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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our refuge and strength, You reminded us in Romans 8:26 that we do not even know how we should pray or for what we should pray. You then promised that if we request it, Your Holy Spirit will pray for us with groaning that cannot be expressed in words. We claim that promise that Your Spirit will pray for us.

Lord, guide our Senators through the power of this celestial intercession. Inspire our lawmakers to earnestly seek to fulfill Your purposes. Enable them to find unity with each other because of their experiential relationship with Your intervening love.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAWLEY). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

ADVANCED GEOTHERMAL INNOVATION LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2019—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2657, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute as in morning business.

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

ANTI-DAIRY ACTIVISM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, our U.S. dairy farmers have had a tough decade. Margins are thinner than ever, and new milk substitutes can be found in every grocery store. While dairy farmers scored a major victory in the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement with increased market access to Canada, there is a scary new trend that is very disturbing.

Hollywood jokers have taken a stand against raising cows with the so-called hashtag “mootoo” movement. This is utterly irresponsible. U.S. dairies produce the highest quality milk and cheese in the world under the highest standards of care. Drink and eat dairy products. It is good for you—especially ice cream. Help our dairy farmers.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, over the weekend, cases of the coronavirus have been confirmed in New York, Rhode Island, and Florida. Officials in Washington State have also reported

that now six Americans have died from the coronavirus—the first fatalities in the United States.

At this critical moment, we need an administration that acts with persistent and unrelenting transparency and decisiveness, and that leans on the expertise of our scientists and doctors. But this administration, unfortunately, has spent years hollowing out the domestic and global health security teams in the executive branch. It has proposed cutting funding from the infectious disease rapid response fund, the emerging infectious disease account, and public health preparedness and response programs. Undoubtedly, the Trump administration would have been better prepared to respond to the coronavirus if the President had prioritized these programs rather than urged them to be cut.

The administration's early response efforts have not instilled much confidence either. Testing kits were not promptly sent to the hospitals and medical labs around the country, political personnel have overruled the recommendations of the CDC, and the administration was slow to appoint any single official with public health expertise to coordinate our government's response.

Even now, President Trump seems to be spending more of his time blaming the media and blaming the Democrats than being constructive. In fact, he blames everyone not named Donald Trump. The President is downplaying—he is downplaying—the threat of the coronavirus to a dangerous degree, and his Chief of Staff, amazingly, said to Americans: “Turn off your televisions.”

We know the history of how these viruses spread and work. When you deny them, when you don't let people know what is happening and what to do about it, things get worse. Yet the President, being as self-centered as he is, only cares about himself and his image. As usual, instead of solving the

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



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problem, he tries to blame somebody else.

The deflection and finger-pointing and denial must stop. President Trump must take responsibility to ensure that everyone in the public health community has the authority and the resources needed. We need the President and his team to level with the American people and get a handle on the situation.

Later this week, appropriators will put together an emergency supplemental package to surge resources into the domestic and global response and to help local communities quickly prepare for the coronavirus. I have said that we need about \$8.5 billion, and, from all reports, the appropriators are very close to that number, rather than the \$2.5 billion the President talked about early on. That is good because when it comes to Americans' health, when it comes to our safety, and when it comes to dealing with this problem head-on, skimping doesn't make any sense at all. If there was ever something that is pennywise and pound foolish, that is it.

As this package comes together, I am going to have more to say, but, at a minimum, any package needs to have provisions that ensure that the President cannot transfer these new funds to anything other than the coronavirus and American and global preparedness to combat epidemics and infectious diseases.

Vaccines must be affordable and available to all who need them. Yesterday, I called for vaccines, when developed, to be fully covered by Medicare, because seniors who need the vaccines most should not have to worry if they can afford it once it is available.

There should be interest-free loans made available for small businesses impacted by the outbreak, and State and local governments should be reimbursed and provided new grants for response activities. In the meantime, the administration needs to keep working with local communities—including schools, universities, and local agencies—on the steps they must take to prepare for an increase in coronavirus cases.

Specifically, the administration needs to do the following: First, issue coherent guidance on what school districts should do in the event the virus is detected in a community; second, establish a uniform screening policy for airports and ports of entry, as our frontline transportation professionals at TSA and CBP need clear guidance on the coronavirus; and, third, make it clear that our Federal scientists and medical experts can speak out freely and be heard by the American people—no gag rule, no downplaying this because that makes things worse when people don't know the facts.

Democrats are ready to work on a bipartisan basis to make sure Federal, State, and local officials are ready for whatever scenario the coronavirus presents. The President and his adminis-

tration and our colleagues in the Senate must be ready to do the same.

ENERGY BILL

Mr. President, on the Energy bill, tonight the Senate will vote on a motion to proceed on a bill that will make changes to our Nation's energy policy. Ranking Member MANCHIN and I have had several discussions with Chairwoman MURKOWSKI and the Republican leader about having a fair amendment process on this legislation. As a result of these conversations, I will be voting yes on the motion tonight as a show of good faith.

Democrats want amendments to the Energy bill so we can make real progress on climate change. That is what we are hoping to achieve this week. Few pieces of legislation offer more opportunity for progress on climate than those that concern our energy policy. We cannot miss this opportunity to make real, substantive progress on climate change. I am hopeful that our amendments this week and the potential progress we can make on climate change this week can be bipartisan.

For months, Republicans have been trying to adjust their posture on the most pressing issue facing our planet—the climate crisis. This bill provides a real test for Senate Republicans. Will they join Senate Democrats in fighting for and passing bipartisan legislation that will address climate change in a significant way, or will our Republican friends continue to do what they have done for the last several years—do the bidding of corporate polluters and Big Oil and block amendments with bipartisan support?

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. President, finally, on the DNI, on Friday, after dismissing Acting Director of National Intelligence Maguire and replacing him with Rick Grenell, a partisan loyalist with no experience, President Trump proposed installing as a permanent Director of National Intelligence Representative JOHN RATCLIFFE of Texas.

Replacing one highly partisan operative with another does nothing to keep our country safe. At a time when Vladimir Putin is once again interfering in our elections, we need a non-partisan leader with a high level of expertise and trust on both sides of the aisle, someone who sees the world objectively and speaks truth to power, at the helm of the intelligence community. Neither Acting Director Grenell nor Representative RATCLIFFE comes close to that standard. Representative RATCLIFFE, in particular, falls short of that high bar.

John Negroponte became DNI after decades of working in the Foreign Service. Former Directors Dennis Blair, James Clapper, and Mike McConnell—whatever you think of them individually—came from both parties, and all had decades of experience in and working with the intelligence community. Dan Coats, the President's last nominee to this position, served as a

diplomat, a Senator, and a sergeant in the Army before assuming the post. Representative RATCLIFFE, on the other hand, is a three-term tea party Congressman. He has shown extreme partisanship in the House. He lacks the experience required to lead a community of 17 intelligence agencies.

The experience Mr. RATCLIFFE does have in Congress has been alarmingly partisan. He was a fierce critic of the Mueller investigation and earned praise from deep-state conspiracy theorists. During the Mueller hearings, RATCLIFFE badgered the former special counsel with baseless lines of questioning—highly partisan and not at all related to fact. He didn't seem to care. He showed little regard for the seriousness of Putin's interference in our elections and the need for election security.

Since World War II, since OSS, and since the formation of the CIA, the intelligence agencies have, by and large, been immune from politics. Like he does with everything else, this President seems to make them the arm of his likes and dislikes, of what is good for him and what is not good for him, even if he denigrates these fine men and women. He doesn't seem to care that we need intelligence agencies who find the truth and tell the Congress and the American people the truth. Now he appoints a rank partisan to this agency, someone he probably sees on FOX News mouthing the conspiracy theories that only the President and his avid supporters seem to believe.

It is such a decline in America when this great agency, where people have risked their lives for America quietly, is made into a political football to serve one man, Donald Trump, who we all know doesn't really have a penchant for truth, for honor, and for decency.

With this nomination, President Trump has again shown a lack of respect for the rule of law and for the intelligence community, which Republican and Democratic Presidents have all shown in the past.

Republicans must join Democrats in swiftly rejecting the nomination of the partisan Mr. RATCLIFFE.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the new coronavirus, or COVID-19, continued to capture headlines over the weekend. News of the first American deaths related to the disease confirm this is a public health challenge that is upon us.

The Senate's immediate role is clear: We need to support the Federal, State,

and local public health officials and healthcare professionals who are working overtime to blunt, delay, and mitigate the spread of the virus. I am grateful that our colleagues Chairman SHELBY and Senator LEAHY, along with their appropriations counterparts in the House, worked through the week-end on a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to provide supplemental appropriations for the coordinated response.

It goes without saying that a challenge like this leaves no time for moving goalposts or performative outrage. The American people deserve for their Congress to meet this subject head-on, with a bipartisan and collaborative approach, and I am confident that is exactly what can and will happen.

I am glad our prospects for supplemental appropriations rest in the hands of a bipartisan group of negotiators. I would encourage my Democratic colleagues in both Houses to let them do their work. It will be important to pass this first benchmark and supply these important funds within the next 2 weeks.

TALIBAN

Mr. President, on another matter, on Saturday, President Trump announced a new agreement with the Taliban that is designed to promote a peaceful end to the civil war in Afghanistan.

First and foremost, we must recognize the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops have deployed to Afghanistan since our national security compelled us in 2001 to confront the terrorist threats emanating from that failed state that Afghanistan had become. More than 2,400 American servicemembers have given their lives in Afghanistan. More than 20,000 have been wounded. Our coalition partners, such as the United Kingdom and Canada, sustained casualties as well.

Obviously the worst burden of all has fallen on the Afghan people. Tens of thousands of Afghan security forces and civilians have been killed during this long, long war.

It is largely due to these brave, heroic, and sustained efforts to keep pressure on the terrorists that Afghanistan has not come roaring back as an international headquarters for terrorists. Thanks to these efforts, the United States and its Afghan partners are hopefully in a position to bring about a negotiated end to the conflict.

After nearly 20 years, two basic principles are clear: No. 1, we should welcome any serious opportunity to bring greater stability to that land, but, No. 2, we must make certain that the progress won through great sacrifice by Afghans and Americans is not undermined by a precipitous rush for the exits.

I do not trust the Taliban, so I am grateful the linchpin of the agreement is a conditions-based approach that will provide our commanders with leverage to test the will and the capacity of the Taliban to abide by the agreement. If all goes well at first, our

American presence would stabilize with 8,600 troops for the time being. Having heard from our commanders, I agree that presence will remain an important tool as we combat the ongoing threats posed by the likes of al-Qaida and ISIS and support for the Afghans' ability to fight terrorism themselves.

Since further drawdowns would require even further progress and cooperation from the Taliban, I look forward to hearing from administration officials, intelligence analysts, and military officers about how they will judge compliance and determine whether the conditions are, in fact, met. For my part, I believe the intra-Afghan negotiations are especially critical to the future of that country and to our own significant security interests over there. We should do what we can to help the Afghans achieve a peaceful solution to their conflict.

I am glad to hear there are no secret annexes to this agreement which Congress will be denied, as there were with President Obama's Iran deal. The secret documents detailing implementation arrangements are available for the review of all Senators in Senate Security, and I encourage our colleagues to review the full details.

Republicans spent much of the Obama administration reminding our colleagues that hope—hope—is not a strategy. We argued President Obama's reckless withdrawal from Iraq would set the stage for chaos and a resurgence of terrorism. Unfortunately, the rise of ISIS proved us correct.

That is why, more than a year ago, I offered an amendment so the Senate could affirm that withdrawing from Syria or Afghanistan the wrong way could strengthen the hand of terrorists and competitors such as Russia and Iran while weakening our own vital interests.

I believe from my conversations with senior administration officials that they went into these negotiations with their eyes wide open about the Taliban's duplicitous nature. I expect Members of both parties will have many questions about this agreement and look forward to briefings from the administration about the path forward to protect American interests in Afghanistan and ensure this war ends on terms favorable to those interests.

Our fight against ISIS, al-Qaida, and other radical Islamic terrorists is not over. As my colleagues and I have said for years, even if the United States were to choose to walk away from the conflict, the conflict would not walk away from us. We learned that on September 11. We relearned it with the rise of ISIS. I hope we never need to learn it again.

So the war is not over, but this agreement may foster the negotiations and discussions within Afghanistan that would be necessary to bring it to a close.

JOHN RATCLIFFE

Mr. President, on one final matter, on Friday, President Trump announced

he intends to nominate Representative JOHN RATCLIFFE of Texas to serve as Director of National Intelligence. I am glad the President has elected to nominate a permanent DNI so the Senate can provide our advice and consent on this crucial position.

As I mentioned last week, the men and women of the intelligence community fulfill a wide array of sensitive and critically important missions. The Office of the DNI is central to coordinating these efforts in a strong fashion. It gives no quarter to politicization or partisan bias. I am glad the administration will seek Senate confirmation for the position.

President Trump has a strong track record of sending the Senate impressive nominees for national security posts who are well prepared to protect our Nation and defend our interests.

The impressive leadership of Secretary Esper at the Department of Defense, Director Haspel at the CIA, General Nakasone at the National Security Agency, and other leaders have proven that President Trump has an eye for talent and confirms that the Senate's trust in each of them was well placed.

I hope Congressman RATCLIFFE will impress Senators just as did the other members of the President's team and earn a bipartisan confirmation vote. I trust Chairman BURR and our colleagues on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will oversee a prompt and fair confirmation process, and I look forward to meeting the nominee myself.

The Trump administration has worked overtime to unwind the failures of the 8 years that preceded it. We have taken big strides to renew America's national security and our strength on the world stage. We must keep up this crucial work.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JOSH SPEIDEL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, everybody has a story. Actually, everybody has a journey, when you think of life. Some are heartbreaking, but some are uplifting, and some are hopeful. Tomorrow night, during senior night, the University of Vermont men's basketball team is going to celebrate one story that is all of these things: heartbreaking, uplifting, and hopeful. They will celebrate that when senior Josh Speidel takes the court for the first time—and what will be the only time—in his college career.

Josh is a native of Columbus, IN. He dreamed from a very young age of playing college basketball. At Columbus North High School in Indiana, Josh was the basketball team's all-time lead

point scorer and an Indiana All-Star. In November of 2014, just before his senior basketball season, he committed to play for the University of Vermont, and he accepted a scholarship at the university to play for the team.

Here is the heartbreaking part. Just a few months later, in February of 2015, Josh's dream was derailed when he suffered a traumatic brain injury, resulting from a devastating car crash. Josh would go on to spend the next 4 months in the hospital and in rehab. But just a few days after the accident, the University of Vermont's head coach, John Becker, went to Indiana and visited Josh there with a simple message for him: You are still welcome at UVM. Your scholarship will be honored, and we will help you in any way we can. That is, after all, the Vermont way.

Josh would ultimately arrive at UVM in August of 2016. While he hasn't suited up with the team, he has worked with trainers; he has improved his physical condition; and he has remained active on the court. What is so inspiring, his team was at his side throughout. He has been a constant fixture of the team, on the sidelines at games, cheering his teammates on. I have been at games and have seen him doing that.

Off the court, Josh has been working toward a degree through the College of Education. He is choosing a self-designed major to prepare him to work with children through sports, with a double minor in behavior change and coaching.

He has been a committed student throughout his time at UVM. He is set to graduate this May. After graduation, Josh hopes to use both his life experience and his education to work with children.

Tomorrow night, the University of Vermont men's basketball team will celebrate senior night. In a special arrangement with their opponent, Albany, Josh, wearing number 32, will suit up, take the court, and notch the night's first basket after the tip-off.

I so wish I could be there because when Josh steps off the court, it will surely be to the standing ovation of this young man—the personification of perseverance, determination, dedication, and hope he so richly deserves. I know my fellow Vermonters who are at these games, and I know there will be very few dry eyes in the house.

We are, all of us, the product of our life experiences, of the community that supports us, and of the will we carry to press on. Josh Speidel is a remarkable young man. At the packed gym tomorrow night, there is going to be an emotional and vibrant celebration.

Josh, from the floor of the U.S. Senate, I congratulate you on a recognition so richly deserved.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an article from the Burlington Free Press highlighting Josh's journey, dated March 1, 2020.

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

[From the Burlington Free Press, Mar. 1, 2020]

UVM'S JOSH SPEIDEL AND HIS REMARKABLE JOURNEY SET FOR EMOTIONAL STAGE ON SENIOR NIGHT

(By Alex Abramif)

Fruit was a big part of Josh Speidel's diet when he first arrived at the University of Vermont in the summer of 2016.

