal-Allard  
 McBath Ruiz  
 McCollum Rupp ertsberger  
 McEachin Rush  
 McGovern Ryan  
 McNerney Sánchez  
 Meeks Scanlon  
 Meng Schakowsky  
 Moore Schiff  
 Morelle Schneider  
 Moulton Schrader  
 Mucarsel-Powell Schrier  
 Murphy (FL) Scott (VA)  
 Nadler Scott, David  
 Napolitano Serrano  
 Neal Sewell (AL)  
 Neguse Shalala  
 Norcross Sherman

Sherrill  
 Sires  
 Slotkin  
 Smith (WA)  
 Soto  
 Spanberger  
 Speier  
 Stanton  
 Stevens  
 Suozzi  
 Swalwell (CA)  
 Takano  
 Thompson (CA)  
 Thompson (MS)  
 Titus  
 Tlaib  
 Tonko  
 Torres (CA)  
 Torres Small (NM)  
 Trahan  
 Trone  
 Underwood  
 Vargas  
 Veasey  
 Vela  
 Velázquez  
 Visclosky  
 Wasserman  
 Schultz  
 Waters  
 Watson Coleman  
 Welch  
 Wexton  
 Wild  
 Wilson (FL)  
 Yarmuth

Westerman  
 Williams  
 Wilson (SC)  
 Wittman  
 Womack  
 Woodall  
 Yoho  
 Young  
 Zeldin  
 Rose (NY)  
 Roybal-Allard  
 Ruiz  
 Ruppertsberger  
 Ryan  
 Sánchez  
 Sarbanes  
 Scanlon  
 Schakowsky  
 Schiff  
 Schneider  
 Schrader  
 Schrier  
 Scott (VA)  
 Scott, David  
 Serrano  
 Sewell (AL)  
 Shalala  
 Sherman  
 Sherrill  
 Sires  
 Slotkin  
 Smith (WA)  
 Soto  
 Spanberger  
 Speier  
 Stanton  
 Stevens  
 Suozzi  
 Swalwell (CA)  
 Takano  
 Thompson (CA)  
 Thompson (MS)  
 Titus  
 Tlaib  
 Tonko  
 Torres (CA)  
 Torres Small (NM)  
 Trahan  
 Trone  
 Underwood  
 Vargas  
 Veasey  
 Vela  
 Velázquez  
 Visclosky  
 Wasserman  
 Schultz  
 Waters  
 Watson Coleman  
 Welch  
 Wexton  
 Wild  
 Wilson (FL)  
 Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—21

□ 1409

Messrs. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee and GONZALEZ of Ohio changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 185, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 58]  
 YEAS—222

Abraham  
 Aderholt  
 Allen  
 Amash  
 Amodei  
 Armstrong  
 Arrington  
 Babin  
 Bacon  
 Baird  
 Balderson  
 Banks  
 Barr  
 Bergman  
 Biggs  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Bishop (UT)  
 Bost  
 Brady  
 Brooks (AL)  
 Brooks (IN)  
 Buchanan  
 Buck  
 Bucshon  
 Budd  
 Burchett  
 Burgess  
 Calvert  
 Carter (GA)  
 Carter (TX)  
 Chabot  
 Cheney  
 Cline  
 Cloud  
 Cole  
 Collins (GA)  
 Comer  
 Conaway  
 Cook  
 Crawford  
 Crenshaw  
 Curtis  
 Davidson (OH)  
 Davis, Rodney  
 DesJarlais  
 Diaz-Balart  
 Duncan  
 Dunn  
 Estes  
 Ferguson  
 Fitzpatrick  
 Fleischmann  
 Flores  
 Fortenberry  
 Foxx (NC)  
 Fulcher  
 Gaetz  
 Gallagher  
 Gianforte  
 Gibbs  
 Gohmert  
 Gooden  
 Gosar  
 Granger  
 Graves (LA)  
 Graves (MO)  
 Green (TN)  
 Griffith  
 Grothman  
 Guest  
 Guthrie  
 Hagedorn  
 Harris  
 Hartzler  
 Hern, Kevin  
 Herrera Beutler  
 Hice (GA)  
 Higgins (LA)  
 Hill (AR)  
 Holding  
 Hollingsworth  
 Hudson  
 Huizenga  
 Hurd (TX)  
 Johnson (OH)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Joyce (OH)  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Katko  
 Keller  
 Kelly (MS)  
 Kelly (PA)  
 King (IA)  
 King (NY)  
 Kinzinger  
 Kustoff (TN)  
 LaMalfa  
 Lamborn  
 Latta  
 Lesko  
 Long  
 Loudermilk  
 Lucas  
 Luetkemeyer  
 Marchant  
 Marshall  
 Massie  
 Mast  
 McCarthy  
 McCaul  
 McClintock  
 McHenry  
 McKinley  
 Meuser  
 Miller  
 Mitchell  
 Moolenaar  
 Mooney (WV)  
 Murphy (NC)  
 Newhouse  
 Norman  
 Nunes  
 Olson  
 Palazzo  
 Palmer  
 Perry  
 Posey  
 Ratcliffe  
 Reed  
 Reschenthaler  
 Rice (SC)  
 Rigsleman  
 Roby  
 Rodgers (WA)  
 Roe, David P.  
 Rogers (AL)  
 Rogers (KY)  
 Rooney (FL)  
 Rose, John W.  
 Rouzer  
 Roy  
 Rutherford  
 Schweikert  
 Scott, Austin  
 Sensenbrenner  
 Shimkus  
 Simpson  
 Smith (MO)  
 Smith (NE)  
 Smith (NJ)  
 Smucker  
 Spano  
 Stauber  
 Stefanik  
 Upton  
 Van Drew  
 Wagner  
 Walberg  
 Walden  
 Walorski  
 Waltz  
 Watkins  
 Weber (TX)  
 Webster (FL)  
 Wenstrup