"He just loved bananas, it was his main food," said Everett Duncan, Speidel's dorm roommate that year, "I'm personally OK with bananas, but I was wondering, 'Where are we getting all these fruit flies?' And at the time Josh was leaving them in this little trash can that he had on the right side of his desk."

A brief argument ensued.

"I was like, 'You are not eating bananas in here anymore, just keep it at the dining hall,'" Duncan recalled. "But then I realized that I'm yelling at this man for eating bananas. It's funny now when we think about it."

The next year, Speidel roomed with another teammate, Ben Shungu. The duo would take advantage of the 5-minute walk from their University Heights dorm to Patrick Gym, routinely setting the alarm clock before 6 a.m. for workouts. Most mornings the UVM men's basketball players had the gym to themselves.

On one end of the court, there was Shungu working on his jumper with a shooting machine. And on the other end, there was Speidel putting up layups and doing his exercises.

"We would get up and do our thing," Shungu said.

Fast-forward to the past two years: Speidel moved into an off-campus house with Duncan, Shungu and the rest of his upperclassmen teammates on the UVM men's basketball team, the sort of thing college student-athletes everywhere do.

Except none of it was guaranteed for Speidel when he stepped onto the Burlington campus in 2016.

Already committed and signed with the Catamounts when he was a senior at Columbus North High School in Indiana, Speidel was in a car accident on Super Bowl Sunday in 2015—one that caused a traumatic brain injury, left him in a coma for weeks and nearly took his life.

The 6-foot-8, 215-pound star forward went from averaging 25.6 points and 9.3 rebounds a game to learning how to walk and talk again. Basketball, his passion, remained a guiding light on his road to recovery, on his path back to being an independent person.

"It's unbelievable what's he's gone through," Shungu said. "To see him stand on his own two feet and just living his life—it's just incredible, an incredible story."

"His story definitely inspires."

And more than five years after that accident, Speidel will finally fulfill a dream he's had since he was a little kid: Play in a Division I college basketball game.

The Catamounts' senior night on Tuesday has afforded Speidel the chance to suit up and start for the first and only time in his career. In a pre-game arrangement, Speidel and Albany, UVM's opponent, will trade baskets after the opening tip. Then Speidel will exit, surely to a lengthy standing ovation from the Vermont faithful.

"I didn't get to experience my senior night in high school, I didn't get to walk out with my parents," Speidel said. "I don't think it's hit me fully yet, but just being able to walk them out and embrace them and thank (my

parents), thank coach (John Becker) for all he's done—it will be pretty emotional. It's hard to put into words."

"For four years I've been hearing the starting lineup and I've always envisioned my name said. I think that'll be something."

Speidel's parents, Dave and Lisa, have also waited—and hoped—for a day like this to arrive.

"It's a moment we believed would happen. We never wanted Josh to give up," Lisa Speidel said. "Without basketball, Josh wouldn't be where he is. Without UVM, Josh wouldn't be where he is."

DETERMINATION, FAITH DRIVE RECOVERY

About six months after the accident, a doctor's evaluation didn't forecast a favorable outcome for Speidel's reading comprehension.

"He said Joshua wouldn't be above a fourth-grade level, ever," Lisa Speidel said.

"I told him that you are not going to tell Joshua that and he agreed," she said. "I still have those results in an envelope, but I have yet to open it."

Not long after that, Josh Speidel began an online course at a community college and started seeing noticeable gains in his recovery.

"Things really started clicking for Joshua then, it was really amazing," Lisa Speidel said. Positivity was a must. There was no room for negative vibes or prognoses that didn't align with the Speidels' confidence for a full recovery.

Josh Speidel and his parents also relied on their religious beliefs for strength and direction.

"Faith has always been instrumental in my well-being and having that relationship with God has always been first in my life," Josh Speidel said. "Sticking with that through the ups and downs, my parents never wavered in their faith, they never took a step back and questioned God. Seeing how they handled it, I think helped me and continues to help me."

Becker, in his ninth year as bench boss of the Catamounts, flew out to Indiana during a snowstorm just a couple days after Speidel's accident. Becker told the Speidels that their son had a scholarship waiting for him when he was ready (the NCAA later granted UVM a scholarship waiver).

"You could see the qualities that made him a great player, just really determined and hardworking and competitive," Becker said. "He's just a wonderful person off the court and takes time with people."

"Only a special person can come as far as he has in just a couple years."

UVM has reached the NCAA Tournament twice, produced the America East Conference's first unbeaten season and garnered the league's top seed in four straight seasons during Speidel's time in Burlington—achievements Becker believes are forever tied to Speidel.

"I told Josh that the (four) years he's been here are the best years of this program's history arguably. I don't think that's a coincidence," Becker said. "It's hard to know why. I just think there's something that you can't really explain and you don't know what it is, but there's something there—he's been in some way a big part of it and he'll always be linked to this program's history in my mind."

SPEIDEL CONTINUES TO INSPIRE UVM TEAM

UVM associate head coach Kyle Cieplicki was the lead recruiter on getting Speidel to commit to UVM back in Aug. 2014. Cieplicki spent about a year on the recruitment trail of a rising star from a hoops-crazed state who was fielding more than a dozen D-1 offers and had drawn interest from Mark Few of Gonzaga.

"We've never recruited a kid harder than when we recruited Josh. He went on a limb

to choose us," Cieplik said. "His commitment was really special to me and the rest of the staff."

The accident and how Speidel approached his life on a daily basis revealed a side Cieplik had yet to see.

"He's shown me and all of us how to handle adversity," Cieplik said. "To have to work as hard as he did to get back and then to deal with the emotional component, the mental component of physically not being what he once was and to see him deal with that every day and maintain his work ethic and work habits—that's the biggest inspiration."

"A lot of things have changed for him but it's never allowed him to slow down." While senior night can't replace a playing career that didn't come to fruition, Speidel can soak in the achievement of earning this moment in front of hometown fans.

"To see him out there and participating, it's going to be a crazy thing," Everett Duncan said.

Duncan's the lone player left on the team when Speidel was honored before a Jan. 2016 game vs. Stony Brook. Duncan said his fellow Indiana native continues to motivate the Catamounts.

"I think he's meant everything. I know that every single guy in the locker room wants him to play," Duncan said. "There are days we see him on the sidelines watching every single second of practice. For some of us like Benny, Anthony and me, we've known him for such a long time, he's one of our best friends."

"Even now, this is our last go-round, Josh is with us. He's more a part of this senior class than me or Anthony. He's a big part of this senior class who's done a lot for us."

SPEIDEL WILL GRADUATE IN MAY

Driven to return to the game he loves, Speidel came to grips with one harsh reality: He wasn't going to play basketball for UVM. Though that didn't make it any easier to accept.

"It's a tough question but I've battled with that for a while. Obviously, I'm OK with that I'm not able to play and I'm not back to where I was," Speidel said. "That was a tough pill to swallow, but when I think about all that I've gained, maybe I didn't get back to playing, but I'm still bettering myself by working out every day and being in the best shape physically and basketball has helped me with that."

Speidel put his focus and much of his energy into his classes and becoming more independent away from school. He learned to cook for himself—a crockpot came in handy—and manage his money.

And when it came to living off campus, it was Speidel who pushed for it.

"I told my parents that I just wanted to test myself. I wanted to see if I was able to take care of myself," Speidel said.

In school, Speidel has earned a 3.40 grade-point average, the highest on the team, through an individualized major in education and social services. He also has a double minor in behavior change and coaching.

"Josh has always had a knack for working with kids and relating to kids. To see that more amplified after his accident is just awesome," said Lisa Speidel, an elementary school principal.

Speidel will graduate this May—in four years' time. How remarkable is that?

Speidel shied away from praising himself.

"It's kind of hard to say that for myself because I'm living it. But I love when people say, 'Oh Josh, you've come so far' or 'Josh, you are walking so much better,'" Speidel said. "It's those little things that go such a long way and it gives me a sense that all this hard work is doing something."

The network of support at UVM—from academic advisors, teachers, teammates, coaches and athletic trainers—hasn't been lost on Speidel and his mother.

"I can't put into words how thankful and how blessed and lucky I am," Speidel said.

Lisa Speidel: "We love UVM and everything they have meant and done for us. It's amazing."

Josh Speidel is 24 years old. He said he could write a book of all the things he's been through and learned over the last five years. If anything stood out above it all, if there was anything Speidel wanted others to absorb from his story, it was this: Don't give up on your dreams.

"I tell this to people: Always have an end goal in your head and chase after it as hard as you can," Speidel said. "And whenever you need help, ask the people around you because I think there are more people than you think who are there to help you."

"I've held on to that and really tried to live by that."

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I want to do this because in an era where we hear so much bad news, it is wonderful to hear inspiring news. This is an inspiring young man. I congratulate him and the University of Vermont for what they have done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I note that somebody else is not waiting to speak. When somebody does, I, of course, will yield the floor.

CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, I want to bring my colleagues up to date on where my head is as vice chairman of Appropriations. All of us worked very hard throughout the weekend and all last week—Republicans and Democrats together—along with our counterparts in the other body.

Each one of us looks with some trepidation to the latest report on the virus attacks, including the serious ones in the United States, and the deaths that have occurred around the world. We are trying to put together an appropriations bill that will give our administration the tools they need to protect America and to help our allies, not only to protect us from having what has come to our shores but what is already in our shores, the coronavirus—that we be able to protect Americans from it.

I want to compliment those who have been working on it in both parties. As often happens in the Appropriations Committee, we pretty well leave our labels at the door. We work together—both Republicans and Democrats—to get a good bill. I urge both the majority leader and the Democratic leader that, once we have it and as soon as the House acts, there will be an appropriations bill. They will go first, but we move very quickly.

Frankly, when I look at the dangers facing America, I am perfectly willing to stay here throughout the weekend, if need be, as many of us did last weekend, to get this passed and on the President's desk. We are not Republicans or Democrats in this matter. We

are Americans, and we are U.S. Senators. The Senate has so often set the standards for the rest of the country. We can do it here. I hope that as soon as we can vote on this, we will.

I commend Senator SHELBY. He is the chairman of the committee. I am the vice chairman of the committee. We have worked together. I also commend all the other Senators, both Republicans and Democrats, who have worked with us.

I hope this body will be able to vote, ideally this week—if not this week, the very first part of next week. This is an important matter. Cancel the weekend, if need be. Stay here and get it done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, today is Texas Independence Day. One hundred eighty-four years ago today, Texans declared our independence—declared our independence from Mexico and fired a shot for liberty that was heard around the world.

As I have a number of years in the past, I am going to read the letter from the Alamo that LTC William Barret Travis wrote calling for help. It is a letter that energized the Texans across our great State, that energized lovers of liberty. It is also a letter that I read the very first time I spoke on this Senate floor, and these are words to inspire everyone.

Commandancy of the Alamo

Bejar, Feby. 24th, 1836

To the People of Texas & All Americans in the World—

Fellow Citizens & compatriots—

I am besieged, by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna—I have sustained a continual Bombardment & cannonade for 24 hours & have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise the garrison are to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken—I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, & our flag still waves proudly from the walls. I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism & everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all dispatch—The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily & will no doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible & die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his own honor & that of his country—Victory or Death.

William Barrett Travis, Lt. Col. Comdt.

P.S. The Lord is on our side—When the enemy appeared in sight we had not three bushels of corn—We have since found in deserted houses 80 or 90 bushels & got into the walls 20 or 30 head of Beeves.

Travis

The brave men and women of the Alamo gave their lives for liberty. But shortly thereafter, in the Battle of San Jacinto, the Texans were victorious, and the Republic of Texas was formed, an independent nation from 1836 to 1845. For 9 years, we were our own nation. Then Texas joined the United States of America. We are proud Americans, but we are proud of the history of the brave Texans.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). The senior Senator from Alaska.

S. 2657

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I am here on the floor this afternoon because we will very shortly have a vote on the motion to proceed to S. 2657. This is the vehicle for our bipartisan American Energy Innovation Act.

I am here today to kick things off and just let colleagues know some of the highlights of this measure that my colleague and ranking member on the Energy Committee, Senator MANCHIN, and I have been working on for some time. When I say "some time," I think those here in the Senate know that when you take up substantive energy bills, whether they are focused on energy or whether they are focused on lands, we spend a lot of time giving good committee process to bring these matters to the floor.

The measure that we have in front of us is the American Energy Innovation Act. You will hear it referred to by its acronym, AEIA, which makes you want to do a joke about the vowels—a, e, i, o, u, and sometimes y. I can give you that, but I am not going to do that today.

The reality is that we have been working on energy reform now for almost a dozen years. Twelve years is a long time, since we have last refreshed and updated our energy policies. This act contains priorities from more than 60 Members of the Senate. So to suggest that it is a bipartisan bill—it is more than bipartisan. It has Republican priorities and Democratic priorities and priorities from urban and rural areas. It is a package that really does help move the ball forward when we think about energy and energy innovation and energy security.

I want to extend my particular thanks to my good friend and ranking member on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator MANCHIN of West Virginia. He is going to be on the floor in just a couple of minutes to speak, as we take up this motion to proceed. From the start of this Congress, he and I have really been focused on modernizing our Nation's energy policies, and this bipartisan package that we have assembled will do just that. So, again, I credit my ranking member.

I also credit the great work that both of our teams have brought to this very important national discussion. It has been a long process but one where I think Members will look critically at

the package that is in front of them and realize that we have worked hard to address what more we could be doing to modernize our energy policy.

I have been framing this American Energy Innovation Act into two buckets, if you will—innovation and security. Innovation includes everything from the renewables to vehicle technologies, to carbon capture utilization, to efficiency. Then you have the security side, which is the security of your supply chain and what that means to make sure you have access to minerals that allow you to build out your renewable energy projects. You view that security from a defense perspective. How do we ensure that our grids are secure and modernized and, again, secure from the perspective of economic security, when we ensure good jobs for Americans, from Alaska to Arkansas.

So our bill promotes energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage—this is what so many of us have been speaking about for so long—advanced nuclear, industrial and vehicle technologies, carbon capture utilization and storage.

We review a number of broad-based support programs, including weatherization assistance. In so many of our communities, especially in our cold States, which we are thinking about right now—but also during the summer months, when it is hot—weatherization assistance programs are a key for so many of the people whom we work for.

We also renew ARPA-E. ARPA-E is that innovation hub within the Department of Energy that has really helped to build out so much in energy innovation.

We have also included timely provisions to strengthen our Nation's mineral security and cyber security, as we modernize the electric grid and bolster workforce development.

What we have worked to build are consensus policies that will help this country maintain its status as a global energy leader—and we are a global energy leader.

We also want to ensure that we are providing affordable energy for our families and businesses and know that all of this helps to strengthen our national security and increase our global competitiveness.

These policies will also lead to the development of low- and zero-emissions technologies that will help us address climate change and protect our environment.

Now, you are going to have some people who might say: Well, this measure doesn't solve climate change. You haven't worked to reduce emissions to zero.

I will stand before you and acknowledge that is the case, but what we are doing is recognizing that this is a necessary first step to update, to refresh, and to modernize energy policies that haven't seen an upgrade, if you will, in a dozen years, and to help incentivize these technologies that will get us to that cleaner energy future and really

allow for a level of transition that will help protect the environment. These are the steps that we are taking today to focus on innovation in the energy space and the security of supply, economic security for the workforce, and physical security, when it comes to our energy grids.

The American Energy Innovation Act is a good bill. You are going to hear me say that a lot this week. It is a good bill. It was developed the right way, through regular order—something that we don't see often enough around here. It is one of those things that the Energy Committee has developed a reputation for—using regular order—and we will see that regular order demonstrated here on the floor.

This measure deserves to advance through the legislative process and to become law. We have an opportunity to legislate in a meaningful way for the American people. I think all of us have a little bit of pent-up energy, if you will, to get to legislating. We will have that opportunity in just a little bit.

I would strongly encourage every Member to vote in favor of the motion to proceed to this important legislation.

Mr. President, I see that my friend, the Senator from West Virginia, the ranking member, has come to the floor. I know he is going to give more extended remarks about the measure, speaking to some of the priorities.