Adams  
 Aguilar  
 Allred  
 Axne  
 Barragán  
 Beatty  
 Bera  
 Beyer  
 Bishop (GA)  
 Blumenauer  
 Blunt Rochester  
 Bonamici  
 Boyle, Brendan  
 F.  
 Brindisi  
 Brown (MD)  
 Brownley (CA)  
 Bustos  
 Butterfield  
 Carballo  
 Cárdenas  
 Carson (IN)  
 Cartwright  
 Case  
 Casten (IL)  
 Castor (FL)  
 Castro (TX)  
 Chu, Judy  
 Cicilline  
 Cisneros  
 Clark (MA)  
 Clarke (NY)  
 Clay  
 Cleaver  
 Clyburn  
 Connolly  
 Hoyer  
 Cooper  
 Correa  
 Costa  
 Courtney  
 Cox (CA)  
 Craig  
 Crist  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Cunningham  
 Davids (KS)  
 Davis (CA)  
 Davis, Danny K.  
 Dean  
 DeFazio  
 DeGette  
 DeLauro  
 DeBene  
 Delgado  
 Demings  
 DeSaulnier  
 Deutch  
 Dingell  
 Doggett  
 Doyle, Michael  
 F.  
 Engel  
 Escobar  
 Eshoo  
 Espaillat  
 Evans  
 Finkenauer  
 Fletcher  
 Foster  
 Frankel  
 Fudge  
 Gallego  
 Garamendi  
 Garcia (IL)  
 Garcia (TX)  
 Golden  
 Gomez  
 Gonzalez (TX)  
 Gottheimer  
 McEachin  
 Grijalva  
 Haaland  
 Harder (CA)  
 Hastings  
 Hayes  
 Heck  
 Higgins (NY)  
 Himes  
 Horn, Kendra S.  
 Horsford  
 Houlihan  
 Hoyer  
 Huffman  
 Jackson Lee  
 Jayapal  
 Jeffries  
 Johnson (GA)  
 Johnson (TX)  
 Kaptur  
 Keating  
 Kelly (IL)  
 Kennedy  
 Khanna  
 Kildee  
 Kilmer  
 Kim  
 Kind  
 Krishnamoorthi  
 Kuster (NH)  
 Lamb  
 Langevin  
 Larsen (WA)  
 Larson (CT)  
 Lawrence  
 Lawson (FL)  
 Lee (CA)  
 Lee (NV)  
 Levin (CA)  
 Levin (MI)  
 Lieu, Ted  
 Lipinski  
 Loeb sack  
 Lofgren  
 Lowenthal  
 Lowey  
 Luján  
 Luria  
 Lynch  
 Malinowski  
 Maloney,  
 Carolyn B.  
 Maloney, Sean  
 Matsui  
 McAdams  
 McBath  
 McCollum  
 McEachin  
 McGovern  
 McNerney  
 Meeks  
 Meng  
 Moore  
 Morelle  
 Moulton  
 Mucarsel-Powell  
 Murphy (FL)  
 Nadler  
 Napolitano  
 Neal  
 Neguse  
 Norcross  
 O'Halleran  
 Ocasio-Cortez  
 Omar  
 Pallone  
 Panetta  
 Pappas  
 Pascrell  
 Perlmutter  
 Peters  
 Peterson  
 Phillips  
 Pingree  
 Pocan  
 Porter  
 Pressley  
 Price (NC)  
 Quigley  
 Raskin  
 Richmond  
 Deutch  
 Dingell  
 Doggett  
 Doyle, Michael  
 F.  
 Engel  
 Escobar  
 Eshoo  
 Espaillat  
 Evans  
 Finkenauer  
 Fletcher  
 Foster  
 Frankel  
 Fudge  
 Gallego  
 Garamendi  
 Garcia (IL)  
 Garcia (TX)  
 Golden  
 Gomez  
 Gonzalez (TX)  
 Gottheimer  
 McEachin  
 Grijalva  
 Haaland  
 Harder (CA)  
 Hastings  
 Hayes  
 Heck  
 Higgins (NY)  
 Himes  
 Horn, Kendra S.  
 Horsford  
 Houlihan  
 Hoyer  
 Huffman  
 Jackson Lee  
 Jayapal  
 Jeffries  
 Johnson (GA)  
 Johnson (TX)  
 Kaptur  
 Keating  
 Kelly (IL)  
 Kennedy  
 Khanna  
 Kildee  
 Kilmer  
 Kim  
 Kind  
 Krishnamoorthi  
 Kuster (NH)  
 Lamb  
 Langevin  
 Larsen (WA)  
 Larson (CT)  
 Lawrence  
 Lawson (FL)  
 Lee (CA)  
 Lee (NV)  
 Levin (CA)  
 Levin (MI)  
 Lieu, Ted  
 Lipinski  
 Loeb sack  
 Lofgren  
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 Carolyn B.  
 Maloney, Sean  
 Matsui  
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 McEachin  
 McGovern  
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 Moore  
 Morelle  
 Moulton  
 Mucarsel-Powell  
 Murphy (FL)  
 Nadler  
 Napolitano  
 Neal  
 Neguse  
 Norcross  
 O'Halleran  
 Ocasio-Cortez  
 Omar  
 Pallone  
 Panetta  
 Pappas  
 Pascrell  
 Perlmutter  
 Peters  
 Peterson  
 Phillips  
 Pingree  
 Pocan  
 Porter  
 Pressley  
 Price (NC)  
 Quigley  
 Raskin  
 Richmond

NAYS—185

Abraham  
 Aderholt  
 Allen  
 Amash  
 Amodei  
 Armstrong  
 Arrington  
 Babin  
 Bacon  
 Baird  
 Balderson  
 Banks  
 Barr  
 Bergman  
 Biggs  
 Bilirakis  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Bishop (UT)  
 Bost  
 Brady  
 Brooks (AL)  
 Brooks (IN)  
 Buchanan  
 Buck  
 Bucshon  
 Budd  
 Burchett  
 Burgess  
 Calvert  
 Carter (GA)  
 Carter (TX)  
 Chabot  
 Cheney  
 Cline  
 Cloud  
 Cole  
 Collins (GA)  
 Comer  
 Conaway  
 Cook  
 Crawford  
 Crenshaw  
 Curtis  
 Davidson (OH)  
 Davis, Rodney  
 DesJarlais  
 Diaz-Balart  
 Duncan  
 Dunn  
 Estes  
 Ferguson  
 Fitzpatrick  
 Fleischmann  
 Flores  
 Fortenberry  
 Foxx (NC)  
 Fulcher  
 Gaetz  
 Gallagher  
 Gianforte  
 Gibbs  
 Gohmert  
 Gooden  
 Gosar  
 Granger  
 Graves (LA)  
 Graves (MO)  
 Green (TN)  
 Griffith  
 Grothman  
 Guest  
 Guthrie  
 Hagedorn  
 Harris  
 Hartzler  
 Hern, Kevin  
 Herrera Beutler  
 Hice (GA)  
 Higgins (LA)  
 Hill (AR)  
 Holding  
 Hudson  
 Huizenga  
 Hurd (TX)  
 Johnson (OH)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan  
 Joyce (OH)  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Katko  
 Keller  
 Kelly (MS)  
 Kelly (PA)  
 King (IA)  
 King (NY)  
 Kinzinger  
 Kustoff (TN)  
 LaMalfa  
 Lamborn  
 Latta  
 Lesko  
 Long  
 Loudermilk  
 Lucas  
 Luetkemeyer  
 Marchant  
 Marshall  
 Massie  
 Mast  
 McCarthy  
 McCaul  
 McClintock  
 McHenry  
 McKinley  
 Meuser  
 Miller  
 Mitchell  
 Moolenaar  
 Mooney (WV)  
 Murphy (NC)  
 Newhouse  
 Norman  
 Nunes  
 Olson  
 Palazzo  
 Palmer  
 Perry  
 Posey  
 Ratcliffe  
 Reed  
 Reschenthaler  
 Rice (SC)  
 Rigsleman  
 Roby  
 Roe, David P.  
 Rogers (AL)  
 Rogers (KY)  
 Rooney (FL)  
 Rose, John W.  
 Rouzer  
 Roy  
 Rutherford  
 Schweikert  
 Scott, Austin  
 Sensenbrenner  
 Shimkus  
 Simpson  
 Smith (MO)  
 Smith (NE)  
 Smith (NJ)  
 Smucker  
 Spano  
 Stauber  
 Stefanik  
 Upton  
 Van Drew  
 Wagner  
 Walberg  
 Walden  
 Walorski  
 Waltz  
 Watkins  
 Weber (TX)  
 Webster (FL)  
 Wenstrup

NOT VOTING—22

Bass  
 Byrne  
 Cohen  
 Emmer  
 Gabbard  
 Graves (GA)  
 Hollingsworth  
 Johnson (LA)  
 Kirkpatrick  
 LaHood  
 Lewis  
 Meadows  
 Mullin  
 Payne  
 Pence  
 Rice (NY)  
 Rodgers (WA)  
 Rouda  
 Rush  
 Scalise  
 Walker  
 Wright

□ 1420

Mr. WITTMAN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”  
 So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I inadvertently missed a vote on H. Res. 844. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 58.

SMITHSONIAN WOMEN’S HISTORY MUSEUM 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. 1980) to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women’s history museum, 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. LOFGREN) 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 374, nays 37, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 59]

YEAS—374

Abraham  
Adams  
Aguilar  
Allen  
Allred  
Amodei  
Armstrong  
Axne  
Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson  
Barr  
Barragán  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Bergman  
Beyer  
Bilirakis  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NC)  
Bishop (UT)  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Bost  
Boyle, Brendan F.  
Brady  
Brindisi  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Buchson  
Burchett  
Burgess  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Calvert  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Cartwright  
Case  
Casten (IL)  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chabot  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Cline  
Clyburn  
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  
DesJarlais  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Doyle, Michael F.  
Dunn  
Engel  
Escobar  
Eshoo  
Españillat  
Evans  
Ferguson  
Finkenauer  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Jeffries  
Flores  
Fortenberry

Foster  
Foxy (NC)  
Frankel  
Fudge  
Gaetz  
Gallagher  
Gallego  
Garamendi  
Garcia (IL)  
Garcia (TX)  
Gianforte  
Gibbs  
Gohmert  
Golden  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (OH)  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gooden  
Gottheimer  
Granger  
Graves (LA)  
Graves (MO)  
Green (TN)  
Green, Al (TX)  
Griffith  
Grijalva  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Haaland  
Hagedorn  
Harder (CA)  
Hartzler  
Hastings  
Hayes  
Heck  
Hern, Kevin  
Herrera Beutler  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill (AR)  
Himes  
Holding  
Hollingsworth  
Horn, Kendra S.  
Horsford  
Houlahan  
Hoyer  
Hudson  
Huffman  
Huizenga  
Hurd (TX)  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson (OH)

Johnson (SD)  
Johnson (TX)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Keller  
Kelly (IL)  
Kelly (MS)  
Kelly (PA)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
Kim  
Kind  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Kustoff (TN)  
Lamb  
Lamborn  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee (CA)  
Lee (NV)  
Lesko  
Levin (CA)  
Levin (MI)  
Lieu, Ted  
Lipinski  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren  
Long  
Loudermilk  
Lowenthal  
Lowe y  
Lucas  
Luetkemeyer  
Lujan  
Luria  
Lynch  
Malinowski  
Maloney,  
Carolyn B.  
Maloney, Sean  
Marshall  
Mast  
Matsui  
McAdams  
McBath  
McCarthy  
McCaul  
McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McKinley  
McNerney  
Meeks  
Meng  
Meuser  
Miller  
Mitchell

NAYS—37

Aderholt  
Amash  
Arrington  
Babin  
Banks  
Biggs  
Brooks (AL)  
Buck  
Budd  
Cheney  
Cloud  
Conaway  
Davidson (OH)

Duncan  
Estes  
Fulcher  
Gosar  
Grothman  
Harris  
Hice (GA)  
Higgins (LA)  
LaMalta  
Marchant  
Massie  
McClintock  
Murphy (NC)

NOT VOTING—19

Byrne  
Cohen  
Emmer  
Gabbard  
Graves (GA)  
Johnson (LA)  
Kirkpatrick

LaHood  
Lewis  
Meadows  
Mullin  
Payne  
Pence  
Rice (NY)

Shimkus  
Simpson  
Sires  
Slotkin  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Smucker  
Soto  
Spanberger  
Spano  
Speier  
Stanton  
Stauber  
Stefanik  
Steil  
Stevens  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Suo zzi  
Swalwell (CA)  
Takano  
Taylor  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Thompson (PA)  
Timmons  
Tipton  
Titus  
Porter  
Posey  
Pressley  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Reed  
Reschenthaler  
Richmond  
Riggleman  
Roby  
Rodgers (WA)  
Roe, David P.  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rooney (FL)  
Rose (NY)  
Rose, John W.  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Rutherford  
Ryan  
Sánchez  
Sarbanes  
Scanlon  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schradler  
Schrier  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Shalala  
Sherman  
Sherrill

NAYS—1431

Norman  
Palazzo  
Palmer  
Ratcliffe  
Rice (SC)  
Rouzer  
Roy  
Steube  
Thornberry  
Weber (TX)  
Yoho

□ 1431

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. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, I regret not being present for one vote session. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act, H.R. 1980, rollcall No. 59.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I was absent today due to a medical emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 57, “yea” on rollcall No. 58, and “yea” on rollcall No. 59.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Miss RICE of New York. Madam Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes Tuesday, February 11, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 57, “yea” on rollcall No. 58, and “yea” on rollcall No. 59.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, due to a medical appointment, I was unable to vote on the following three Roll Call Bills on February 11, 2020.

Had I been present, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall No. 57 (Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule (H. Res. 844); “yea” on rollcall No. 58 (H. Res. 844—Rule Providing for Consideration of H.R. 2546—Protecting America’s Wilderness Act and H.J. Res. 79—Removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment); and “yea” on rollcall No. 59 (H.R. 1980—Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act, as amended) (Rep. CAROLYN MALONEY—House Administration) Suspension bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF NELSON MANDELA’S RELEASE FROM PRISON

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the former South African President Nelson Mandela’s release from jail.

Mandela worked tirelessly to abolish apartheid, empower his fellow citizens, and fight the injustices against the disenfranchised people of South Africa.

Mandela’s efforts led not only to his 27-year imprisonment and subsequent ascent to the presidency, but it also transformed the consciousness of a generation and precipitated a more acute international focus on human rights. I hope we are all informed by his wise words: “May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears.”

Here in this Chamber and around the world we should all feel indebted to him for his service and commitment to justice.

Wright

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

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

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I am honored today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Intelligence Council. This is an amazing organization that has provided invaluable contributions to the security of the United States.

On December 3, 1979, the NIC was created to serve as a source of extensive expertise on intelligence issues, facilitate collaboration, conduct outreach to other experts beyond government, and to connect intelligence and policy communities through a wide variety of intelligence products.

The work the NIC does is important. It really does matter. These products include the National Intelligence Estimate, the annual threat assessment in the form of Statements for the RECORD, the unclassified Global Trends report, and including oral remarks that the Director of National Intelligence gives to us as Members of Congress.

The NIC's 18 intelligence officers serve as the primary advisers to the intelligence leader, and their expertise and advice is greatly appreciated and greatly respected.

As a member of the House Intelligence Committee, I am grateful for them and for their 40 years of dedicated service and protecting the American people.

COMMEMORATING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF "LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING."

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

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 120th anniversary of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

This hymn was first performed this week 120 years ago by 500 school children at the segregated Stanton School in Jacksonville, Florida.

Today this song is widely known as the Black national anthem and is performed at churches, schools, sporting events, and meetings around the Nation.

Brothers James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson wrote this song at their home in the LaVilla community of Jacksonville in the Fifth Congressional District, the district I represent.

It was there that James Weldon penned the words that inspired hope, strength, and faith. It also reminded us to never forget the obstacles of the past.

I am honored to represent the birthplace of this great song that will live on for generations to come.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ANNE COX CHAMBERS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mrs. Anne Cox Chambers, who passed away on January 31 at the age of 100.

Her friends and family remember Mrs. Chambers as a wonderful, kind, and elegant lady, whose influence spanned the globe.

An influential businesswoman, legendary philanthropist, and dedicated public servant, her many talents included co-owning the family media company, Cox Enterprises, for 33 years, and serving as the United States ambassador to Belgium.

Mrs. Chambers was Atlanta's first female bank director, as well as the first woman to serve as a director of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Chambers was also a director of The Coca-Cola Company.

Mrs. Chambers supported many causes anonymously, but was especially dedicated to the arts with her contributions to the High Museum of Art.

A force to be reckoned with who made Atlanta and the world a better place, Mrs. Chambers will be dearly missed. Her family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

SUPPORTING THE SMITHSONIAN WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, there are always special moments in this House, particularly when something draws the support of Members from both sides of the aisle. I have been supporting this legislation for a long time, and that is H.R. 1980, the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act carried by my colleague Representative CAROLYN MALONEY and so many cosponsors who evidenced the importance of the history of women in this Nation.

This is the 100th year of women's right to vote, and I am reminded of the suffragettes who decided to take a chance and be courageous and to fight against the denial of women's right to vote.

Early in the 1800s, we know that women of color stood up, like Sojourner Truth, and said, "Ain't I a woman?" to demand the right to vote; she was a suffragette and an abolitionist fighting for freedom and justice.

Now, this particular museum will open our eyes to the extensive history of women, starting from the Revolutionary War that fought for this coun-

try, stood for this country, and helped build this country.

I am excited about being part of the support and history of the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act. I look forward to its doors opening for women to be acknowledged and recognized in the greatness of this country.

HONORING THE SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER

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

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I recently had the pleasure of touring the Susquehanna County Career & Technical Center.

Located in the heart of Pennsylvania's natural gas boom, Susquehanna County's CTC is helping to provide low-cost education opportunities for in-demand jobs.

During our tour, we heard stories of students graduating in a matter of weeks or months to enter the workforce with little to no student debt making significant six-figure annual salaries.

Careers in trucking, the natural gas industry, and other blue-collar positions are highly in demand in Pennsylvania's Twelfth Congressional District.

It was also great to see Cabot Oil & Gas, one of the largest natural gas producers in the country, investing in the school's commercial driver's license program to create a pathway from learning directly into a career.