After we complete the vote here in about 15 minutes on the motion to proceed, I will have an opportunity to speak more fully about some of the details, but, again, I want to repeat, while my friend is here with me, that this opportunity to really shape legislation in a space that is so needed is one that he embraced from the minute he assumed the role as ranking member. The two of us asked: What is it that we can build?

We are not interested in messaging. We are not interested in having hearings to have hearings for hearings' sake. We are interested in making a difference when it comes to our Nation's policy, and I think that we have done it. We have done it because of a good, cooperative process. So I want to thank my colleague.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, before my colleague leaves, I want to thank the Senator from Alaska, my chairman, for all the hard work, because it has been a labor that both of us have worked on together. It is something our country needs very desperately, and it is something that we have been working on for some 12 or 13 years. So the time has come.

With that, I am pleased that we are starting the process of turning to the American Energy Innovation Act, which last year Senator MURKOWSKI and I kicked off in the 116th Congress with a hearing on the outlook of energy innovation.

Over the course of the last 14 months, we have heard from experts who have come before the committee to testify on the importance of advancing a broad range of technologies. Where we stand today, we have no silver bullet to solve the problems that we face—namely, maintaining our affordable, reliable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while also making sure that hard-working families and communities are not left behind.

It is for this reason that I say we need to innovate, not eliminate. I repeat that—innovate, not eliminate. There is a misconception that all these emissions are coming from just the power industry, just one source. It is all we hear about. It is not true.

The facts are these: In 2017, the power sector was responsible for 27.5 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The power industry—coal-fired powerplants and natural gas plants now are determined—was responsible for 27½ percent. Twenty-nine percent of our emissions come from transportation. How we come to work and what we use in everyday life—29 percent comes from that. Twenty-two percent comes from industry—the jobs that we do, the industries we have that we need, jobs that are provided, and the products they produce. Then 11½ percent was commercial and residential sectors—the buildings we are in, commercial and residential, but basically a lot of government buildings.

With that in mind, we focused on an “all of the above” approach. We didn’t leave any rock unturned. Our bill will help reduce emissions in all of these sectors, except for agriculture. Agriculture represents about 9 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions, and that was not in our jurisdiction.

Innovation is a critical step to help us reliably meet tomorrow’s energy needs while reducing emissions, not just in our energy sector but also in industry, buildings, and vehicles. We all know greenhouse gas emissions are a global issue, and investing now in these technologies will position the United States as a global leader and maintain our competitive edge.

It is time to seek practical solutions to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and find ways to ensure that our energy sector, the environment, and workers can all benefit. Once we vote to proceed to S. 2657, we will be laying down the American Energy Innovation Act of 2020 as a substitute amendment. This legislation brings together the strong, bipartisan work of our committee over the past year and draws from 53 bills. And I will repeat—39 of those are bipartisan. Once it is enacted, it will provide the first comprehensive Senate energy policy update in 13 years.

This bill represents an important downpayment on research and development at the Department of Energy for a range of technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, it would advance innovative technologies

that can help us reduce emissions across sectors of the economy that account for 90 percent of current U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

This piece of legislation will put us on the path to reduce 90 percent of the current greenhouse gas emissions. That includes energy storage, renewable energy, energy efficiency, carbon capture, advanced nuclear, vehicles, and provisions to help get those technologies out of DOE and into the market.

As I have said before, there is no silver bullet, and this bill alone will not solve climate change, but it is critical. It is a critical step in the right direction, not just here in the United States but also for the rest of the world. I am going to take a few minutes to touch on a few of these now.

Let me start with our existing zero-carbon, baseload generation, nuclear. Unfortunately, the U.S. nuclear industry has been losing ground to international competitors, especially those with state-funded nuclear programs like China and Russia. That is why I worked with Senator MURKOWSKI to create a robust R&D program that will develop new technologies to not only usher in a new era of nuclear but also reduce the operating costs of the current nuclear fleet that will be required to operate into the middle of this century if we as a nation are to meet our emission-reduction objectives.

We also included my EFFECT Act, which invests in research and development and, just as importantly, demonstration and deployment for each aspect of carbon capture, utilization, and storage. This includes coal and natural gas technologies, utilization, storage, and even atmospheric CO₂ removal.

Fossil fuels are projected to continue to be a significant source of electric generation in the near future, not just here in the United States but around the world. We need to get ahead of the curve and invest in the technologies that will allow us to continue using them but in the cleanest way possible so we are reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We also included provisions to target industrial emissions that are particularly hard to get to with existing technologies.

With all of this, we need to continue to create quality jobs in this transitioning energy landscape. All of these provisions will protect and create jobs while addressing carbon emissions—a win-win for communities in West Virginia and rural communities across this country.

The American Energy Innovation Act also covers a lot of territory when it comes to renewable energy, from the skies and hilltops to the rivers and oceans. The bill includes incentives for small hydropower facilities and an expansion of the Department of Energy’s work on marine renewable energy. It also tackles expanding geothermal energy beyond the Western States.

Lastly, the energy package reauthorizes two incredibly successful programs

at DOE that have already helped transform our energy landscape in large and small ways; that is, wind and solar technologies. The bill focuses these programs on new materials, enhanced efficiency in design and operation, and their full life cycle from manufacturing to recycling. I want to make sure these clean energy technologies are aiding the grid and the communities that need distributed or microgrid connections to them from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

Of course, storage is a key enabling technology for a low-carbon, modern grid that will help us achieve our emission reductions and address climate change all while keeping energy reliable and affordable. Our bill builds on DOE’s existing energy storage R&D efforts but with additional focus on advancing long-duration energy storage technologies and with a fivefold increase in authorizations from current levels.

The bill will also help to shore up our supply chain of critical minerals because we are currently depending on imports from other countries—namely China—for many of the mineral commodities required to manufacture everyday items like our phones, security assets like satellites, and emissions-reducing technology like electric vehicles and wind turbines.

It is important to strike the right balance between supply chain concerns and environmental stewardship, and I appreciate Senator MURKOWSKI working with me to remove a provision that was concerning to some in our caucus and outside groups.

Of course, the energy package also has a robust energy efficiency title that would promote efficiency in commercial and public buildings, homes, industry, and the Federal Government.

Energy efficiency really is the low-hanging fruit, and 40 percent of the Nation’s energy is consumed in buildings. I will repeat that again—40 percent of the Nation’s energy is consumed in buildings. The Department of Energy estimates that efficiency improvements can save U.S. consumers and businesses 741,000 gigawatt hours of electricity between 2016 and 2035, which is equal to 16 percent of electricity use in 2035. We can reduce the amount of demand by 16 percent while not deterring quality of life.

Multiple studies have shown that energy efficiency is cheaper than investing in any other type of new generation. It is truly the cheapest kilowatt. It is also readily available. There are lots of opportunities to improve efficiencies in buildings, industry, and transportation.

These investments in policy changes can and will have a real, positive impact on the lives of everyday Americans while saving both energy and money. I call that a win-win, which we don’t have many of.

I hope we have the opportunity to vote on an amendment to add voluntary building codes back into the efficiency title of this bill, both to help

consumers save on energy bills and to really advance carbon savings.

Finally, the electric grid is undergoing a rapid transformation. It is becoming more complex, more flexible, and more diverse in terms of energy resources. That means we have to continue focusing on shoring up our vulnerabilities and anticipating future weaknesses in the ever-changing environment.

Our bill supports investments in programs that are of vital importance to securing and protecting our critical energy infrastructure. As I said before, this bill represents a critical step in the right direction. I believe this package is well balanced with many of my colleagues' priorities on both sides of the aisle. It is truly a bipartisan bill. It represents a true effort. I thank Chairman MURKOWSKI and the other members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for their work over the last 14 months to provide the basis of this package.

I encourage my fellow Members to vote yes today, and I look forward to working with you this week on this important piece of legislation.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 357, S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Lisa Murkowski, Steve Daines, Bill Cassidy, John Barrasso, Martha McSally, Deb Fischer, Richard C. Shelby, John Hoeven, Thom Tillis, John Thune, Pat Roberts, Richard Burr, Mike Rounds, Shelley Moore Capito, Roy Blunt, Mike Crapo.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 357, S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Sen-

ator from Texas. (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 63 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Alexander	Enzi	Murphy
Baldwin	Ernst	Murray
Barrasso	Feinstein	Perdue
Bennet	Fischer	Peters
Blackburn	Gardner	Portman
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Reed
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Booker	Harris	Roberts
Boozman	Hassan	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Brown	Heinrich	Rubio
Burr	Hirono	Sasse
Cantwell	Hoeven	Schumer
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Casey	Kennedy	Shelby
Cassidy	King	Smith
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Loeffler	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Udall
Cramer	Markey	Van Hollen
Crapo	McConnell	Warner
Cruz	Menendez	Whitehouse
Daines	Merkley	Wicker
Duckworth	Moran	Wyden
Durbin	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—3

Lee	Paul	Schatz
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NOT VOTING—13

Cornyn	McSally	Tillis
Graham	Rounds	Toomey
Inhofe	Sanders	Warren
Jones	Sinema	
Klobuchar	Thune	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 3.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, here we are; we have successfully voted to proceed to S. 2657, which is our vehicle for the American Energy Innovation Act. We are now at the point that many of us have been waiting for for some time; that is, the opportunity to debate, to offer amendments, and to pass this measure, hopefully on a strong bipartisan basis.

I want to encourage all Members to look at the bill that is now before us and to ask those questions and look at how, with this update to our energy policies, we will be moving forward with innovation; we will be moving for-

ward with energy security, grid modernization, cyber security, workforce security. We are at a good place this evening.

As I mentioned in my very brief remarks before the vote, it has now been more than 12 years—more than a dozen years—since Congress enacted comprehensive legislation to update our energy laws. When you think about what has happened in a time period of a dozen years—12 years ago, we didn't have iPads. Twelve years ago we weren't even thinking about this shale revolution and what that would mean to America, turning us into an energy superpower. Over the course of 12 years, the costs of renewable resources have come down dramatically. New technologies are emerging.

What hasn't kept pace are our policies. When they don't keep pace, we miss out on opportunities to further our energy leadership, and we are failing to adequately address what I think are some very significant challenges.

That is why the innovation package that Senator MANCHIN and I have put forward is so important at this time. What we are seeking to do is to modernize our energy laws to ensure that we remain a global energy leader. We seek to keep energy affordable, to strengthen our security, and to increase our competitiveness. We do all of this while making our energy cleaner and cleaner, to protect the environment and to reduce the impacts of climate change. Within this measure—this American Energy Innovation Act—we have included more than 50 related measures that reflect the priorities of more than 60 different Senators.

What we have done is gone through this committee process, and, as I mentioned, it has been a very robust, very thorough committee process. We have arranged these 50-some-odd measures into two titles. The first is focused on technological innovation, and the second title is focused on security and workforce development.

Starting with the first title, which is innovation, we really start with the first fuel. First fuel is energy efficiency, which has tremendous potential to lower energy bills and to meet growing demand. We certainly know and understand that in a place like Alaska, a cold State. It helps our families, our businesses, and the environment alike when we can be more efficient in our energy consumption.

I think we recognize that efficiency is often the easiest and often the cheapest option. That is why, within our bill, we take steps—reasonable steps—to improve the efficiency of everything from schools to data centers.

I mentioned also that we will renew vital programs like Weatherization Assistance. Again, that is so key to so many in States that are cold or very warm in the summertime.

The second subtitle in the bill is focused on renewable energy. When you think about what has happened in the

energy sector in a 12-year period, the progress we have made with renewable energy is remarkable. With this provision, we focus on resources like wind, solar, geothermal, hydropower, marine, and hydrokinetic energy, which offer the potential of virtually unlimited energy. Again, as I mentioned, the costs of these technologies have come down in recent years. What we aim to do with our bill is to keep that going so that as we make our energy cleaner and more renewable, it is also more affordable.

The third subtitle in the innovation package focuses on energy storage. We talk a lot about energy storage, and folks look at that as being the holy grail. It really is critical to overcoming the variability of certain renewable resources.

I want to recognize a colleague, my friend here, Senator COLLINS, from the State of Maine. She has been a real leader on this issue. We have taken her legislation and called it the Better Energy Storage Act, the BEST Act. We took the BEST Act and included four other bipartisan bills, all focused on storage, to advance these technologies.

Another subtitle within the innovation space is carbon capture, utilization, and storage—technologies that reduce, and even eliminate, greenhouse gas emissions from coal and natural gas plants. Within this subtitle, we reflect both the EFFECT Act, which was sponsored by Senator MANCHIN, as well as the LEADING Act from Senators CORNYN and CASSIDY, and this will help us build on the work that Congress has done to promote CCUS through the Tax Code.

Another area of great focus within the bill is nuclear energy, which is clearly our largest source of emissions-free energy. Here in this country, we created nuclear energy. American ingenuity created nuclear energy, but conventional reactors are closing. What has happened is we have ceded our global leadership in recent decades. Through my Nuclear Energy Leadership Act, called NELA, the Nuclear Energy Renewal Act from Senator COONS, as well as the Integrated Energy Systems Act from Senator RISCH, we seek to restore that leadership for next-generation reactor concepts.

We also support innovation and smart manufacturing for industrial and vehicle technologies, which will help create good jobs in America's heartland. These are some of the toughest sectors for emissions reductions. So in this space, particularly, innovation is really key.

I want to thank our colleague from Rhode Island, Senator WHITEHOUSE, who just left the floor, for his leadership on the Clean Industrial Technologies Act.

The last part of our first title will provide updated direction and authority to the Department of Energy, which is really at the heart of Federal efforts to promote energy innovation. To give a couple of examples here, we

renew the popular ARPA-E program, and we improve the Office of Technology Transitions.

Then the second title of the bill is more broadly focused on security and workforce development. We start off with focusing on supply chain issues as they relate to minerals themselves. I have included the American Mineral Security Act, which recognizes that our foreign mineral dependence is really our Achilles' heel. Right now in the United States, we import at least 50 percent of 46 minerals, including 100 percent of 17 of them.

What we have seen is a foreign dependence that has grown significantly over the recent years. What we seek to do is to take some real steps to reverse that and rebuild our domestic supply chain. If we can do that, everyone from our military to our manufacturers will benefit.

When we think about the securities space, we also have to focus on cyber security. We all understand a successful cyber attack against our Nation's critical infrastructure, including the electric grid, could have devastating and far-reaching consequences. To guard against that, we provide new mechanisms and incentives to protect our cyber security and modernize the domestic grid.

Then again, when we think about security, we think about economic security through good jobs. We recognize the importance of a well-trained, highly skilled workforce. That is essential to our ability to produce energy, to develop clean technologies, rebuild our domestic supply chain, and ultimately remain a global energy superpower.

To address workforce challenges, we have incorporated several bills from colleagues that will meet the needs of companies and our national labs alike. We are going to focus almost all of the debate on title I, "Innovation," and title II, "Security."

Title III is really my favorite. It is the last title. We call it "Cleaning up the Code." That is not very fancy, but we are working to repeal a number of sections of law that are either duplicated by the American Energy Innovation Act or simply outdated. We don't do this often enough. We need to take the old stuff off the books. There are reports that are no longer required that are parts of provisions of law that are just not in place; yet somebody out there still does the reports because we haven't taken them off the books. Let's get rid of things that are redundant or outdated.

We repeal old studies. One of the items that we repeal is a requirement for motorists to purchase at least \$5 worth of gas; we actually have on the books a requirement that motorists have to purchase at least \$5 when you go to the fuel tank. We are getting rid of that.

We have some other provisions in there that we believe are no longer needed. We did this very carefully. It was not just quickly going through

things. We checked with the Department of Energy during both the last administration and this one to ensure they agree these are outdated or duplicative.

As proud as I am of the substance of our innovation package, I am equally proud of the process that we followed to put it together. I mentioned earlier that, on the Energy Committee, we developed somewhat of a reputation for doing things the old-fashioned way, through regular orders, spending some time in committee, and really trying to build consensus products so that, when we can come to the floor, we have measures that enjoy broad support from both sides of the aisle.

I think our bill is a textbook example of the benefits of working together across the aisle in a regular order process. It is not quick to do it this way. This is the result of a full year's worth of hearings, business meetings, and bipartisan negotiations. I think that it shows what is possible when we focus on what most of us agree on, rather than those things that will serve to divide us.

I am certainly aware that, even with the strong vote that we just had to move to proceed to this bill, not all Members plan to support the measure. Some think it has gone too far; others think it doesn't do enough. I heard from Members who want to add energy tax provisions. I will have an opportunity to have that discussion, but I will remind colleagues that, when we originate here in the Senate—if there are any tax measures—that results in a blue slip from the House and effectively kills our bill. This is too good a bill to kill.