This is another tremendous example of the natural gas industry being terrific community partners while paving the way for America's energy independence.

With February being Career and Technical Education Month, it is important to remember that we should not be forcing our students into a one-size-fits-all system, especially when programs like those at Susquehanna County Career & Technical Center are providing a low-cost option for in-demand opportunities.

COMMEMORATING AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN OUR NATION'S FIGHT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

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

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate an important milestone in our Nation's fight for environmental justice.

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, making it the Federal Government's first major action on this issue.

Today, I have introduced a resolution to honor Chicago native Mrs. Hazel M. Johnson, whose contributions were the necessary keys to this order.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Johnson worked as the “mother of the environmental justice movement” to address racial injustices and improve environmental protections fundamental to this action.

Therefore, I take pride in introducing legislation to celebrate the month of April as Hazel M. Johnson Environmental Justice Month.

□ 1445

#### HONORING JAMES RING

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army veteran James Ring.

After graduating high school, James enlisted in the Army and served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He later joined the Reserve Forces and, at the same time, began a 13-year career as a City of Lakeland police officer.

Now, in addition to serving as CEO for his own small business, James is active with the Lakeland Chamber, promoting issues important to the small business community.

Very soon, James will be returning to Active Duty and deploying again. Now, that is commitment.

People like James make me proud not only to be an American, but proud of my district. The spirit and the drive that propel him to serve our community as a small business owner and our Nation as a uniformed servicemember are unique and invaluable.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you, James. And thank you Ring family for your service and your sacrifice. I know I speak on behalf of the entire district when I say that we are so very proud of you.

#### WE ARE GETTING THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE DONE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I am here in the House of Representatives. I have had the honor to have been elected to this incredible body for, now, four terms. But I just want to report to you, Madam Speaker, that we have, in fact, passed 275 bipartisan bills in the last 12 months in these Chambers.

Madam Speaker, I thank my Republican colleagues, my Democratic colleagues, and, yes, the one Independent colleague who is part of every single one of those votes.

I just want to say, that is the business of the House of Representatives. I just want to remind you, Madam Speaker, that we are serious here, from all parties, to make sure that we adhere to the needs of the entire Amer-

ican people and, in some cases, to the world.

We have addressed issues such as reducing drug pricing to all Americans. We have addressed issues when it comes to making sure that children have a safe place to go to school.

We have many issues that we are faced with here in the House of Representatives, and I am proud to say that, although the media says that we just can't get along, and, yes, we disagree at times, but, at the same time, we are, in fact, getting the work of the people done in the House of Representatives.

I pray that we see the same go on in the Senate and, in addition to that, see many of those bills get signed by the President of the United States.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANNON LODGE 104

(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. Madam Speaker, I recognize Cannon Lodge 104, which, on February 26, will be celebrating 150 years as a chartered Masonic lodge.

Cannon Lodge had its first outreach on October 27, 1869, from Henry Cannon, whom the lodge is named after. On February 26, 1870, a Masonic charter was granted, and Cannon Lodge 104 came into existence.

In January 1960, through the generosity of Brother Elmer Smith, the present location of the lodge was donated and dedicated to his father, Captain Charles S. Smith.

In 1995, Sea Isle City Lodge No. 280 was merged with Cannon; and, in 1999, Arbutus Lodge No. 170 of Cape May Court House did the very same thing.

I am a proud member of Cannon Lodge 104, and we live by the motto: “Making Good Men Better.” These men around me there have made me a better man. We are dedicated to the betterment of ourselves, our community, and giving to charity.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the continued work we will do in the community, and I thank them all for the work my fellow brothers do. They are truly heroes in south Jersey.

#### REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE'S GEAR TASK FORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MCBATH). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to hold this Special Order on the Republican Study Committee's GEAR Task Force.

I thank MIKE JOHNSON, chairman of the Republican Study Committee, for his leadership to make this task force possible.

We started GEAR, which stands for Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform, to develop a play-book of commonsense, nonpartisan solutions for improving our government. We came up with more than 100 improvements. They are all recorded in our report, which is now available, and I am excited to yield to my colleagues to talk about them here today.

We will start with my good friend from North Dakota, Representative KELLY ARMSTRONG, who was a member of the task force and really led our efforts to find these areas where we could reform.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. ARMSTRONG).

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman JOHNSON and Congressman GIANFORTE for their efforts to make our Federal Government more efficient and accountable with these commonsense reforms.

The Republican Study Committee's GEAR Task Force report is a solutions-based plan to reduce the government's size and inefficiency.

Anyone who has dealt with the Federal Government knows the frustration that the bureaucratic process can bring. Unnecessary government delays to infrastructure projects have a particularly damaging effect on economic growth and job creation.

Madam Speaker, I thank the Republican Study Committee for including my bill, H.R. 3671, the Federal Permitting Reform and Jobs Act, in the report. This bipartisan bill will streamline and modernize the Federal infrastructure permitting process.

The Federal Permitting Reform and Jobs Act will build on the reforms that were included in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act of 2015, otherwise known as FAST-41.

My bill would make permanent the FAST-41 provisions and enact additional reforms, such as a 2-year deadline for the permitting process.

FAST-41 ensures coordination among several Federal agencies to streamline the permitting process for the largest infrastructure projects.

The Federal Permitting Reform and Jobs Act would expand these types of projects that would qualify for this streamlined process: simply put, more projects completed in a shorter period of time at a reduced cost.

This is a win for jobs; this is a win for infrastructure improvements; this is a win for reforming the Federal bureaucracy and providing Americans with a more efficient and effective government.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. ARMSTRONG for his work. Permitting is an area where we can really make advances to make the process more deterministic so we can get projects on the ground going. I thank the gentleman for his leadership there.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan's Seventh District, Representative TIM WALBERG,

and I want to recognize him for his work on the Taxpayers Right-to-Know effort. I thank the gentleman for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman JOHNSON, Task Force Chairman GIANFORTE, and my colleagues at RSC for their leadership on this task force and putting together a document that has answers if we are willing to accept them and move them forward. Moving them forward will make an impact for the better of this country and its taxpayers.

Making government more efficient and accountable to the people is something we all should be able to rally behind. It shouldn't be a partisan issue. After all, we are a government of, by, and for the people.

We are here today to talk about a series of commonsense solutions that will return power to the folks back home. I am proud that one of them is my bill, H.R. 3830, the Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act, which unanimously passed the House last week and now is over in the Senate. It is a pretty simple bill.

American taxpayers deserve to know where, when, why, and how the government is spending their hard-earned dollars, and they deserve to have those dollars spent in an efficient, smart manner.

My bipartisan legislation requires Federal agencies to supply online accounting of their program activities in an easily searchable inventory so that Americans can keep tabs on where and how their tax dollars are being spent. All of the information provided for the inventory will be updated regularly to provide for a more realtime accounting of Federal programs and dollars.

The Taxpayers Right-to-Know Act will help cut down on waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government by allowing policymakers to better identify areas where any programs duplicate and put a stop to it.

Congress needs to do more to lighten the load for the next generation. We need to streamline efficiencies, increase effectiveness, institute more transparency, and provide better accounting across the Federal Government.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the GEAR Task Force for highlighting these proposals and working to make our government better serve the people we represent.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his leadership on this.

Taxpayers do have a right to know, and hopefully as that bill moves to the President's desk, it will actually happen.

At this time, I welcome the gentleman from Texas' 27th Congressional District, Representative MICHAEL CLOUD, here today. He was a member of

the GEAR Task Force and really brought a number of ideas to the table, and he is here today to reflect on a number of those.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his work and leadership on this task force. It has been a worthwhile project, to say the least.

Madam Speaker, with over \$23 trillion in national debt and annual deficits at \$1 trillion, it is obvious that Washington has a spending problem. We must do something to rein in this problem that we are leaving for our children, and we must do it soon.

Every day, taxpayer dollars are wasted on unnecessary expenses. For example, as part of the "use it or lose it" last-minute spending sprees of 2018, Federal agencies spent over \$4 million on lobster tails and crabs, \$673,000 on golf carts, \$308,000 on alcohol, and \$53,000 on china tableware.