A few would like to reduce its authorization levels, while others would have us multiply them by 10 times. I think by doing either of this, what you lose is the balance that we have worked very hard to achieve with this.

Last point I am going to raise—and just very briefly because I will have plenty of time on the floor and I see we have colleagues here. One criticism I find disappointing is that we are not doing enough in this bill to tackle climate change. I think what is important for Members to know is this package, without question, is a good step, a strong step, a necessary step in the right direction to continue to reduce our Nation's greenhouse gas emissions.

When you say we need to tackle climate change, you can't get there without innovation. You can't get there without technology. That is exactly what this bill promotes. To say that perhaps we should not pass a good bill because it doesn't go far enough, in my view, is a mistake that will result in absolutely nothing happening, and that is not good for anybody.

I am excited to be here. I am proud to be managing a strong bill with the Senator from West Virginia. It is a strong bill that will benefit our economy, our security, our competitiveness, and our environment. I want to thank all the

Members who have contributed to it and who will help us move this forward. I think we have a lot to be proud of. I hope that we will have a productive week in front of us as we begin to work through possible amendments.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I applaud the work of Senator MURKOWSKI, who is perhaps uniquely qualified here to find ways of doing bipartisan work. I applaud her for her efforts on this bill and other things.

HOUSING

Mr. President, for too many people, hard work isn't paying off. Even people with supposedly middle-class jobs don't feel stable. Wages are flat, the cost of everything is up: healthcare, childcare, college, prescription drugs, and especially housing. When you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work. You fight for dignity of work, but you can't talk about dignity of work without tackling the biggest item in most family's budget: housing.

Dignity of work means living with dignity, whether you write a rent check or pay a mortgage, whether you are saving for a down payment or just looking for a safe place to lay down your head at night, whether you live in a city or a suburb, in Hamilton County where my colleague, Senator PORTMAN, who is in the Chamber, lives, in Richland County, where I grew up, a medium-sized city or a rural community.

Fundamentally, we all pretty much want the same thing: a place that is safe in a community where we care about, where we can get to work and our children have a chance to have a good school with room for our family, whether that is three kids, an aging parent, or beloved pet—in our case, our dogs Franklin and Walter. You should get to define what home looks like for you. You should be able to find it. You should be able to afford it without crippling stress every single month when the rent check is due or when your mortgage payment is due.

People feel like that is out of reach, even when they work hard and do everything right. Right now, a quarter of renters, one out of four renters, spend more than half their income on housing. Think of that. One out of four renters pay more than half of their income on housing. If one thing goes wrong in their life—their car breaks down, their child gets sick, they get laid off from work for 1 week, they need to repair the roof—one thing goes wrong and their life turns upside down. Seven out of the ten fastest growing jobs in this country don't pay enough for a two-bedroom apartment. We know housing is central to every aspect of family's lives.

Matthew Desmond is the author of "Evicted," a book I have spoken about on this floor in the past and to people all over my State and around the country. Matthew Desmond's book is "Evicted." I asked him to come in. I

bought his book and brought in a number of Senators to listen to him. When inscribing his book, he wrote: "Home equals life." If you don't have a decent, safe, clean, affordable place to live, your life is so often turned upside down. The housing crisis affects different families in different ways, but it touches pretty much everyone.

A safe, stable home is the foundation for opportunity. It determines where your kids go to school. It determines how far you have to travel to get to work. It determines where you go shopping. It determines whether you feel safe walking around at night.

We know where you live, maybe most importantly, affects the quality of your healthcare. It affects your education, your job opportunities—where you live affects your life expectancy. Housing stress affects people with all kinds of jobs in all parts of the country. That is why I have been holding roundtables all over my State, beginning over the past 2 weeks, to talk with Ohioans about their struggle with housing and what we can do to make it easier for everyone to find and afford a home.

So far, I have done roundtables in Toledo and Youngstown, Western Ohio, and Eastern Ohio. I heard from Ohioans about the challenges that too many people face. We heard about how interconnected housing is with other issues in people's lives. We heard about wages that don't keep up with the cost of living, how housing instability can affect your stress levels and your health, and how hard it can be to get financing to buy a house or start a business in neighborhoods that have been left behind.

In Youngstown and Toledo, we heard about the power shady landlords have on tenants and predatory lease-to-own land contracts. People also talked about how up-front costs aren't just an issue about the down payment you make on buying a home to get a mortgage, but if you rent, you often have to have the first month's rent, last month's rent, and a security deposit. That could be a huge obstacle to so many moderate and low-income families.

Forty percent—this number is stunning—40 percent of Americans say they can't come up with \$400 in an emergency. Forty percent of Americans can't come up with \$400 in emergency. When it is that hard for so many people to save, a deposit could seem just impossible.

We can't untangle many of these issues from the legacy of redlining and decades of bad public policy decisions by Members. I would acknowledge, from both parties, at all levels of government that have systemically denied people of color the ability to choose where they live and build wealth for homeownership.

More than half of African Americans and Latino renters are spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing. More than half of people of

color spend 30 percent or more on their housing, making them much more likely to have a high housing cost burdens than White seniors have had. That means Black and Latino families have less to spend on healthcare, less to spent on food, less to spend on transportation. It is not just about differences in income, which are all very real.

More than 50 years after we passed the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination in housing, African Americans make up 13 percent of the population, and 21 percent of the people experiencing poverty in this country are African American, but 40 percent of the people experiencing homelessness are African American.

Think about that. There are 21 percent of people who are experiencing poverty, but there are 40 percent of people who are experiencing homelessness. That tells you this isn't just about income. We have talked to people who are homeless, but none of us gets out as much as we should, as President Lincoln said, to get our public opinion bath. We don't talk to people like that enough, but when we do, we learn that so many people who are homeless have jobs. The jobs don't pay much, and they may be part time. People may also cobble together two jobs, but they are still homeless.

We see the same thing when we look at homeownership. The African-American homeownership rate is 30 percent below the White homeownership rate. Analysts have tried to explain this with income and education, but that doesn't tell the whole story. Something more troubling is going on. With everything else being equal, similarly situated African Americans are less likely to own homes than their similarly situated White counterparts. That is a legacy of redlining, and that is a legacy of racial exclusion at work. It may be in Arkansas, and it may be in Ohio. It is all over this country.

From 1934 through 1962—get this—98 percent of all FHA mortgages went to White homeowners. We were a country that was, probably, 85-87 percent White, but 90 percent of all FHA mortgages went to White homeowners. That is not just a problem of the past. Housing is how people build wealth for generations. Yet, with there being millions of families struggling to afford housing, with the massive disparities and access to housing, this administration is turning its back on families, communities, and communities of color.

For 3 years, President Trump has been trying to undermine the Fair Housing Act of 1968. I spoke about this on the floor last week with MITT ROMNEY, the Senator from Utah. Senator ROMNEY's father was President Nixon's Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and he worked very hard to implement the Fair Housing Act. He made a lot of progress in 1969 and 1970, but so much of that progress is now being scaled back. That landmark civil rights law made discrimination of the

sale, rental, and financing of housing illegal for the first time. It was supposed to set us on the path of being a country in which everyone could find a safe, stable home—regardless of one's gender and regardless of one's race—and have access to opportunity.

Yet, instead of getting us closer, the Trump administration is making things worse. It is trying to make it harder to root out policies and practices that have a hidden discriminatory effect on people by its cutting the decades-old disparate impact standard. The administration is rolling back the 2015 HUD rule that would have finally implemented the Fair Housing Act's requirement that we affirmatively further fair housing throughout our communities.

President Trump's budget will only make the affordable housing crisis worse for families who are struggling in every community in this country. The administration would eliminate the funds that communities use to create and preserve affordable housing and that make homeownership possible for working families. The Community Development Block Grant is an example, as is the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

The administration wants to cut the already insufficient Federal rental assistance we have. It wants to get rid of the funding for the housing trust fund and capital magnet fund—even though this funding comes from the GSEs, the government-sponsored enterprises, and not the Federal budget—to make it still harder to build homes and apartments that people can actually afford.

To add insult to injury, the Trump administration proposes to make mortgages more expensive for working families in order to reduce the deficit that it created. We know we have trillion-dollar deficits now, even in times of growth with the economy, because of the tax cut that went overwhelmingly to the rich. The administration made these mortgages more expensive for working families in order to reduce the deficit it created and to supposedly level the playing field for Wall Street, as if Wall Street doesn't have enough advantages without our continuing to shovel money to it.

We need to fight back. Any economic policy that doesn't put housing front and center ignores a family's biggest expense and biggest need. We see housing problems in Appalachian Ohio or in Toledo or in big coastal cities or in small towns. It is clear this is a national problem that needs a national response.

I will keep hosting roundtables around Ohio so as to hear directly from Ohioans about the struggles they face. I invite Ohioans to go to my website, Brown.senate.gov, to share their stories about housing. They can do it with their names attached, or they can do it anonymously, but we value these stories. We have already gotten hundreds just out of these two roundtables, and with the attention around the

roundtables, we have gotten hundreds of many heartbreaking stories and instructive stories and ideas for changes.

We need to hear your struggles, and we need to hear your ideas.

Congress cannot ignore these challenges. Whether people are in small towns or big cities, we cannot just let the administration take away the tools that we have and that we have used for years to try to make this better and to make people's lives better. If we want to make this country work better for everyone, we cannot shrink from these challenges. When work has dignity and when people live their lives with dignity, everyone can find and afford a safe place to call home.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). The Senator from Ohio.

S. 2657

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am here on the floor to talk about the legislation that is now before this body. We just passed the motion to proceed to the energy legislation, and we just heard about the legislation from my colleague from Alaska and the Presiding Officer's colleague from Alaska: Senator MURKOWSKI, who chairs the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The legislation is a good package.

As she said very well, it both helps in terms of the economy and jobs and in terms of the environment. Who wouldn't be for that? It also has a whole series of proposals with which to do it. The ones I am going to talk about tonight are the energy efficiency proposals that she talked about. In particular, I am going to talk about a concern I have that the legislation that was offered tonight took out part of our energy-efficiency package, which we hope to add later by amendment, but I want to talk about why it is so important to add it back in.

The legislation on energy efficiency is something I have introduced with Senator SHAHEEN, of the great State of New Hampshire, for 9 years now, going back to 2011. Some of it has gotten passed over time, but most of it has not, so we are, once again, bringing it up. The legislation is entitled the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, which is why we commonly call it Portman-Shaheen, because it is shorter.

Our legislation has been voted on by this body before. Back in 2016, it passed the U.S. Senate. It has also passed out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee five separate times with bipartisan votes. In 2016, the vote was 85 to 12. Again, it was part of a larger package at that time.

There is a reason this legislation has received such broad, bipartisan support over the years. It lowers energy bills, which is a good thing. It reduces emissions, and it creates new jobs. It does it all without putting any new mandates on the private sector. It provides incentives but not mandates, and that is great news for the working families

and businesses, large and small, that I represent.

It accomplishes all this by improving energy efficiency in three key sectors. One is buildings, commercial buildings and residential buildings. The second is in the manufacturing sector, the industrial sector, of our economy. Then the third is with regard to our U.S. Government.

Residential and commercial buildings, by the way, account for, roughly, 40 percent of the total U.S. energy consumption, which is why it is so important we have these sections with regard to buildings.

With regard to our industry sector, manufacturers are excited about this legislation because it makes them not just more efficient in terms of energy, but it makes them more competitive globally. That is why the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers and other groups are strongly supportive of the legislation, as are well over 100 businesses.

The Federal Government's part of this bill is also important. Guess what entity uses the most energy in this country—the Federal Government. It is the No. 1 consumer of energy in the United States. We think it is probably the No. 1 consumer in the world. This may not surprise you, but it is not terribly efficient. Our Federal Government sometimes preaches to the rest of us to be efficient, but our own Federal Government is lacking in that.

So this legislation focuses on those three areas and makes a real difference. It moves the needle, as they say. It makes smart improvements to energy efficiency across these sectors.

A recent analysis of Portman-Shaheen found that, over the lifetime of the legislation, the bill will save consumers \$51 billion on their energy bills. It will result in an energy savings that is equivalent to the total energy use of all U.S. industry in 1 year, and it will reduce the carbon dioxide emissions—these are CO₂ emissions—by the equivalent of taking nearly 4 million cars off the road every single year until 2050.

As Senator MURKOWSKI said very well earlier today, this is about reducing emissions. For those who are concerned about climate change and who want to reduce emissions, energy efficiency is a great way to do it—and, by the way, by creating jobs not eliminating jobs. Previous studies have shown that our legislation will also add more jobs to the economy. As I say, 100,000 jobs is our estimate.

I must tell you that I am supportive of the package, and I am supportive of what Senator MURKOWSKI said tonight. My disappointment is that the underlying legislation we are debating does not include two provisions in the Portman-Shaheen legislation. Those two provisions are two of the most important ones, for they result in the energy savings I talked about, in the additional jobs I talked about, and in the savings to the taxpayers I talked about.

The first one is what is known as the SAVE Act. Now, the SAVE Act allows the energy savings of an energy-efficient home to be considered when determining the loan amount that a home buyer is qualified for when he goes to get a mortgage. In other words, it helps to immediately offset the cost of a more energy-efficient home by recognizing the reduced energy bill, which is often the second biggest expense a homeowner will incur after the mortgage payment.

This bipartisan legislation was first authored by our friend and former colleague Johnny Isakson, along with Senator MICHAEL BENNET, of Colorado. As a real estate person himself, Johnny championed this legislation over many years, and I thank him for his efforts. It is in our Portman-Shaheen bill. I was pleased to work with Senators Isakson and BENNET and include it in Portman-Shaheen. I am sorry it is not part of the energy bill tonight, but it is not the only important provision that has missed the boat on this package.

Another important section of my energy-efficiency legislation that has been left out of the energy bill is known as the building codes section. This section focuses on providing best practices on how to make homes more energy efficient. We know that one of the most effective ways to ensure that a homeowner's energy bills are affordable is to build a home that is more energy efficient to begin with.

It is important to note at the outset that the building codes we are talking about tonight are and will remain under this legislation as voluntary. You are going to hear that a lot tonight. There are no mandates in this legislation of any kind for new homes. It is up to States, local governments, and Tribes to adopt the building codes on their own that they deem fit for their communities.

In fact, some States have building energy codes. Some States don't. Some States adopt part of what is called the model code, which we will talk about in a minute, and some States have no model code at all that they are going to adopt. In my home State of Ohio, for example, we have adopted parts of the 2009 model building energy code and parts of the 2012 model building energy code. So, instead of mandates or a heavy-handed government approach, this provision we are talking about is an incentive-based, opt-in program that is open, transparent, and cost-effective.

It is not that the mandates haven't been tried before. Mandated building energy codes and mandated energy savings were included as part of the 2009 energy bill that passed out of the House of Representatives. There was even legislation introduced today over in the House that would impose mandates. Our legislation does not. It takes a much more commonsense approach, in my view, and leaves it up to the States to adopt which, if any, of the model building codes work best for them.

Some of you might not know that these model building codes for commercial and residential buildings are developed and updated not through our government but through an independent organization outside of the Federal Government. For residential buildings codes, it is called the International Code Council, or the ICC. Every 3 years, this group, the ICC, conducts a process to update the residential model building energy code. Every 3 years, it does it.

During that process, many stakeholders, including industry, builders, developers, State code officials, and the Department of Energy, can all weigh in with proposals or amendments. Then they vote to approve the inclusion of the proposals in the updated code. They all have a vote, including home builders.

Today, the Department of Energy plays a role in the code development process just like other stakeholders. It has general authorities to offer and support proposals and to vote on the proposals. It has the authority to set targets to reach a certain percentage of energy savings during a code update. Since 1992, the DOE has had the authority to provide technical assistance and funding for States, local governments, and Tribes that want to update their building codes.

So that is the current practice. It is not mandatory. The DOE can set targets and can provide technical assistance. However, there have been concerns from some stakeholders that the DOE has not been transparent enough or has not adequately considered the costs of proposals and targets. That is why, in this legislation, in addition to codifying much of what the DOE was already doing, our legislation establishes a rulemaking process that requires, for the first time, the DOE to work with States, Tribes, local governments, and other interested stakeholders to set these energy savings targets in advance of the model building code update. We require the DOE to do that.