Another example is that, despite the efforts to address the issue, the Federal Government makes over \$800 million in payments to people who are no longer on this Earth.

And, finally, right now, there are duplicative programs, including 91 Federal programs that train healthcare workers and more than 40 workforce development programs. Some of these may be good, but consolidating them might be a great idea.

We owe it to the American people to do better with their hard-earned tax dollars, and we owe it to future generations not to borrow against their future.

On the Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform Task Force, our aim is to make Washington take real steps toward returning the government to its proper constitutional boundaries.

The recommendations compiled today are not flashy. They won't lead in the nightly news; they won't dominate your social media feeds; but they are important, and it is incumbent upon us to look past the 15-second sound bites and get serious about the business of governing.

Here are just a handful of solutions: We could sell unused Federal office space;

We can consolidate duplicative programs and agencies;

We can identify programs that are not working and eliminate them.

The President's budget has an entire chapter on highlighting our government's wasteful spending and some of the efforts his administration is making to eliminate it.

All of America understands that we need to balance our budget, but no administration, Republican or Democrat, can do it without that commitment from Congress.

We are elected and given very specific authority under the Constitution to control how taxpayer dollars are spent. We must roll up our sleeves and

do everything we can to rein in this Washington spending machine.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his leadership here in highlighting some of these wasteful programs. Clearly, we can do better, and I thank him for bringing them forward.

At this time, I will yield to the gentlewoman from Arizona's Eighth Congressional District, Representative DEBBIE LESKO. She has brought to us some of the reforms related to improving our immigration system, and I look forward to her sharing that with us.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO).

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, my friend, Mr. GIANFORTE, for giving me the opportunity to speak about this bill.

I am from Arizona, so border security has been for years and still is the number one issue that people in Arizona care about. They welcome legal immigrants, but they also want to make sure that Arizona and our Nation are secure and that illegal drug trafficking is mitigated.

We used to see mostly single male adults crossing our border, and they would evade the Border Patrol officers; but, recently, however, thousands and thousands of illegal migrants are coming from Central America, and they are being coached by the cartels, who charge them \$5,000 to \$8,000 a person. They are saying: Let's go up there and turn yourselves in to the Border Patrol officers, because there is a loophole, and just claim asylum.

And they know that, once they are in, they are in the United States and they can stay.

□ 1500

Instead of running away from Border Patrol, they turn themselves in, claiming asylum, so our immigration courts are overloaded and legitimate asylum claims languish amidst frivolous claims.

This backlog is severe. It is a non-partisan challenge facing our immigration courts. A recent report stated that backlog cases in immigration courts exceeded 1 million claims.

This backlog has rapidly increased over the last decade, and as the backlog increases, so do wait times. Sometimes, it takes years for these cases to proceed through the courts.

We currently have approximately 400 immigration judges. That is about 2,500 cases per judge. This backlog strains housing facilities and prevents judges from granting asylum to legitimate asylum seekers and from swiftly removing those who have frivolous claims and are abusing the loopholes in our laws.

This is a big national security and humanitarian crisis. We need efficiency in the Federal Government, especially when it comes to immigration.

That is why I introduced H.R. 3859 to help reduce the immigration court backlog and help legitimate asylum seekers.



This bill provides an additional 100 immigration judges to reduce the asylum backlog. Adding more judges will allow these cases to be adjudicated faster and help reduce the backlog.

I thank the task force chairman, GREG GIANFORTE, and the Republican Study Committee chairman, MIKE JOHNSON, for their hard work to increase efficiency and accountability in our government, especially when it comes to immigration.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, especially for bringing attention to this issue of immigration. It is top of mind for so many Americans, and having the judges necessary to pursue these cases to final outcome is so important.

I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), from the 12th Congressional District, a task force member who helped bring forward many of the ideas that are in this collection of commonsense government efficiency ideas just published recently.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Montana, the chairman of this committee. It was a real privilege to serve on this committee.

Over the years, the size of the Federal Government has ballooned. While it excels in some ways, like keeping our Nation safe, oftentimes, it does not serve the American people well, and that keeps my constituent services office very busy back in the district.

As a small business owner, I know how important it is to run effective and efficient operations. If you don't serve your customers well, you won't stay in business. But because the Federal Government is largely unaccountable, the only people who suffer from government inefficiency are the people it is intended to serve: the American people.

For far too long, we have let the executive branch seize authority and empower unelected bureaucrats. I am proud to serve on the Republican Study Committee's Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform Task Force, whose goal is to develop reforms to improve the Federal Government in order to better serve American families.

Prior to my service here in Congress, I served as the Georgia co-chair for the Fix the Debt committee, which was a nationwide bipartisan effort to identify ways that we could balance our budget.

Our new report here in the GEAR Task Force highlights strategies to streamline government practices and remove waste, much like the Fix the Debt committee identified.

For example, we all know that Washington has a spending problem. If something isn't working, many of my colleagues would prefer just to throw more money at the problem. But when has that worked? We need serious government reform.

In my business, we emphasize the importance of streamlining processes so we can maximize every dollar. We have a 5-year lookback procedure where we

look at every dollar we spend to make sure that we are using every dollar in an efficient manner so that those who invest—in this case, the American taxpayers—get the most bang for their buck.

Also, in our business, we have a balance sheet, an income statement, where we can actually run ratios that we can compare and see how we are doing against our peers.

I mentioned that to someone on the Budget Committee and they said: I don't think we have seen that in the Federal Government.

I come from the business community, and I came to Washington because we have to get down to business. I have identified, again, working on this task force, on the Budget Committee, and on the RSC, so many areas where, frankly, we can be much more efficient at spending every dollar.

Every taxpayer should be treated like a shareholder. They should know exactly where and how their money is being spent.

That is why I have a big problem with the appropriations process here in Congress. Yes, we kind of go through the motions here on the House floor, but we bog down, and it becomes a four-corner deal where leadership on both sides decides: Okay, these are the caps, and this is how we are going to spend the money.

The appropriators appropriate to that number, and then we are given a 1,200-page spending bill 24 hours before we have to vote on it. That is ridiculous.

I have emphasized to my leadership that I will not vote on a bill like that again, that we should stand right here through the appropriations process and show the American people every place we are spending a dollar.

The GEAR report lays the groundwork for this type of reform. Our report highlights specific ways we can make government more efficient and accountable to the people, including improving metrics to better inform decisionmaking, utilizing excess Federal office space, leveraging duplicative government contracts, consolidating data centers, reducing security clearance processing delays, and much more.

These solutions are common sense, and they should garner bipartisan support. I encourage my colleagues who have not yet read the report to do so. We have highlighted over 100 ways we can improve government and better serve the American people.

We must change the status quo. That is why I came to Washington.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia. I particularly appreciate his business experience here in the House and his participation on this task force.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. TIMMONS), from the Fourth Congressional District. He has also been a task force member, and his fingerprints are on this report.

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding.

A decade ago, Congress passed a law directing the executive branch to inform them within 2 years of how many Federal programs existed within the Federal Government. We are still waiting for that answer today.

Since 2010, I think we can all agree that the size of the Federal Government has grown exponentially and has overreached in places it should not. This unchecked scope of power and inefficient bureaucracy affects every aspect of our lives and is a threat to our well-being and to the foundation of our Republic.

The Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform Task Force, or GEAR, of the Republican Study Committee has worked over the last year on ways to rein in wasteful and unnecessary government overreach and spending, make the Federal Government more transparent and accountable, and get back to the basics of the legislative branch, to be a government that works for the American people.

Today, I would like to speak to the reform aspect of the task force. In order to promote and advance efficiency within the Federal Government, government practices must be reformed.

All Americans want a government that is efficient and that delivers results. One of the ways that we can reform the Federal Government is to address our cybersecurity shortcomings.

Every day, hackers, criminals, terrorists, and foreign countries seek to exploit our cybersecurity systems. Earlier this year, a group of Iranian-affiliated hackers infiltrated a U.S. Government website, wrote pro-Iranian messages, and wrote a message about Iranian cyber capabilities.

The threat landscape is constantly changing, and the cybersecurity needs are evolving along with it. The government must continue to reform and update its cyber practices to best defend against adversaries.