The purpose of the target is to set an energy savings percentage improvement from one model code to the next. It is intended to be a benchmark for stakeholders to consider when proposing, supporting, and voting on amendments, but it is not mandatory.

In response to stakeholders' concerns that the target might not be cost effective—in other words, that DOE would establish a target that wasn't cost effective for homebuilders, as an example—or that it wasn't transparent and that what they were doing wasn't open, our bill also requires DOE to publish its methodology and provide a “return on investment” analysis, not previously required, and the estimated cost and savings as a result of the target.

So we are forcing DOE to do much more than they do now—to be more transparent, to look at the cost benefit here, and to come up with a cost-effective analysis.

Then, at the end of the day, the target itself is nonbinding on the model code process. DOE makes a determination on whether the target was met, and then this group, the ICC, sends their options, which they can choose to adopt in order to meet the target. They do not have to accept the changes, nor does this model code have to meet the target. So it is not mandatory even at that stage. They set a target, but it is not mandatory for the ICC to adopt it.

It is also important to again note that the proposed model building code at the end that is ultimately published by the ICC is not an automatic mandate for new buildings. States are encouraged to take a look at the new proposed code and to let DOE know that they have considered the proposed code and determined whether to adopt it or not. Again, some States adopt it, and some States don't.

So, as you can see, this whole process is one where the recommendation is made, but it is not mandated.

Just as in the current law today, our bill authorizes DOE to provide funding and technical assistance to States to incentivize them to update their code. But, ultimately, the updated code and whether the States want to consider the updated model code or not is completely nonbinding and voluntary.

I have heard concerns that our legislation will make new homes unaffordable. However, DOE's analysis found that, for example, if the 2015 code was fully adopted—so that was the 2015 code we talked about earlier that Ohio has partly adopted—it would result in a 33-percent reduction in energy use for that home and cost \$2,787 per new home compared to the 2006 code. So, remember, this is a recent model code, 2015. They do it every 3 years. If it had been fully adopted, it would result in a 33-percent reduction in energy use for that family, and yet only an additional cost of \$2,787, compared to the previous code.

We also know that these upfront costs are typically financed entirely by these energy savings through the life of the mortgage, which is typically 30 years. So you know there is a little more upfront cost, but a 33-percent reduction in energy use would more than finance that over the time that the person owned the home.

So, ultimately, our legislation is going to ensure that energy efficiency features of a home will continue to save homeowners money throughout the life of the building.

This incentive-based approach to improving energy efficiency in new buildings has bipartisan support from a broad group of stakeholders. In particular, my colleagues on this side of the aisle support an incentive-based approach rather than a mandated approach.

Our legislation has the support of the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Chemistry Council, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. It has the support of commercial and real estate developers, like BOMA and the

Real Estate Roundtable. It has the support from efficiency advocates and the environmental community, like the Alliance to Save Energy, the ACEEE, NRDC, and the BlueGreen Alliance.

There is not a lot in Washington, DC, these days that has that broad group of stakeholders—strange bedfellows, you might say—but this bill does because what we do here makes sense. It doesn't take a heavy-handed government approach, but it takes an incentive-based approach, not mandated but providing the information so States, localities, and communities can make their own decision and can help to ensure that the best practices out there in energy efficiency are known, and where people want to use it, they can use it.

If my colleagues are serious about both protecting the environment and growing the economy and increasing jobs, I believe this is the right legislation for them and that the voluntary business code language in the energy bill has to be included.

So I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help us with regard to an amendment we plan to offer later in this process to ensure that we do have the ability to both create jobs, improve the economy, and improve the environment.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL WILSON A. SHOFFNER

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor MG Wilson A. Shoffner, commanding general of the U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill, OK. Major General Shoffner is one of our Nation's finest military officers. Major General Shoffner will relinquish command and conduct his retirement ceremony on 6 March 2020, bringing to a close 32 years of distinguished service to our great Nation.

In 1988, Major General Shoffner commissioned as a second lieutenant of field artillery upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He commanded units at every echelon, from platoon to the Fires Center of Excellence, with duty in Saudi Arabia, Germany, Iraq, Afghanistan,

and the United States. As a young officer, Major General Shoffner deployed with the 1st Cavalry Division in support of OPERATION DESERT STORM. Major General Shoffner commanded 2nd Battalion, 319th Field Artillery Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Later, he served as deputy chief of staff, communications, Resolute Support Mission, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, during OPERATION FREEDOM'S SENTINEL in Afghanistan.

As a general officer, Major General Shoffner served as the deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7, for the Army's Training and Doctrine Command. He served as the director of the Army's Talent Management Task Force under the Army G1 and then as the director of operations for Rapid Equipment Fielding under the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology. Major General Shoffner's career culminated as the commanding general of the United States Army's Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill, where he helped forge the future of the Army's Field Artillery and Air Defense Artillery branches.

Major General Shoffner is an exceptional leader, an American patriot committed to our Armed Forces, our National Security, and our Nation, but most importantly, Major General Shoffner is a great man of character. It is for MG Al Shoffner, a soldier, leader, and selfless servant, whom we, with profound admiration and deep respect, pay tribute to for all he has done for the defense of our Nation for over three decades.

We thank Major General Shoffner, his wife Carron, and their daughter, Kristin, for their dedication and sacrifice, and we wish them well in the years to come.

REFORMING EDUCATION THE AMERICAN WAY: STATE BY STATE, COMMUNITY BY COMMUNITY

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, last week Templeton Press published an important new book, "How to Educate an American: The Conservative Vision for Tomorrow's Schools," edited by the Fordham Institute's Michael J. Petrilli and Chester E. Finn, Jr., and published by Templeton Press. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the preface I wrote for the book.

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

REFORMING EDUCATION THE AMERICAN WAY: STATE BY STATE, COMMUNITY BY COMMUNITY

I was participating in a humdrum educators' roundtable in Buffalo, New York, in 1988 when "Monk" Malloy, president of the University of Notre Dame, asked this question: "What is the purpose of a public school?"

There was a long silence until finally Albert Shanker, president of the American

Federation of Teachers, proposed this answer: "The public school was created for the purpose of teaching immigrant children reading, writing, and arithmetic and what it means to be an American with the hope that they would then go home and teach their parents." The reason to read this book is to judge for yourself whether the twenty-two conservative luminaries who wrote its chapters have produced a better answer today to Malloy's question than Albert Shanker did thirty years ago.

Shanker was a patriot—an old-fashioned, anticommunist, Hubert Humphrey—liberal Democrat union organizer whose parents had immigrated from Poland. So he and this book's conservative writers agreed on one thing: In coeditor Chester Finn's words, "Schools should inculcate a solid understanding of and appreciation for why America exists and what it stands for, to transmit history and civics and, yes, a positive attitude toward its strengths as well as a reasoned commitment to addressing its weakness." Or, in Shanker's words, "Public schools played a big role in holding our nation together. They brought together children of different races, languages, religions, and cultures and gave them a common language and a sense of common purpose. We have not outgrown our need for this; far from it."

Today, there is elite disdain for such Americanism. But this is not a popular attitude. Most audiences applaud and some come to their feet when I say, "We should teach more United States history in our schools so our children can grow up knowing what it means to be an American." There is bipartisan support for this sentiment. After September 11, 2001, George W. Bush and Al Gore both reminded the nation that principles create the American character—not considerations of race, religion, or national origin. In my first address to the US Senate, I introduced a bill to create summer academies for outstanding students and teachers of U.S. history. Within a day, Senator Ted Kennedy had rounded up nearly twenty Democratic cosponsors without my asking. Especially in today's internet democracy, an era Peggy Noonan calls "The Great Estrangement," Americans are hungry for institutions that unite. I suspect that most would agree that it would be a good idea to begin each school day with a student leading the Pledge of Allegiance and then giving his or her version of what it means to be an American.

According to education historian Patricia Graham, "Schools in America have danced to different drummers through their long history"—and schools have a very long history. Hunter-gatherer "play schools" helped children learn to survive. Sumerian schools taught scribes to help a culture survive. During the Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions, schools taught youngsters to work and got them out from under their parents' feet. Sociologist James Coleman said that in early America, schools helped parents do what parents could not do as well. That was especially true for teaching literacy. Graham says, "Now the drumbeat demands that all children achieve academically at a high level and the measure of that achievement is tests."

This book's conservative writers would temper that drumbeat with a second great conservative goal—in the coeditors' words, "to restore character, virtue, and morality to the head of the education table where they belong." This is no new thought. Plato said schools should create good men who act nobly. Thomas Jefferson believed that a democracy granting broad liberties needed institutions instilling moral restraint. But Yuval Levin's essay suggests why character education does not rise so easily on a liberal

list of priorities: progressive education wants to liberate the student to be himself or herself, Levin writes, while conservative education wants to form the student to be better suited to the responsibilities of citizenship.

After embracing citizenship and character, the book's authors diverge in their emphases. Several show a healthy respect for school choice but also for its limits. There is a shout-out for career and technical education. To me, Bill Bennett's chapter is the most persuasive. He argues that content must be at the center of any conservative consensus on education. He reminds us that in the 1980s and 1990s, conservatives were leading a content crusade with E.D. Hirsch and Governors John Engler, Tommy Thompson, and Jeb Bush as well as Bennett himself as chief architects. This movement was called (shall we whisper it?) "Common Core." This state-by-state reformation of school standards and curricula was well underway when the Obama administration tried to push it faster by making Common Core a quasi-federal mandate. Republicans imagined black helicopters flying. What conservatives had invented, many Republican legislators had voted into state law, and hundreds of thousands of classroom teachers in forty-five states expected they'd be teaching was suddenly condemned and abandoned . . . by conservatives.

This abandonment was less complete than it would appear. Last year, our daughter's family lived with us in Tennessee while her home was being remodeled. She placed two sons in a nearby mountain elementary school. When the boys returned home to their Westchester County, New York, public school, I asked, "Did they have trouble adjusting?" "Nope," she said. "Common Core here. Common Core there." Many states simply renamed Common Core to avoid political flak and charged ahead. One advocate told me, "We won. But we're not allowed to say so." The backlash to Common Core brings me to the most obvious mission missing from this volume's conservative agenda: local control of schools. America was created community by community. The initiative for American public schools was entirely at the local level, Marc Tucker has written. He termed this an "accident of localism."

I have spent much of my public life trying to preserve this localism. To begin with, federalism—the dispersal of central authority—is a crucial tenet of American liberty. Our revolution, after all was mostly about distaste for a king. As a practical matter, my experience is that those governing education from a distance have good intentions but limited capacity and that schools can be only as good as parents, teachers, and citizens in a community want them to be. The saga of Common Core is the greatest proof of this pudding. Here was a conservative crusade—new rigor in what students needed to know—blown up by conservatives' fear that Washington D.C., was forcing them to do it. The Common Core federal directive was piled on top of other dictates from Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama on how to define standards, teaching, tests, curricula, and remedies for low-performing schools. Almost everyone in public schools became sick of Washington telling them what to do. So, in 2015, teacher unions and governors united to help Congress enact the "Every Student Succeeds Act," which the Wall Street Journal said was "the largest devolution of federal control to the states in a quarter century."

Now, after the rise and fall of a national school board, our one hundred thousand public schools have about the same balance between federal leadership and state and local autonomy that existed during the George H.

W. Bush administration. Once again, we have it about right. Thirty years ago, President Bush and the governors set the nation's first national education goals and then launched an "America 2000" initiative to help states meet those goals by creating voluntary standards, voluntary tests, and start-from-scratch schools. This was done the hard way, state by state and community by community—not by federal mandates. Today's environment is ripe for a revival of a content-based conservative consensus, or in Bill Bennett's words "a great relearning," as the best way for our public schools to help our country get where we want it to go. But this time, let's avoid the lure of federal mandates and do the job the American Way: state by state, community by community.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. FRASER

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate Robert S. Fraser's retirement from the Federal Government after 50 years of faithful service to our country.

Mr. Fraser traveled for over 40 years with the U.S. Air Force, both as a dependent and serving on active duty. He attended the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he graduated in 1973 and received the Outstanding Cadet in Engineering Sciences. In 1993, he retired as a major in the U.S. Air Force and began a distinguished career at the National Security Agency, where he received multiple achievements and awards. Throughout his career, Mr. Fraser has had a selfless dedication to duty and professionalism.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR.

PARTHASARATHY VASUDEVAN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Parthasarathy Vasudevan, who passed away on December 31, 2019. Dr. Vasu's 40 years of civic and medical leadership in Phillips County were incredibly transformative for the Arkansas Delta, and his efforts reveal a relentless quest to improve the quality of life for those around him.

Dr. Vasu was a physician specializing in Urology in Helena, AR, with demand for his services extending beyond Phillips County. His career reflected 62 years of diverse experience spanning India, Boston, and the Natural State. Dr. Vasu grew up in India where he received his medical degree in 1958 and met his wife, Kanaka Rajgopal. She accompanied him to the United States in 1973 for Dr. Vasu's residency at the New England Medical Center in Boston, and upon his completion in 1978, the two embarked on their final move, to Arkansas.

Dr. Vasu's medical impact was widespread and included philanthropic leadership in addition to his urology practice. He served as executive director of the Helena Health Foundation, a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve the quality of life and healthcare offered in Phillips County through grant funding. During his time

in this role, Dr. Vasu was instrumental in developing the Delta Area Health Education Center in Helena, which became the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences East Regional Campus in 2013. The foundation honored Dr. Vasu's sponsorship with a \$4 million Wellness Center in his name.

Dr. Vasu's extensive knowledge, dedicated service, and passionate nature were qualities not only recognized by his patients, but also by the civic institutions in which he participated. Organizations he was active in were the Helena Rotary Club, as well as the Phillips County Chamber of Commerce, among others. In recognition of his philanthropic involvement, Dr. Vasu was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship recognition by the Rotary Foundation and the Channel 4 Community Service Award. Phillips County also designated August 25, 2004, as "Dr. P. Vasudevan Day."

Dr. Vasu was a tremendous asset to the Phillips County region, as well as the State of Arkansas. He was not just a doctor, but he was a mentor and a friend who loved politics and the Arkansas Razorbacks. His devoted heart and helping hand touched the lives of many, and his deeply respected legacy will transcend time. I extend my heartfelt condolences to Dr. Vasu's loved ones, his patients, and Phillips County citizens. We pray his remarkable example inspires many future Arkansas leaders.●

RECOGNIZING THE ALEXANDER ROBOTICS TEAM

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, the students on the robotics team in the small northwestern North Dakota town of Alexander set a goal at the beginning of this school year to win their State competition. Their determination and hard work paid off in February, and now the Alexander High School FIRST Tech Challenge Team #9963 team is preparing to represent North Dakota in the world championship competition.

FIRST is the acronym for the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology organization, which plans the annual competitions between schools. There, the students build and program robots to perform challenging tasks and then compete with other teams.

Robotics competition is growing in popularity in schools because it provides an ideal opportunity for young people to apply their knowledge of STEM subjects. It also teaches valuable life skills like communication, creativity, and collaboration and opens up countless doors of opportunity for the future.

While new to some schools, the Alexander students have participated in the North Dakota championship competition for the past 5 years. Each year, they have brought home a trophy from one of the categories. For this year's competition, these future engineers built and programmed a robot they

nicknamed “Spiderbot,” which competed against other robots, doing tasks like maneuvering under bridges and stacking blocks on a plate.

This progressive small town of less than 500 residents is preparing its students for 21st century careers by offering robotics as a career and technical education course for credit at the school. The success of this program is due in large part to the support and encouragement from many, including school administrators, teachers, volunteers, and parents.

To the students on the Alexander Robotics Team, their adviser Cathy White, and all who support them, I send my congratulations on becoming State champions. They are an inspiration to so many with their knowledge and passion. North Dakota will be watching as they compete in the world championships in Detroit in late April. I have a feeling we will be hearing much more from all of them in future careers as successful engineers and entrepreneurs.●

RECOGNIZING THE GATHERING PLACE

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor The Gathering Place located in Bonners Ferry as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2020.

In 2006, Norv and Sharon Skrivseth founded Sharon’s Country Store as a side business in the basement of their home. The store was an immediate success, and it soon burgeoned into a thriving storefront providing local jobs and opportunities to the Bonners Ferry community. Eventually, Sharon’s Country Store expanded to include the Bread Basket Bakery in 2014 and the 3-Mile Produce Stand in 2016. As the business grew, friends and customers started referring to the stores as “The Gathering Place,” and the Skrivseths happily embraced the new title.