The GAO has made over 3,000 recommendations since 2010 regarding the U.S. Government's cybersecurity policies. As of GAO's last full survey of these concerns in 2017, only 448 recommendations have been implemented. This is unacceptable, and it puts our Nation at unnecessary risk.

I am pleased that the Trump administration has made cybersecurity a priority, recognizing that protecting cyberspace is key to our national security and economic ability. Congress should utilize its oversight authority to support cybersecurity initiatives, including requiring that the outstanding GAO recommendations be implemented.

While I touched briefly on one of the many important ways the Federal Government can work toward reform, there are many crucial steps that Congress can take to ensure it is continuing to work for the people and not the other way around.

The work of the GEAR Task Force is important, and I hope that every Member will take some time to read through the report. We all made a promise to our constituents to come to Washington to work for them and prioritize their needs.

This report is not meant to be Republican or Democratic. This report is something that all Members of Congress, regardless of party, should be able to get behind. It is a blueprint for good government, the kind of governing that was intended by our Founding Fathers.

Let's work together to make Congress and the Federal Government, as a whole, work for the people. We can start by enacting necessary reforms to make the government more efficient and accountable.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for his leadership on the GEAR Task Force.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), from the First Congressional District, for his thoughts on government efficiency and reform.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Montana (Mr. GIANFORTE) for his leadership on this.

It is really a commonsense issue, isn't it? Government efficiency, accountability, and reform is something that all Americans can get behind because, let's remember for just a moment, who pays for all of this? Who pays to keep the lights on here, all of these buildings in Washington, D.C., all of the people working in them, all of them out in the districts, all of them out there in the forests, what have you? It is the American taxpayer.

What is the American taxpayer faced with? Trying to take care of their own business, their home, their family, their mortgage, car payments, saving for college, whatever their priorities are, maybe going on a vacation once in a while, saving up so they can have a week or two off.

What is it that we are doing with their money in Washington, D.C., or my home State of California in Sacramento? How are we respecting what they earn? How are we respecting that by the priorities we are putting on spending what they earn?

And it isn't a contribution, like sometimes it is talked about. I love to hear the talk around here: the contributions you make, and the investments we are going to make. No, tax dollars are not voluntary. They are taken from you per a formula.

So, how are we treating them? That is an important charge to me.

This is a big place, and there are a lot of Members, and there is a lot of government, after 230-plus years of layers. So getting back to just a little more efficiency, I think, tells those hardworking folks that there is somebody in Washington, D.C., like this GEAR committee, like these folks, who are trying to somehow work toward balancing the budget someday.

The President's budget that he is talking about, he is going to take a lot of hits for that right now. At least he is putting the concept out there that is trying to work toward balance instead of deficit spending. We will be consumed one day by the service on the debt if interest rates go wild. It will eclipse our spending.

Let me just break it down, in my couple of minutes here, on a couple of things that I think are important about this more locally, more for the Western States that myself, Mr. GIANFORTE, and others share.

The RSC plan lays out more than 100 solutions for GEAR reform, including modernizing NEPA and the Endangered Species Act, especially important in my State, as well as the West.

□ 1515

NEPA is Big Government at its best. It has been manipulated into something that is a monster and that it should never have been as far as protecting the environment. It is often the largest hindrance on forest management, water management, water storage, and for simple power line clearing projects; like are so desperately needed in my district since the town of Paradise burned a little over a year ago, and we are trying to rebuild. There are more towns I could name in the district that that same catastrophe could happen to because of overcrowded forests, and in some cases proximity to power lines.

According to this report, the NEPA review can take nearly 6 years on average to get a NEPA report.

We are talking about forestry, Madam Speaker.

How long does it take to study replacing a simple culvert in a Forest Service road?

Why does that even need a study?

If you built the thing to begin with, just replace it. No. We have got to study it to death. We have to study and get permits to clear trees around power lines that might be hazardous, a leaning tree or a dead tree.

Now, thankfully, we got bipartisan legislation, me and Mr. SCHRADER from Oregon, to help speed that process up, and we are going to work on another bill to speed it up even more so we can do a simple, basic, commonsense thing like that.

Californians don't have a lot of time to wait for the government to do the forest management on its lands and infrastructure overhauls needed to protect them from wildfires and droughts. Indeed, when the Pacific Gas & Electric Company says that it might be up to 10 years before we can get out of this power shutoff situation that we are facing because of other issues that they are battling through with green power mandates and getting permission to do the lines.

Ten years of power shutoffs for my constituents?

Are you kidding me?

We need to narrow that down to almost nothing, because we can't have another year like that.

So I applaud the Trump administration for recently proposing reforms to NEPA, but we should not have had to wait 40 years for the executive branch to act. This executive branch is doing so.

Congress should be in the business of addressing inefficiency in government, having much more oversight, like GEAR, like my colleagues are all working on here as well, including ending the cumulative effects and indirect impact statements required by NEPA.

The Endangered Species Act also poses a unique set of problems to California, specifically with critical habitat designations.

Take the valley elderberry longhorn beetle. Fish and Wildlife recommended, I think about 15 years ago, to finally delist that. Here we still are waiting to delist that and all the habitat issues with elderberry plants that inhibit the ability to fix flood control projects and to fix levees, because you have to plant back 15 to 1 for every elderberry bush you might disturb because it is possible critical habitat, even if you have never seen an elderberry beetle land there.

The Shasta Dam project would raise the dam 18 feet and supply about 650,000 more acre-feet of water for Californians, whether it is for agriculture, people, habitat or whatever—18 more feet. That is a lot of water to an existing dam. It has been halted due to a lawsuit calling for the protection of the Shasta salamander. The 3-inch long salamander makes its home on the banks of Lake Shasta which has been designated as a critical habitat.

Now, when there is a lot of rain coming into Lake Shasta, the fastest the lake can rise is about one-quarter inch per hour during heavy rain. So all the salamander has to do is be able to move at one-quarter inch per hour to stay ahead of the lake level.

Where is the sense here?

Eighteen feet above an already existing lake which the salamander already thinks is pretty cool to live next to.

Critical habitats unnecessarily delay critical infrastructure projects like the Shasta Dam, and their designation standards need to be reformed for whatever habitat is.

The RSC GEAR report has done an excellent job at addressing these necessary changes, including reforms to NEPA and the ESA. I sincerely hope Congress—both sides of the aisle—will take these suggestions and hold bureaucracy more accountable to the American people who pay for all this.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his remarks.

I agree we have seen the impacts of an overly lengthy NEPA process that just ties projects in knots, and the weaponization of the Endangered Species Act has allowed it to drift away from its original intent of protecting species. So I appreciate the gentleman's leadership on this.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the 21st District of Texas (Mr. ROY) for his thoughts on government efficiency and reform and also his leadership on national emergency reform.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for his leadership on this and my colleagues who have been working together on this important effort.

Madam Speaker, things like government efficiency, accountability, and reform are things you would think we would all be able to get behind. I am certainly of the belief that the American people who are watching—even if it is just a handful in their living rooms—are a lot more than are watching here in the Chamber.

I am also interested, when you look at the C-SPAN cameras, if you pan back, nobody is here to talk about what I am about to talk about. Yet we saw last week a Senate Chamber with 100 Senators sitting there debating what?

They were debating failed Articles of Impeachment.

Here we are trying to figure out how to make our government accountable, make it efficient, and make it effective. Reclaiming power from elected bureaucrats, reforming government practices to curb inefficiency and waste, and reemphasizing and rewarding innovation is something I think all Americans could get behind.

But I would like to talk about something that I think is critically important, which is restoring Article I and restoring the primacy of this body and the Senate in governing our Nation.

We shouldn't be looking to the executive branch, no matter who is in power, to be making decisions that should be reserved to the Members of this body and the Senate.

Congress ceded some of our power in 1976 with the passage of the National Emergencies Act, which pulled together a number of different powers contained in the 130 different statutes at the time giving the President unilateral authority to declare emergencies.

Madam Speaker, there are currently 33 emergencies in effect, some of them dating back to the Carter administration. Now, think about that. It is an emergency. It is an emergency, and it dates back to the Carter administration. This is no way to govern.