Today, The Gathering Place continues to be run Norv, Sharon, and their six children. With the motto “Come, Sit, and Stay Awhile,” the businesses continues to attract locals and travelers alike with its wide array of homemade products, fresh food, and produce. The Skrivseths’ warm hospitality and a commitment to service translates not only into a superior experience for their customers, but also into strong community engagement. Norv and Sharon are considered pillars in the Bonners Ferry community, often donating to various charitable causes and school events throughout the area. Success stories like that of The Gathering Place demonstrate why Idaho is consistently ranked one of the best places in the country to do business.

Congratulations to Norv, Sharon, and all of the employees of The Gathering

Place on being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2020. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2339. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2819. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work in honor of Gold Star Mothers Families, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2339. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2819. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work in honor of Gold Star Mothers Families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4097. A communication from the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center Analyst, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Interim Rule” ((7 CFR Part 1464) (RIN0578-AA70)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4098. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Paul A. Ostrowski, United States Army,

and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4099. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Temporary General License: Extension of Validity” (RIN0694-AH97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4100. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to Country Groups for Russia and Yemen under the Export Administration Regulations” (RIN0694-AH93) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4101. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “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” (RIN3064-AE81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4102. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Annual Update of Filing Fees” ((RIN1902-AF68) (Docket No. RM20-3-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4103. A communication from the Chief of Policy, Regulation and Analysis, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2020 Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Oil, Gas, and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf” (RIN1010-AD99) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4104. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “District of Columbia: Negative Declaration for the Oil and Gas Industry 2015 Control Technique Guideline” (FRL No. 10005-75-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4105. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Procedures for Review of CBI Claims for the Identity of Chemicals on the TSCA Inventory” (FRL No. 10005-48-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4106. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revenue Procedure for farmers changing election out of 263A from 263A(d) (3) to 263A(i)” (Rev. Proc. 2020-13) received in the Office of the President of

the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4107. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removing Inability to Communicate in English as an Education Category" (RIN0960-AH86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4108. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to sections 36(c) and (d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Italy, Japan, Finland, the Netherlands, and Norway for the design and development of composite components for the manufacture of subassemblies for the F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter Center Fuselage in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 19-083); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4109. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report of five recommendations adopted by the Administrative Conference of the United States at its 72nd Plenary Session; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4110. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2020-5, Small Entity Compliance Guide" ((48 CFR Chapter 1) (FAC 2020-05)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4111. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2020-05, Introduction" ((48 CFR Chapter 1) (FAC 2020-05)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4112. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2014-002, Set-Asides under Multiple-Award Contracts" ((48 CFR Parts 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 19, 42, and 52) (FAC 2020-05)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4113. A communication from the General Counsel and Acting Chief Executive and Administrative Officer, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled "U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board Annual Performance Report for fiscal year 2019, Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2020-2021, and Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2020-2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4114. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2017 Information Collection Budget of the United States Government"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4115. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Twenty Percent of ODCA Recommendations Implemented; 49% In Progress"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4116. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4117. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4118. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining and Modernizing Certified Development Company Program (504 Loan Program) Corporate Governance Requirements" (RIN3245-AG97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-4119. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of the HUBZone Program, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "HUBZone Program Provisions for Governor-Designated Covered Areas" (RIN3245-AH06) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-4120. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Size Standards, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Size Standards: Calculation of Annual Average Receipts" (RIN3245-AH16) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-4121. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Women's Business Ownership, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Office of Women's Business Ownership: Women's Business Center Program" (RIN3245-AG02) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-4122. A communication from the Chief of Regulatory Development, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Incorporation by Reference; North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria; Hazardous Materials Safety Permits" (RIN2126-AC28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4123. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Amendments Implementing the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018" (RIN3072-AC77) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4124. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Improving Outage Reporting for Submarine Cables and Enhanced Submarine Cable Outage Data" ((GN Docket No. 15-206) (FCC 19-138)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4125. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (40); Amendment No. 3889" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31294)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4126. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (17); Amendment No. 3890" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31295)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4127. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of the Class D and E Airspace, Establishment of Class E Airspace, and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Louisville, KY" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0109)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4128. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-9073)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4129. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0700)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4130. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0714)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4131. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0720)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4132. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0864)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4133. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0670)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4134. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0663)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4135. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0125)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4136. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-6143)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4137. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0052)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4138. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0052)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4139. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0525)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4140. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0720)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4141. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0100)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4142. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0150)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4143. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule: Pilot Professional Development" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0504)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-186. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the United States Congress to encourage the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to change the crash indicator Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASIC) regulation standards to consider only crashes in which the driver was at fault for the crash; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 8

Whereas, The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) uses the Safety Measurement System (SMS) to assess commercial motor vehicle carriers in seven Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASICS); and

Whereas, The BASICS include Unsafe Driving, Crash Indicator, Hours-of-Service Compliance, Vehicle Maintenance, Controlled Substances and Alcohol, Hazardous Materials Compliance, and Driver Fitness; and

Whereas, SMS data allows the FMCSA to assess carrier noncompliance with the regulations promulgated by the FMCSA and provides the commercial motor vehicle carrier industry and other safety stakeholders with comprehensive, informative, and regularly updated safety performance data; and

Whereas, SMS data is used to make safety-based business decisions using all available sources of information; and

Whereas, The Crash Indicator BASIC includes data concerning all state-reported crashes, regardless of the carrier's or driver's role in the crash; and

Whereas, By including crashes in which a carrier or driver was not at fault, the current data creates an inaccurate, incriminating, and imbalanced portrayal of the carrier's or driver's crash record, with the potential for devastating personal and business consequences for otherwise upstanding and safe carriers and drivers: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the United States to encourage the Administrator of the FMCSA to change the Crash Indicator BASIC regulation standards to consider only crashes in which the driver was at fault for the crash; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2020

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 2472. A bill to redesignate the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at Plum Brook Station, Ohio, as the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at the Neil A. Armstrong Test Facility (Rept. No. 116-218).

S. 2964. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to issue non-premium aviation insurance (Rept. No. 116-219).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 565. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-220).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2560. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available (Rept. No. 116-221).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 1589. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical,

biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-222).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ROSEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3367. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to establish a Diversity Advisory Group to study and make recommendations on strategies to increase gender, racial, and ethnic diversity among the members of the board of directors of issuers, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers to make disclosures to shareholders with respect to gender, racial, and ethnic diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3368. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to set the rate of pay for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection in accordance with the General Schedule; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 3369. A bill to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 3370. A bill to conduct or support further comprehensive research for the creation of a universal coronavirus vaccine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 3371. A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to create a database of owners of properties receiving tenant-based assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 3372. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for treatment of certain respiratory protective devices as covered countermeasures for purposes of targeted liability protections for pandemic and epidemic products and security countermeasures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 3373. A bill to clarify low or no emission vehicle project eligibility for bus and bus facility competitive grants; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 524. A resolution condemning the practice of politically motivated imprisonment, calling for the immediate release of political prisoners in the Russian Federation, and urging action by the United States Government to impose sanctions with respect to persons responsible for that form of human rights abuse; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 525. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should continue to support the people of Nicaragua in their peaceful efforts to promote the restoration of democracy and the defense of human rights, and use the tools under United States law to increase political and economic pressure on the government of Daniel Ortega; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 383

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 383, a bill to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines, and for other purposes.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S. 578

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 670

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 670, a bill to make daylight savings time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 701

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 701, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Program, and for other purposes.

S. 959

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 959, a bill to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes.

S. 1071

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1071, a bill to support empowerment, economic security, and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1082

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1082, a bill to prevent discrimination and harassment in employment.

S. 1273

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1273, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1280

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1280, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a system to notify individuals approaching Medicare eligibility, to simplify and modernize the eligibility enrollment process, and for other purposes.

S. 1330

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1330, a bill to amend the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to clarify whistleblower rights and protections, and for other purposes.

S. 1473

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1473, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to set maximum contaminant levels for certain chemicals, and for other purposes.

S. 1490

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1490, a bill to amend the General Education Provisions Act to allow

the release of education records to facilitate the award of a recognized postsecondary credential.

S. 1531

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1531, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide protections for health insurance consumers from surprise billing.

S. 1657

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1657, a bill to provide assistance to combat the escalating burden of Lyme disease and other tick and vector-borne diseases and disorders.

S. 1703

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1703, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 2043

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2043, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 2054

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2054, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2085

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2085, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

S. 2097

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, a bill to amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to limit immigration enforcement actions at sensitive locations, to clarify the powers of immigration officers at such locations, and for other purposes.

S. 2247

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2247, a bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency of discounts provided by drug manufacturers, to establish requirements relating to pharmacy-negotiated price concessions, and for other purposes.

S. 2438

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2438, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 2590

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2590, a bill to protect the dignity of fetal remains, and for other purposes.

S. 2621

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2621, a bill to provide for the restoration of legal rights for claimants under holocaust-era insurance policies.

S. 2669

At the request of Mr. COONS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2669, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

S. 2687

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2687, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish pilot programs to assist low-income households in maintaining access to sanitation services and drinking water, and for other purposes.

S. 2794

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2794, a bill to provide for the creation of the Missing Armed Forces Personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of Missing Armed Forces Personnel records, and for other purposes.

S. 2842

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2842, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to expand and expedite access to cardiac rehabilitation programs and pulmonary rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2949

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2949, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 2974

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2974, a bill to require the Postmaster General to establish a comprehensive organizational strategy to combat the use of the mail in the distribution of illicit drugs.

S. 2975

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2975, a bill to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in western waters, and for other purposes.

S. 2980

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2980, a bill to require the promulgation of certain standards for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3020

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3020, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with States or to award grants to States to promote health and wellness, prevent suicide, and improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3095

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3095, a bill to develop voluntary guidelines for accessible postsecondary electronic instructional materials and related technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 3111

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3111, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to exclude affiliates and subsidiaries of insured depository institutions from the definition of deposit broker, and for other purposes.

S. 3129

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3129, a bill to provide for certain reforms with respect to the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3146

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3146, a bill to ensure a fair process for negotiations of collective bargaining agreements under chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code.

S. 3167

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3167, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair.

S. 3173

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3173, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that amounts paid for an abortion are not taken into account for purposes of the deduction for medical expenses.

S. 3190

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3190, a bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

S. 3194

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3194, a bill to establish a program ensuring access to accredited continuing medical education for primary care physicians and other health care providers at Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics, to provide training and clinical support for primary care providers to practice at their full scope and improve access to care for patients in underserved areas.

S. 3242

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3242, a bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to protect privacy rights, and for other purposes.

S. 3251

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3251, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to designate a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code for veterans and other eligible individuals to use to obtain information about the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3252

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

3252, a bill to prohibit chemical abortions performed without the presence of a healthcare provider, and for other purposes.

S. 3323

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3323, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modernize certain processes regarding expulsion of credit union members for cause, and for other purposes.

S. 3339

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 3339, a bill to restore military priorities, and for other purposes.

S. 3341

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3341, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restrict the tax benefits of executive deferred compensation and increase disclosure, and for other purposes.

S. 3350

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3350, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deem certain State Veterans homes meeting certain health and safety standards as meeting conditions and requirements for skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

S. 3366

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3366, a bill to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to make the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass available at no cost to members of Gold Star Families.

S. RES. 292

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 292, a resolution calling on the Government of Cameroon and armed separatist groups to respect the human rights of all Cameroonian citizens, to end all violence, and to pursue an inclusive dialogue to resolve the conflict in the Northwest and Southwest regions.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 524—CONDEMNING THE PRACTICE OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED IMPRISONMENT, CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AND URGING ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT FORM OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 524

Whereas the right to liberty and security of a person and the protection from arbitrary imprisonment are among the principal human rights guaranteed by Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 23 of the Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights;

Whereas the Russian Federation, as a member of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and the Council of Europe, is bound by international commitments with regard to human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas, on October 3, 2012, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted Resolution 1900 (2012) that defined anyone whose "detention has been imposed in violation of one of the fundamental guarantees set out in the European Convention on Human Rights and its Protocols" or "is the result of proceedings which were clearly unfair and this appears to be connected with political motives of the authorities" as a political prisoner;

Whereas, on July 2, 2014, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly adopted the Baku Declaration in which it "endorses the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of a resolution confirming the definition of political prisoners" and "strongly urges participating states to cooperate with international institutions like the OSCE, to help ensure that . . . there will be no political prisoners in the OSCE area";

Whereas, based on the criteria of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Resolution 1900 (2012), the Memorial Human Rights Center, one of the most respected nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, estimates that there are currently more than 300 political prisoners in the Russian Federation;

Whereas the list of Russian political prisoners designated by the Memorial Human Rights Center includes journalists, civil society activists, human rights advocates, participants of peaceful demonstrations, adherents of prohibited religious groups, members of "undesirable" organizations, and Ukrainian citizens from the illegally annexed Crimea;

Whereas the longest-serving political prisoner in the Russian Federation, Alexey Pichugin, has been incarcerated since June 19, 2003, in violation of 2 rulings by the European Court of Human Rights and the opinion by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention;

Whereas opposition activist Konstantin Kotov was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment on September 5, 2019, for participating

in peaceful demonstrations, in a ruling Human Rights Watch has described as “an outrageous violation of the right to peaceful protest”;

Whereas Anastasia Shevchenko, an activist in the Open Russia movement, has been held under house arrest since January 23, 2019, on the charge of belonging to an “undesirable” organization and has been designated by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience;

Whereas Yuri Dmitriev, a historian and the leader of the Memorial Human Rights Center’s branch in the Republic of Karelia who has worked to document mass burial sites from Stalin-era executions, is being held in pretrial detention on charges of child pornography that Human Rights Watch has described as “bogus” and part of an ongoing “smear campaign”;

Whereas Dennis Christensen, a Jehovah’s Witness and a citizen of Denmark, was sentenced to 6 years’ imprisonment on February 6, 2019, in a decision condemned by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom as part of the broader pattern of the Government of the Russian Federation “engaging in or tolerating severe violations of religious freedom”;

Whereas, on February 10, 2020, a court in Penza sentenced 7 activists to prison terms ranging from 6 to 18 years for participation in what authorities alleged was a terrorist organization called “Network” after a trial marked by incommunicado detention, torture, and other ill treatment to extract confessions, in what Human Rights Watch has described as an example of the Russian authorities “abusing counterterrorism laws to silence critics and deny fundamental human rights”;

Whereas, on June 18, 2018, the Department of State affirmed that “the United States is deeply concerned by the growing number of individuals . . . identified by credible human rights organizations as political and religious prisoners held by the Government of the Russian Federation” and called on the Government of the Russian Federation “to release all those identified as political or religious prisoners immediately and cease its use of the legal system to suppress dissent and peaceful religious practice”;

Whereas, on January 28, 2020, 43 parliamentarians from 16 European countries introduced a resolution in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe calling for the appointment of a rapporteur “to examine the growing crisis with politically motivated imprisonments in the Russian Federation”;

and

Whereas, according to the Memorial Human Rights Center, the number of political prisoners in the Russian Federation has increased more than 6-fold since 2015: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for those unjustly imprisoned in the Russian Federation;

(2) condemns the practice of politically motivated imprisonment in the Russian Federation, which violates the commitments of the Russian Federation to international obligations with respect to human rights and the rule of law;

(3) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately release political prisoners, including Alexey Pichugin, Konstantin Kotov, Anastasia Shevchenko, Yuri Dmitriev, and Dennis Christensen;

(4) urges the United States Government, in all its interactions with the Government of the Russian Federation, to raise individual cases of political prisoners held by the Russian Federation and to press for their release; and

(5) urges the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury to use their au-

thority under the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (title IV of Public Law 112–208; 22 U.S.C. 5811 note), the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), and other applicable provisions of law to designate for the imposition of sanctions officials of the Government of the Russian Federation who are responsible for human rights abuses in the form of politically motivated imprisonment.