I learned this how?

Well, last spring when we were having a robust debate about securing the border of the United States—by the way, a sovereign nation should not need to have a debate about ensuring that our border is secure when you have 900,000 individuals being apprehended on our southern border last fiscal year alone, 900,000—600,000 of whom were caught and released into our country. The President of the United States is working to secure our border, to put up physical barriers, to build a wall, and to build a fence which is des-

perately needed. And it is working where it is being implemented.

The President is right to do so. He is right that there is an emergency at our southern border, and he is right that the Members of this body led by Democrats refuse to acknowledge the crisis at our southern border. He was right to defend our southern border.

But the question that popped into my head is: All right, we have an emergency. Now what?

This body, Article I, should do its job. It is incumbent upon Congress to act. We shouldn't allow an emergency to be declared and then operate our policies under it, even if I agree with the policy, and I do. I do agree with the policy of what the President is doing.

So I implore my Democrat colleagues, who are not in the Chamber, to come have a debate about restoring Article I and about all of the different issues that may occur.

I introduced H.R. 1755 which is the companion legislation to that which was offered by my friend, Senator MIKE LEE of Utah, in the U.S. Senate, and that bill would take a President's emergency declaration and terminate it after 30 days unless Congress affirmatively authorizes an extension. The bill would also terminate the emergency declaration after 1 year unless a new resolution of approval is enacted. It requires the President to report to Congress on how the President is exercising emergency powers.

Senator LEE's bill has been passed out of committee, but we have had nary a debate here in the body about restoring Article I. We have had a lot of speeches and a lot of complaints about the President of the United States and a lot of complaints about what is happening at our border, but not one serious debate about restoring Article I.

Let's do it. Let's come together right now and let's stand up as a body in Congress and say: Do you know what? If there is an emergency, great, Mr. President, go act in the emergency; but 30 days later we can agree it is time for Congress to decide how money is going to be appropriated and how we are going to enforce and implement the laws that we think are important for this body.

This is critical to government reform. This is critical to making sure we are making government more efficient and more accountable. This body is the body, this House is the people's House and most responsive to the American people.

I would beg, literally, my Democratic colleagues to engage in debate, as we sit here in an empty Chamber, about the kinds of things that I know the American people would love for us to debate.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding to me and for organizing this activity.

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas, particularly for reminding us of the need

to rebalance and reclaim our Article I authority from the runaway bureaucracy that we have here in Washington.

Madam Speaker, we started the Government Efficiency Accountability and Reform Task Force for one simple reason: only 17 percent of Americans today say they can trust the government in Washington. We have to get the government working for the people again.

Madam Speaker, I was in Billings, Montana, and a gentleman who has been drilling natural gas wells for 30 years told me a story. He said 30 years ago when he wanted a permit to drill a well, he would go into the field with a clipboard, a single piece of paper, and a ballpoint pen. He would fill out that application. The government official would review it in the field and say: That will be all right.

Today, Madam Speaker, that same form is 48 pages long, requires an engineer and a lawyer to fill it out, tens of thousands of dollars, and months to process.

Clearly, we can do better.

Our three branches of government have drifted from their original purpose to cultivating a culture of waste. That is why we have produced this playbook of 100 commonsense, non-partisan solutions for efficiency, accountability, and reform of our Federal Government.

Over this last year, the Republican Study Committee GEAR Task Force has been meeting with outside experts and the administration and internally to produce a playbook of commonsense solutions for efficiency, accountability, and reform of our Federal Government.

I want to thank the task force members, the chairman of the RSC, MIKE JOHNSON; BARRY LOUDERMILK; DOUG COLLINS; BRUCE WESTERMAN; RICK ALLEN; JOHN CURTIS; MICHAEL CLOUD; KELLY ARMSTRONG; WILLIAM TIMMONS; and DENVER RIGGLEMAN for their engagement and their leadership in pulling together this playbook through which we hope to run these commonsense ideas.

The report is broken into three sections. The first section refers to the comments made by my colleague who just finished on the Article I power in the Constitution to restore the people's control over an unchecked bureaucracy by returning the constitutional balance between the branches of government.

Our Founding Fathers never anticipated the size of the bureaucracy we have today. That is why we need provisions like the REINS Act, so that the statutes passed in this House get reflected in rules consistent with our intent.

The second section of the report has to do with government practices to streamline Federal programs and operations to promote efficiency and eliminate waste.

Madam Speaker, in 2015 the Social Security Administration told us we had sent benefit checks to over 6 million Americans who were over the age

of 112. Now, either they are drinking some special elixir of life or they are not with us anymore. That is why I have introduced a piece of legislation titled stop paying dead people. I think that would be a good reform. It would save American taxpayers and make sure the benefits are there for those who do need Social Security.

The third section of the report is on personnel, to transition government personnel accountability and compensation toward more of a merit-based system. I operated a number of businesses in the private sector, and there are many HR practices in the Federal Government which are very different than they are in the private sector, things like merit-based pay, the way we do performance reviews, and making sure we have market-based pay for our good, dedicated Federal workers. Those are contained in the third section.

In total, there are over 100 commonsense ideas in this report that we will run as plays here in the House to make the government start working for the people again.

I appreciate the opportunity for the Members of the task force and others who have engaged on this issue to come today and share their commonsense ideas. I look forward to partnering to put these ideas into practice to get government working for the people again.

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

□ 1530

**REQUIRING AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING, A QUORUM BEING PRESENT, ON FINAL PASSAGE OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 79**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the adoption of House Resolution 844 earlier today, House Resolution 842 is considered as adopted.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

**H. RES. 842**

*Resolved*, That an affirmative vote of a majority of the Members present and voting, a quorum being present, shall be required on final passage of House Joint Resolution 79.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.**

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

3761. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of The President, transmitting the Office's Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2020, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 904(f)(1); Public Law 99-177, Sec. 254(f)(1); (99 Stat. 1078); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3762. A letter from the Program Specialist, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulatory Capital Rule: Revisions to the Supplementary Leverage Ratio To Exclude Certain Central Bank Deposits of Banking Organizations Predominantly Engaged in Custody, Safekeeping, and Asset Servicing Activities [Docket ID: OCC-2019-0001] (RIN: 1557-AE60) received February 6, 2020, 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.

3763. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval and Designation of Areas; FL; Source-Specific SO2 Permit Limits and Redesignation of the Hillsborough-Polk 2010 1-Hr SO2 Nonattainment Area to Attainment and Mulberry Unclassifiable Area to Attainment/Unclassifiable [EPA-R04-OAR-2018-0510; FRL-10005-23-Region 4] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3764. A letter from the Program Specialist, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Other Real Estate Owned and Technical Amendments; Amendment of Effective Date and Correction [Docket ID: OCC-2019-0004] (RIN: 1557-AE50) received February 6, 2020, 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.

3765. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standardized Approach for Calculating the Exposure Amount of Derivative Contracts [Docket ID: OCC-2018-0030] (RIN: 1557-AE44) received February 6, 2020, 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.

3766. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's guidance — Commission Guidance on Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations [Release Nos.: 33-10751; 34-88094; FR-87] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3767. A letter from the Senior Legislative Officer, OCIA, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nondisplacement of Qualified Workers Under Service Contracts; Rescission of Regulations (RIN: 1235-AA02; 1235-AA33) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3768. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Guidelines for Determining the Probability of Causation under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000; Technical Amendments [Docket Number: CDC-2019-0050;

NIOSH-329] (RIN: 0920-AA74) received February 6, 2020, 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.

3769. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Georgia: Revisions to Cross-State Air Pollution Rule [EPA-R04-OAR-2019-0462; FRL-10005-28-Region 4] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3770. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; ID: Idaho Portion of the Logan UT-ID 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 Nonattainment Area; Moderate Plan Elements [EPA-R10-OAR-2018-0597; FRL-10005-17-Region 10] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3771. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Revisions to the State Implementation Plan Approved by EPA Through Letter [EPA-R04-OAR-2019-0391; FRL-10005-22-Region 4] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3772. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Delaware; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills [EPA-R03-OAR-2019-0160; FRL-9999-79-Region 3] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3773. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Pinal County Air Quality Control District; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills [EPA-R09-OAR-2019-0345; FRL-10001-02-Region 9] received February 7, 2020, 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.

3774. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — International Traffic in Arms Regulations: U.S. Munitions List Categories I, II, and III [Public Notice: 10603] (RIN: 1400-AE30) received February 7, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3775. A letter from the Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2019 No FEAR Act Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

3776. A letter from the Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting a letter written in response to the Office of the Ombudsman's 2018 Annual Report, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7385s-15(e)(2); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3777. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class E Airspace; Grundy, VA [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0785; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AEA-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3778. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Winona, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0764; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AGL-25] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3779. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0442; Product Identifier 2018-NM-171-AD; Amendment 39-19826; AD 2020-02-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3780. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0702; Product Identifier 2019-NM-118-AD; Amendment 39-19825; AD 2020-02-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3781. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0860; Product Identifier 2019-NM-123-AD; Amendment 39-19827; AD 2020-02-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3782. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0725; Product Identifier 2019-NM-099-AD; Amendment 39-19829; AD 2020-02-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3783. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0610; Product Identifier 2019-NM-094-AD; Amendment 39-21022; AD 2019-26-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3784. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0858; Product Identifier 2019-NM-

145-AD; Amendment 39-19816; AD 2020-01-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3785. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-1078; Product Identifier 2019-NM-207-AD; Amendment 39-19822; AD 2020-01-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3786. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0721; Product Identifier 2019-NM-150-AD; Amendment 39-19828; AD 2020-02-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 7, 2020, 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.

3787. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Return Due Date and Extended Due Date Changes [TD 9892] (RIN: 1545-BN12) received February 6, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3788. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure 2020-8 received February 6, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## 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. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. BOST, Mr. COOK, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BACON, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. WALKER, Mr. PENCE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. MAST, Mr. TURNER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. McCAUL, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 5840. A bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to ensure that absent uniformed services voters serving at diplomatic and consular posts of the United States are able to receive and transmit balloting materials in the same manner and with the same rights and protections as other absent uniformed services voters under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 5841. A bill to decrease the incidence of food waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, Oversight and Reform, and 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 Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. BARRAGAN, and Mr. RUIZ):

H.R. 5842. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants to entities to enable such entities to participate in decisions impacting the health and safety of their communities in connection with the release of certain hazardous air pollutants and the permitting of solid waste disposal facilities and hazardous waste facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Miss RICE of New York (for herself and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 5843. A bill to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs testimonial subpoena authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RIGGLEMAN:

H.R. 5844. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to revise the shareholder threshold for registration under that Act for issuers that receive support through certain Federal universal service support mechanisms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Ms.

CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COHEN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 5845. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to reduce the production and use of certain single-use plastic products and packaging, to improve the responsibility of producers in the design, collection, reuse, recycling, and disposal of their consumer products and packaging, to prevent pollution from consumer products and packaging from entering into animal and human food chains and waterways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 5846. A bill to provide for working with allies to seek increased compliance by China with certain OECD export credit standards; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina):

H.R. 5847. A bill to provide for the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of George Henry White; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. COX of California (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 5848. A bill to eliminate asset limits employed by certain Federally-funded means-tested public assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Education and Labor, 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. 5849. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force unit to investigate transnational criminal organization arms smuggling across the international border between the United States and Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. COLE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 5850. A bill to expedite and streamline the deployment of affordable broadband service on Tribal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Natural Resources, 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. HIGGINS of New York (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 5851. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain qualified over-the-counter securities to be treated as readily traded on an established securities market for the purpose of diversification requirements for employee stock ownership plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 5852. A bill to redesignate the Weir Farm National Historic Site in the State of Connecticut as the "Weir Farm National Historical Park"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. McEACHIN (for himself, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mrs. LURIA):

H.R. 5853. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 5854. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to eligible schools to assist such schools to discontinue use of a derogatory or discriminatory name or depiction as a team name, mascot, or nickname, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 5855. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama:

H.R. 5856. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a decentralized wastewater grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. GRJALVA, Mr. McEACHIN, Ms. DeGETTE, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H. Con. Res. 89. Concurrent resolution encouraging the Trump Administration to maintain protections under the National Environmental Policy Act and reverse ongoing administrative actions to weaken this landmark law and its protections for American communities; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. HIMES, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MEEKS,

Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. GRJALVA):

H. Res. 845. A resolution recognizing that international education and exchange programs further national security and foreign policy priorities, enhance economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RUSH:

H. Res. 846. A resolution urging the people of the United States to observe the month of April of each year as Hazel M. Johnson Environmental Justice Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. HIMES:

H. Res. 847. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 12, 2020, as "Darwin Day" and recognizing the importance of science to the betterment of humanity; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. SCANLON (for herself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. UPTON, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. DEAN, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. COLE, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H. Res. 848. A resolution expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the designation of "Public Radio Music Day" and its deep appreciation for the role of public radio music stations in serving listeners, musicians, and hundreds of communities in the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

160. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 123, urging the Congress of the United States to establish and fund programs that support positive health practices for minority mothers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

161. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Maine, relative to H.P. 1440, memorializing the United States Congress to provide access to banking and insurance services to legal cannabis and cannabis-related businesses; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services.

## 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. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 5840.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 5841.

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

Clause 1 of Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. KENNEDY:

H.R. 5842.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Miss RICE of New York:

H.R. 5843.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. RIGGLEMAN:

H.R. 5844.

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

Article I, section 8, clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, section 8, clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:

H.R. 5845.

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

Article IV, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution

"The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state."

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 5846.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 5847.

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

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. COX of California:

H.R. 5848.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 1 (which provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States.")

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 (which allows Congress to make all laws "which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution" any of Congress's enumerated powers, including Congress's powers over appropriations).

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 5849.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 5850.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 5851.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 5852.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. McEACHIN:

H.R. 5853.



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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 5854.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:

H.R. 5855.

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

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to institute legislation which is necessary and proper for the protection of the American people.

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama:

H.R. 5856.

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

Section 8, Clause 3, of the United States Constitution

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 571: Mr. MAST, Mr. PERRY, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 573: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 663: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 779: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 846: Mr. GALLAGHER.

H.R. 906: Mr. BUDD and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 919: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 948: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 969: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. GOODEN, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.

H.R. 1043: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 1195: Mr. MALINOWSKI and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1325: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1379: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 1400: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 1450: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1461: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 1692: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1695: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 1814: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1846: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1953: Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 2117: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 2148: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 2178: Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 2245: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 2283: Mr. KINZINGER.

H.R. 2339: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 2420: Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BRADY, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. GOLDEN, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 2442: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2599: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 2607: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. RIGGLEMAN.

H.R. 2620: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 2651: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 2653: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 2731: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 2775: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2850: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 2897: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. GOODEN.

H.R. 3040: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 3136: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3219: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 3315: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 3550: Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 3588: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 3633: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 3663: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 3735: Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 3749: Mr. KILMER and Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 3794: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 3964: Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MCHENRY, and Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 4078: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 4230: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 4340: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 4348: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 4519: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 4563: Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 4569: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 4644: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 4681: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 4705: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 4820: Mr. COSTA, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 4821: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 5002: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 5041: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 5042: Ms. BONAMICI and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 5052: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 5117: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 5170: Mr. RYAN and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 5229: Mr. HASTINGS and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 5231: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 5234: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 5296: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 5319: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 5342: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 5413: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 5421: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. COMER, and Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 5481: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 5491: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 5549: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CHABOT, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 5581: Mr. ESPALLAT.

H.R. 5589: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 5605: Mr. CURTIS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. KINZINGER, and Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 5694: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 5700: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 5712: Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 5719: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 5727: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 5744: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 5770: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 5814: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 5821: Mr. KILDEE and Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 5825: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 5831: Mr. BUDD and Mr. MCHENRY.

H.J. Res. 20: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.J. Res. 84: Ms. NORTON.

H. Res. 374: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. BARR, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. BUCK.

H. Res. 792: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. SERRANO.

H. Res. 810: Mr. COLE.

H. Res. 815: Mrs. LURIA.

H. Res. 822: Mr. GRIJALVA.