SENATE RESOLUTION 525—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA IN THEIR PEACEFUL EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY AND THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND USE THE TOOLS UNDER UNITED STATES LAW TO INCREASE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT OF DANIEL ORTEGA

Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 525

Whereas the government of Daniel Ortega has concentrated power and brought about the progressive deterioration of democratic conditions in Nicaragua;

Whereas recent elections in Nicaragua, including the 2016 presidential election, have been marred by irregularities and characterized by significant restrictions on the participation of opposition political parties and the absence of credible international and local electoral observers;

Whereas Nicaraguan security forces, paramilitary, police, and other actors working under the direction of the Ortega regime committed gross violations of human rights and acts of repression, resulting in more than 325 deaths, over 2,000 injuries, and at least 800 arbitrary detentions during the peaceful protests that took place in 2018, according to the Organization of American States;

Whereas a report by the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts, appointed by the Organization of American States Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, determined that the Ortega regime used deliberate, lethal force against protesters and committed acts of torture that meet the international legal standard of crimes against humanity;

Whereas an estimated 82,000 Nicaraguans fled the country between April 2018 and October 2019, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

Whereas the Government and people of Costa Rica have graciously accepted nearly 70,000 Nicaraguans, including enrolling children in public primary schools, allowing access to legal employment, and making efforts to strengthen the capacity of Costa Rica’s asylum system;

Whereas the Ortega government failed to comply with its commitment to release all political prisoners, releasing just 392 people, of which 286 were released to house arrest with charges still pending;

Whereas Nicaragua’s Civic Alliance for Justice and Democracy alleges that there remain over 150 political prisoners held in Nicaraguan prisons as of November 29, 2019;

Whereas a United States citizen and Navy veteran, 57-year-old Eddy Montes, was shot and killed while in the custody of the Nicaraguan police at La Modelo Prison on May 16, 2019;

Whereas the government of Daniel Ortega has severely restricted freedom of the press by closing five local television stations, attacking independent radio stations, arbitrarily detaining journalists, and arbitrarily restricting print supplies from entering the country;

Whereas, beginning on November 14, 2019, Nicaraguan police conducted attacks on churches throughout the country, cut water to hunger strikers barricaded inside a church in Masaya, and arrested 13 people attempting to bring them water;

Whereas doctors, lawyers, academics, and other professionals in Nicaragua face persecution and, in some cases torture, based on suspicion of aiding or sympathizing with protestors;

Whereas the Ortega regime has violated the economic and political rights of indigenous communities, Afro-descendant populations, rural campesinos, land rights defenders, and individuals living in the Caribbean Autonomous Regions of Nicaragua;

Whereas, on November 27, 2018, Executive Order 13851 was issued, which blocks the property of certain persons involved in the Nicaraguan crisis, and its application was expanded by the Office of Foreign Asset Control of the Department of the Treasury on September 4, 2019;

Whereas the bipartisan Nicaragua Human Rights and Anticorruption Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–335; commonly referred to as the “NICA Act”) was signed into law on December 20, 2018, imposing restrictions on lending to the Nicaraguan government by international financial institutions and requiring the President to sanction non-United States persons implicated in egregious human rights abuses and corruption in Nicaragua;

Whereas the NICA Act expresses the support of Congress for a negotiated solution to the Nicaraguan crisis and includes an annual certification to waive sanctions if the Ortega government takes steps to restore democratic governance and uphold human rights;

Whereas, in the absence of such steps, the Department of State and the Department of the Treasury have imposed targeted sanctions on Nicaraguan officials and entities, including First Lady and Vice President Rosario Murillo, Daniel Ortega’s sons, Rafael Ortega Murillo and Laureano Ortega Murillo, and Nicaragua’s Banco Corporativo (Bancorp);

Whereas, in June 2019, the Government of Canada imposed sanctions on 12 members of the Government of Nicaragua engaged in gross and systemic human rights violations; and

Whereas, in advance of any future election, the Government of Nicaragua urgently needs to undertake electoral reforms, including the appointment of independent new magistrates to the Supreme Electoral Council, the restoration of a 50 percent plus one threshold for the presidential election, the establishment of a second round of voting if the electoral threshold is not reached, the establishment of a detailed electoral calendar, and stronger observation by political parties: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Government of Nicaragua to immediately release all political prisoners without conditions and cease all acts of violence, repression, and intimidation against dissenting voices in Nicaragua;

(2) urges the Ortega government to respect Nicaraguans’ constitutional rights and implement the electoral reforms mentioned

above in order to permit the holding of free, fair, and transparent elections;

(3) encourages the United States Government to align United States sanctions with diplomatic efforts to advance electoral reforms that could lead to free, fair, and transparent elections in Nicaragua;

(4) expresses full support for the people of Nicaragua, Nicaraguan independent media, and Nicaraguan civil society organizations that are working for a peaceful return to democratic order in Nicaragua;

(5) supports the efforts of the United States Government to apply pressure on the Ortega government in order to hold accountable those actors involved in human rights abuses, acts of significant corruption, and the undermining of democratic institutions in Nicaragua;

(6) urges the international community to hold the Ortega government accountable for human rights abuses and to restrict its access to foreign financing unless or until it allows for free, fair, and transparent elections monitored by credible international and local electoral observers; and

(7) urges the United States Government to investigate and hold accountable those responsible for the death of Eddy Montes, a United States citizen and Navy veteran, who was shot and killed while in the custody of the Nicaraguan police at La Modelo Prison on May 16, 2019.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1327. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. RISC, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1328. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1329. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1330. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1331. Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, and Ms. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1332. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1333. Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1334. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1335. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1336. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1337. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1338. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1339. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1340. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1341. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1342. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1343. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1344. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1327. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. RISC, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 18. SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCACY AND ASSISTANCE.

Section 1003 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16393) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “, and may require the Director of a single-purpose research facility,” and inserting “(as defined in section 2) and the Director of each single-purpose research facility”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “increase” and inserting “encourage”; and

(ii) by striking “collaborative research,” and inserting “research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities, including product development.”;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking “procurement and collaborative research” and inserting “the activities described in paragraph (1)”;

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting “facilities,” before “training”; and

(ii) by striking “procurement and collaborative research activities” and inserting “the activities described in paragraph (1)”;

(E) in paragraph (5), by striking “for the program under subsection (b)” and inserting “and metrics for the programs under subsections (b) and (c)”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) SMALL BUSINESS VOUCHER PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means—

“(i) the Director of each National Laboratory; and

“(ii) the Director of each single-purpose research facility.

“(B) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term ‘National Laboratory’ has the meaning given the term in section 2.

“(C) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means the program established under paragraph (2).

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, working with the Office of Technology Transitions and the Technology Transfer Coordinator appointed under section 1001(a), and in consultation with the Directors, shall establish a program to provide small business concerns with vouchers under paragraph (3)—

“(A) to achieve the goal described in subsection (a)(1); and

“(B) to improve the products, services, and capabilities of small business concerns in the mission space of the Department.

“(3) VOUCHERS.—Under the program, the Directors are authorized to provide to small business concerns vouchers to be used at National Laboratories and single-purpose research facilities for—

“(A) research, development, demonstration, technology transfer, or commercial application activities; or

“(B) any other activities that the applicable Director determines appropriate.

“(4) EXPEDITED CONTRACTING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, working with the Directors, shall establish a streamlined approval process for expedited contracting between—

“(i) small business concerns selected to receive a voucher under the program; and

“(ii) the National Laboratories and single-purpose research facilities.

“(B) DECISIONMAKING AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall determine the appropriate decisionmaking authority at the National Laboratories and single-purpose research facilities with respect to the expedited contracting described in subparagraph (A).

“(5) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall require cost-sharing in accordance with section 988.”; and

(4) in subsection (e) (as so redesignated), by striking “\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2008” and inserting “\$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter”.

At an appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . INCREASE AND STREAMLINE RECOVERY OF UNCLAIMED ASSETS OWED TO THE UNITED STATES.

Section 3711 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j)(1) The Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary’) may locate and recover unclaimed assets of the United States Government on behalf of any executive, judicial, or legislative agency in accordance with such procedures as the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law concerning the depositing or collection of Federal payments, including section 3302(b), the Secretary may retain a portion of the amounts recovered under this subsection to cover the administrative and operational costs of the Secretary associated with locating and recovering assets of the United States Government.”.

SA 1328. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 18. IMPACT FOR ENERGY FOUNDATION.

- (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—
- (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than February 1, 2021, the Secretary shall establish a nonprofit corporation to be known as the “IMPACT for Energy Foundation” (referred to in this section as the “Foundation”).
- (2) **LIMITATION.**—The Foundation shall not be an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.
- (3) **NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.**—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Foundation.
- (4) **NONPROFIT STATUS.**—The Foundation shall be an organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code.
- (5) **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**—
- (A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Foundation shall operate under a board of directors.
- (B) **INITIAL APPOINTMENT.**—The initial appointment of the board of directors shall be facilitated by the Secretary.
- (C) **COMPOSITION.**—To the maximum extent practicable, the board of directors shall include representatives from a diverse range of communities, including—
- the academic community;
 - the business community;
 - nonprofit organizations;
 - the communities surrounding the laboratories and facilities of the Department; and
 - the technology transfer and commercialization community.
- (D) **RESTRICTION ON MEMBERSHIP.**—No employee of the Department shall be appointed as a member of the board of directors.
- (b) **PURPOSE; ACTIVITIES.**—
- (1) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the Foundation is to channel private sector investments that support efforts to create, develop, and commercialize innovative technologies that address energy challenges by methods that include—
- fostering collaboration and partnerships with researchers from the Federal Government, State governments, institutions of higher education, federally funded research and development centers, industry, and nonprofit organizations for the research, development, or commercialization of transformative energy technologies;
 - leveraging technologies by supporting new product development that supports regional economic development; and
 - administering prize competitions to accelerate private sector competition and investment.
- (2) **ACTIVITIES.**—
- (A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Foundation may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and other donations, establish accounts, and invest and expend funds in support of the activities and programs described in subparagraphs (B) through (D).
- (B) **STUDIES, COMPETITIONS, AND PROJECTS.**—The Foundation may conduct and support studies, competitions, projects, and other activities that further the purpose of the Foundation described in paragraph (1).
- (C) **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS.**—
- AWARD.**—The Foundation may award fellowships and grants for activities relating to research, development, prototyping, maturing, or commercializing of energy technologies.
 - FORM OF AWARD.**—A fellowship or grant under clause (i) may consist of a stipend, health insurance benefits, funds for travel, and funds for other appropriate expenses.
 - SELECTION.**—
- (I) **IN GENERAL.**—The Foundation shall award a fellowship or grant under clause (i)

based on the technical and commercialization inputs of the proposed project.

(II) **INPUT.**—In selecting recipients of a fellowship or grant under clause (i), the Foundation may consult with potential recipients regarding the ability to carry out various projects that would further the purpose of the Foundation described in paragraph (1).

(iv) **FEDERAL LABORATORIES.**—A Federal laboratory that applies for or accepts a grant under clause (i) shall not be considered to be engaging in a competitive procedure.

(D) **SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS.**—The Foundation may carry out supplementary programs—

(i) to conduct and support forums, meetings, conferences, courses, and training workshops consistent with the purpose of the Foundation described in paragraph (1);

(ii) to support and encourage the understanding and development of—

(I) data reporting models that promote the translation of technologies from the research stage, through the development and maturation stage, and ending in the market stage; and

(II) policies that make regulation more effective and efficient by leveraging the technology translation data described in subclause (I) for the regulation of relevant technology sectors;

(iii) for writing, editing, printing, publishing, and vending books and other materials relating to research carried out under the Foundation; and

(iv) to conduct other activities to carry out and support the purpose of the Foundation described in paragraph (1).

(E) **AUTHORITY OF FOUNDATION.**—The Foundation shall be the sole entity responsible for carrying out the activities described in this paragraph.

(F) **ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL.**—No participant in a program under this paragraph or employee of the Foundation shall exercise any administrative control over any Federal employee.

(c) **SUPPORT SERVICES.**—The Secretary may provide facilities, utilities, and support services to the Foundation if it is determined by the Secretary to be advantageous to the research programs of the Department.

(d) **ESTABLISHMENT OF FOR-PROFIT SUBSIDIARIES.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Foundation may establish 1 or more for-profit subsidiaries, including an impact investment fund—

(A) to stimulate economic development activities relating to the purpose of the Foundation described in subsection (b)(1); and

(B) to attract for-profit investment partners for technology translation and commercialization activities.

(2) **AUTHORITIES OF THE FOR-PROFIT SUBSIDIARY.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), a for-profit subsidiary established under paragraph (1) may—

(i) enter into a partnership with an economic development corporation, including an incubator, accelerator, or small business investment company;

(ii) pay for the cost of building and administering a facility, including a microlab or incubator, to support the activities of the Foundation described in subsection (b)(2); and

(iii) provide funding to a startup.

(B) **COST RECOVERY REQUIREMENTS.**—A for-profit subsidiary established under paragraph (1) shall—

(i) ensure that the Foundation owns any intellectual property rights generated through activities funded by the for-profit subsidiary, if appropriate; and

(ii) own an equity stake in any startup invested in by the for-profit subsidiary.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section (except for subsection (d)) such sums as are necessary for fiscal year 2021 and each fiscal year thereafter.

SA 1329. Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I, insert the following:

SEC. 1. TREE PLANTING GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ELIGIBLE COST.**—The term “eligible cost” means, with respect to a project—

(A) the cost of implementing the project, including—

(i) planning and designing the planting activity;

(ii) purchasing trees; and

(iii) preparing the site and conducting planting, including the labor and cost associated with the use of machinery;

(B) the cost of maintaining and monitoring planted trees for a period of up to 3 years to ensure successful establishment of the trees;

(C) the cost of training activities associated with the project; and

(D) any other relevant cost, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a State agency;

(B) a local governmental entity;

(C) an Indian Tribe;

(D) a nonprofit organization; and

(E) a retail power provider.

(3) **ENERGY BURDEN.**—The term “energy burden” means the percentage of household income spent on home energy bills.

(4) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian Tribe” has the meaning given the term “Indian tribe” in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(5) **LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.**—The term “local governmental entity” means any municipal government or county government with jurisdiction over local land use decisions.

(6) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term “nonprofit organization” means an organization that—

(A) is described in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(B) operates in accordance with 1 or more of the purposes described in section 170(h)(4)(A) of that Code.

(7) **PROGRAM.**—The term “Program” means the grant program established under subsection (b)(1).

(8) **PROJECT.**—The term “project” means a tree planting project carried out by an eligible entity using grant funds awarded under the Program.

(9) **RETAIL POWER PROVIDER.**—The term “retail power provider” means any entity authorized under applicable State or Federal law to generate, distribute, or provide retail electricity.

(10) **URBAN AREA.**—The term “urban area” means an area identified by the Bureau of the Census as an “urban area” in the most recent census.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a program under which the Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to conduct tree planting projects in urban areas in accordance with this section.

(2) **TREE PLANTING.**—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, award sufficient grants each year to plant not less than 300,000 trees each year.

(c) **APPLICATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An eligible entity that seeks to receive a grant under the Program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such form, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including the information described in paragraph (2).

(2) **CONTENTS.**—An application submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a description of how the project will reduce residential energy consumption;

(B) a description of the anticipated community and stakeholder engagement in the project;

(C) a description of the tree species to be planted and how that species is suitable for the local environmental conditions and climate; and

(D) any other relevant information required by the Secretary.

(d) **PRIORITY.**—In awarding grants under the Program, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

(1) provide the largest potential reduction in residential energy consumption for households with a high energy burden;

(2) are located in a neighborhood with lower tree canopy cover and higher maximum daytime summer temperatures;

(3) are located in a neighborhood with high amounts of senior citizens or children;

(4) will collaboratively engage neighbors and community members that will be closely affected by the tree planting; and

(5) will employ a substantial percentage of the workforce locally, with a focus on engaging unemployed and underemployed persons.

(e) **COSTS.**—

(1) **FEDERAL SHARE.**—The Secretary shall award a grant to an eligible entity under the Program in an amount equal to not more than 75 percent of the eligible costs of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) **MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**—As a condition of receiving a grant under the Program, an eligible entity shall provide, in cash or through in-kind contributions from non-Federal sources, matching funds in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of the eligible costs of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Program \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

SA 1330. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part II of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 22. FERC RULEMAKING TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERREGIONAL TRANSMISSION PLANNING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall initiate a rulemaking to increase the effectiveness of the interregional transmission planning process.

(b) **REQUIREMENT.**—In conducting the rulemaking under subsection (a), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall—

(1) assess the effectiveness of existing transmission planning processes at identifying interregional transmission projects

that provide economic, reliability, operational, and public policy benefits; and

(2) consider—

(A) changes to the processes described in paragraph (1) to ensure that efficient, cost-effective, and broadly beneficial interregional transmission solutions are selected for construction, taking into consideration—

(i) the public interest;

(ii) the integrity of markets; and

(iii) the protection of consumers; and

(B) cost allocation methodologies that reflect the multiple benefits provided by interregional transmission solutions.

(c) **TIMING.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall promulgate a final rule to complete the rulemaking initiated under subsection (a).

SA 1331. Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, and Ms. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle A of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 1. REPORT ON EFFECT OF DEPARTMENT POLICIES ON VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and make publicly available on the website of the Department, a report that—

(1) describes any gaps in collected metrics, data, or analytics on how vulnerable populations, including communities of color, indigenous communities, and low-income communities in the United States (including the territories and possessions of the United States and the District of Columbia) are affected by the implementation of programs, policies, and activities of the Department on issues including—

(A) energy efficiency, including retrofitting, weatherization, and smart buildings;

(B) energy generation, transmission, consumption, costs, and project siting;

(C) research, development, and deployment grants; and

(D) energy workforce development; and

(2) includes recommendations for—

(A) developing measures to assess and evaluate equity in the areas described in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (1);

(B) improving program structure and design to address the needs of vulnerable populations; and

(C) to the maximum extent practicable, implementing the measures described in subparagraph (A) and improvements described in subparagraph (B) throughout the activities of Department.

SA 1332. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 203, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 1206. ENERGY CREDIT FOR QUALIFIED OFFSHORE WIND FACILITIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subsection (a) of section 48 of the Internal Revenue Code is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A)(i)—

(A) in subclause (III), by striking “and” at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

“(V) qualified offshore wind property, and”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(A) in clause (vi), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in clause (vii), by adding “or” at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(viii) qualified offshore wind property, but only with respect to property the construction of which begins before January 1, 2026.”.

(b) **QUALIFIED OFFSHORE WIND PROPERTY.**—Subsection (c) of section 48 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) **QUALIFIED OFFSHORE WIND PROPERTY.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘qualified offshore wind property’ means an offshore facility using wind to produce electricity.

“(B) **OFFSHORE FACILITY.**—The term ‘offshore facility’ means any facility located in the inland navigable waters of the United States, including the Great Lakes, or in the coastal waters of the United States, including the territorial seas of the United States, the exclusive economic zone of the United States, and the outer Continental Shelf of the United States.

“(C) **EXCEPTION FOR QUALIFIED SMALL WIND ENERGY PROPERTY.**—The term ‘qualified offshore wind property’ shall not include any property described in paragraph (4).

“(D) **SPECIAL RULE.**—In the case of any property described in subparagraph (A) which was placed in service after December 31, 2016, and for which a credit under this section was allowed by reason of subsection (a)(5) in any taxable year which ends before or includes the date of the enactment of the American Energy Innovation Act of 2020, notwithstanding any election under such subsection (a)(5), such property may be treated at the election of the taxpayer as qualified offshore wind property (and not as qualified property which is part of a qualified investment credit facility) for—

“(i) taxable years including or beginning after such date of enactment, and

“(ii) any taxable years ending before such date of enactment, including by filing an amended return.

Notwithstanding section 6501, an amended return may be filed for purposes of clause (ii) for any taxable year described in such clause.”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 1333. Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title II, add the following:

SEC. 23. OFFSHORE WIND CAREER TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(D) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(E) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(2) **COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**—The term “community college” has the meaning given the term “junior or community college” in section 312 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058).

(3) **DISLOCATED WORKER.**—The term “dislocated worker” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

(4) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible entity” means an entity that is—

- (A) an institution of higher education; or
- (B) a labor organization.

(5) **GRANT PROGRAM.**—The term “grant program” means the grant program established under subsection (d).

(6) **GRANTEE.**—The term “grantee” means an eligible entity that has received a grant under this section.

(7) **INDIVIDUAL WITH A BARRIER TO EMPLOYMENT.**—The term “individual with a barrier to employment” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

(8) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(9) **LEAD APPLICANT.**—The term “lead applicant” means the eligible entity that is primarily responsible for the preparation, conduct, and administration of the project for which a grant is awarded under this section.

(10) **VETERAN.**—The term “veteran” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

(b) **IDENTIFICATION OF EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER TRAINING NEEDS.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with representatives from the offshore wind industry, eligible entities, including eligible entities that are community colleges, State and local governments, labor organizations, ports, vessel operators, and nonprofit organizations, shall identify the educational and career training needs with respect to the offshore wind industry, including needs relating to manufacturing, construction of offshore wind facilities and the vessels required to service those facilities, installation, operation, engineering training and education, and maintenance activities.

(c) **GUIDELINES.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) issue guidelines for the submission of grant proposals under this section, which shall include a list of the educational and career training needs identified under subsection (b); and

(2) publish and maintain the guidelines described in paragraph (1) on a public website of the Secretary.

(d) **ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a grant program under which the Secretary may award offshore wind career training grants to eligible entities for the purpose of developing, offering, or improving educational or career training programs that provide individuals who are enrolled in those programs with skills that are necessary for employment in the offshore wind industry.

(e) **ALLOCATION OF GRANTS.**—

(1) **LIMITATION ON GRANT QUANTITY AND SIZE.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may not award to an eligible entity—

(A) more than 1 grant for which the eligible entity is the lead applicant; or

(B) a grant that is in an amount that is more than \$2,500,000.

(2) **ALLOCATION TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES.**—The Secretary shall ensure that, in a fiscal year, not less than 25 percent of the total amount that the Secretary awards in grants under this section is awarded to eligible entities that are community colleges.

(f) **PARTNERSHIPS.**—An eligible entity seeking to receive a grant under this section may partner with 1 or more of the following:

(1) Another eligible entity, including an eligible entity that is a community college.

(2) A State or local government.

(3) A nonprofit organization.

(g) **USE OF GRANT.**—An eligible entity may use a grant awarded under this section to carry out—

(1) occupational skills training, including curriculum development, on-the-job training, safety and health training, and classroom training;

(2) incumbent worker and career ladder training and retraining, including skill upgrading and transitional job strategizing;

(3) individual referral and tuition assistance for a training program offered by a nonprofit organization through which an individual may attain a recognized postsecondary credential (as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102));

(4) customized training in conjunction with an existing registered apprenticeship program, internship, or labor-management partnership; and

(5) other activities that the Secretary determines meet the purposes of this section.

(h) **SUBMISSION PROCEDURE FOR GRANT PROPOSALS.**—An eligible entity seeking to receive a grant under this section shall submit a grant proposal to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and, in accordance with the guidelines issued under subsection (c)(1), containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(i) **CRITERIA FOR AWARD OF GRANTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may award a grant under this section only after an evaluation of—

(A) the merits of the grant proposal with respect to the grant;

(B) the likely employment opportunities available to individuals who complete the educational or career training program that the eligible entity applying for the grant proposes to develop, offer, or improve;

(C) prior demand for educational or career training programs in the community served by the eligible entity applying for the grant; and

(D) the availability and capacity of existing educational or career training programs in the community described in subparagraph (C) to meet future demand for the educational or career training programs.

(2) **PRIORITY.**—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that—

(A) are—

(i) institutions of higher education that have formed partnerships with labor organizations; or

(ii) labor organizations that have formed partnerships with institutions of higher education;

(B) have entered into a memorandum of understanding with an employer in the offshore wind industry to foster workforce development; or

(C) will use the grant funds to assist individuals who are—

(i) dislocated workers, with a focus on workers displaced from the offshore oil and gas, onshore fossil fuel, nuclear energy, or fishing industry;

(ii) veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, or former members of those reserve components; or

(iii) individuals with a barrier to employment.

(j) **MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.**—A grant awarded under this section may not be used to satisfy any non-Federal funds matching requirement under any other provision of law.

(k) **GRANTEE DATA COLLECTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A grantee shall collect and report to the Secretary on an annual basis the following information regarding the educational or career training program for which the grantee receives a grant under this section:

(A) The number of participants in the educational or career training program (referred to in this subsection as “participants”).

(B) The services received in that program by the participants, including a description of training, educational, and supportive services.

(C) The rate of job placement of participants in the offshore wind industry or related fields that have completed the educational or career training program.

(D) The rate at which participants are retained in positions of employment 1 year after the date on which the participant has completed the program.

(l) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **INITIAL REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the grant program is established, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an initial report describing the results of the grant program, including a description of—

(A) the grantees that were awarded a grant under this section; and

(B) the activities for which the grantees described in subparagraph (A) used a grant awarded under this section.

(2) **ADDITIONAL REPORTS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the initial report is submitted under paragraph (1), and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the results of the grant program for the 2-year period preceding the report.

(m) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

SA 1334. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LAST GREEN VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR AND THE UPPER HOUSATONIC VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) **LAST GREEN VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR.**—

(1) **REAUTHORIZATION.**—Section 106(b) of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 103-449; 108 Stat. 4755; 113 Stat. 1728; 123 Stat. 1291; 128 Stat. 3802) is amended by striking “2021” and inserting “2036”.

(2) **REPEAL OF TOTAL FUNDING CAP.**—Section 109(a) of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 103-449; 108 Stat. 4756; 113 Stat. 1729; 123 Stat. 1292) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(b) UPPER HOUSATONIC VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.—

(1) REPEAL OF TOTAL FUNDING CAP.—Section 280A(a) of the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 109-338; 120 Stat. 1819) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(2) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 280B of the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 109-338; 120 Stat. 1819) is amended by striking “15 years” and inserting “30 years”.

SA 1335. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4001. WEIR FARM NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Weir Farm National Historic Site shall be known and designated as the “Weir Farm National Historical Park”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE WEIR FARM NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 1990.—The Weir Farm National Historic Site Establishment Act of 1990 (54 U.S.C. 320101 note; Public Law 101-485; 104 Stat. 1171; 108 Stat. 4756; 112 Stat. 3296; 123 Stat. 1190) is amended—

(1) in section 2(2)—

(A) by striking “historic site” and inserting “historical park”; and

(B) by striking “National Historic Site” and inserting “National Historical Park”;

(2) in section 4—

(A) in the heading, by striking “HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “HISTORICAL PARK”;

(B) in subsection (a), by striking “Historic Site” and inserting “Historical Park”; and

(C) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “historical park”;

(3) in section 5, by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “historical park”; and

(4) in section 6—

(A) in the heading, by striking “HISTORIC SITE” and inserting “HISTORICAL PARK”; and

(B) by striking “historic site” each place it appears and inserting “historical park”.

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to the Weir Farm National Historic Site shall be considered to be a reference to the “Weir Farm National Historical Park”.

SA 1336. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROMOTING USE OF RECLAIMED REFRIGERANTS IN FEDERAL FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall issue guidance relating to the procurement of reclaimed refrigerants to service existing equipment of Federal facilities.

(b) PREFERENCE.—The guidance issued under subsection (a) shall give preference to the use of reclaimed refrigerants, on the conditions that—

(1) the refrigerant has been reclaimed by a person or entity that is certified under the

laboratory certification program of the Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute; and

(2) the price of the reclaimed refrigerant does not exceed the price of a newly manufactured (virgin) refrigerant.

SA 1337. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title I, add the following:

SEC. 17. CLEAN SCHOOL BUS GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS.—The term “electric school bus” means a school bus that is propelled—

(A) to a significant extent by an electric motor that—

(i) draws electricity from a battery; and

(ii) is capable of being recharged from an external source of electricity; or

(B) by 1 or more hydrogen fuel cells.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) 1 or more local, regional, or State governmental entities responsible for—

(i) providing school bus service to 1 or more public school systems; or

(ii) purchasing school buses for use by 1 or more public school systems;

(B) 1 or more contracting entities that provide school bus service to 1 or more public school systems;

(C) a nonprofit school transportation association; or

(D) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 5212 of the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2511)).

(3) FUEL CELL.—The term “fuel cell” has the meaning given the term in section 803 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16152).

(4) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means the Clean School Bus Grant Program established under subsection (b)(1).

(5) SCHOOL BUS.—The term “school bus” has the meaning given the term “schoolbus” in section 30125(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(6) SCRAP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “scrap” means, with respect to a school bus engine replaced using funds awarded under the program, to recycle, crush, or shred the engine within such period and in such manner as determined by the Secretary.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “scrap” does not include selling, leasing, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of an engine described in subparagraph (A) for use in another motor vehicle in any location.

(b) CLEAN SCHOOL BUS GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department a program, to be known as the “Clean School Bus Grant Program”, for awarding grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities for the replacement of certain existing school buses.

(2) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under the program, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary shall require, including—

(A) a certification that no public work or service normally performed by a public employee will be privatized or subcontracted in carrying out a project under the grant; and

(B) to ensure a fair assessment of total workforce impact, a detailed accounting of the workforce of the eligible entity at the time of application, including—

(i) the number of employees, organized by salary;

(ii) the bargaining unit status of each employee;

(iii) the full- or part-time status of each employee; and

(iv) the job title of each employee.

(3) PRIORITY OF GRANT APPLICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall give highest priority under the program to proposed projects of eligible entities that—

(i) serve the neediest students, as described in subparagraph (B); and

(ii) will most reduce emissions, as described in subparagraph (C).

(B) NEEDEST STUDENTS DESCRIBED.—The neediest students referred to in subparagraph (A)(i) are students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

(C) MOST EMISSIONS-REDUCING PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—The projects that will most reduce emissions referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) are projects that—

(i) will replace the most polluting diesel school buses with the cleanest running electric school buses, as indicated by—

(I) the age of the school buses to be replaced;

(II) the emissions control technologies on the school buses to be replaced;

(III) the annual vehicle miles traveled by the school buses to be replaced;

(IV) the source of electricity or hydrogen used to power the electric school buses; and

(V) any other factors the Secretary determines to be relevant; or

(ii) will complement the use of grant funds through other activities that—

(I) will enable broader deployment of electric vehicles, such as securing additional sources of funding through public-private partnerships with utilities, grants from other entities, or issuance of school bonds; or

(II) will achieve further reductions in emissions, such as installing solar panels to power electric school buses purchased with grant funds.

(D) TIE.—In the event that 2 or more eligible entities seeking grants to purchase electric school buses under the program meet the priorities described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary may consider—

(i) whether the grant will benefit students in a region that is in nonattainment of a national ambient air quality standard under section 109 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7409); and

(ii) whether the eligible entity, or whether the school system or school that would be served by the eligible entity, has taken other action to reduce emissions during the transportation of students, such as instituting a no-idling policy.

(4) USE OF SCHOOL BUS FLEET.—Each electric school bus acquired with funds provided under the program—

(A) shall be operated as part of the school bus fleet for which the grant was made for not less than 5 years;

(B) shall be maintained, operated, and charged according to manufacturer recommendations or State requirements; and

(C) may not be manufactured or retrofitted with, or otherwise have installed, a power unit or other technology that creates air pollution within the school bus, such as an unvented diesel passenger heater.

(5) GRANT AWARDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use funds made available to carry out the program—

(i) to award grants for—

(I) the replacement of existing diesel school bus fleets with electric school buses;

(II) the implementation of recharging infrastructure or other infrastructure needed to charge or maintain electric school buses;

(III) workforce development and training, to support the maintenance, charging, and operations of electric school buses; and

(IV) planning and technical activities to support the adoption and implementation of electric school buses; and

(i) to develop resources to inform, encourage, and support eligible entities in applying for and fulfilling the requirements of grants awarded under the program, including materials to support the workforce development and training described in clause (i)(III) and the planning and technical activities described in clause (i)(IV).

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive a grant under the program, the Secretary shall—

(i) require that grant recipients—

(I) replace diesel school buses with electric school buses;

(II)(aa) not later than 1 year after receiving the electric school bus purchased using a grant under the program, scrap the diesel engine of the school bus being replaced; or

(bb) receive a waiver under paragraph (6);

(III) do not, as a result of receiving the grant—

(aa) lay off, transfer, or demote any current employee; or

(bb) reduce the salary or benefits of any current employee or worsen the conditions of work of any current employee; and

(IV) provide current employees with training to effectively operate, maintain, or otherwise adapt to new technologies relating to electric school buses; and

(ii) permit grant recipients to receive and retain any funds or benefits received from—

(I) scrapping a diesel engine;

(II) transferring or repurposing a diesel school bus as authorized under a waiver under paragraph (6); and

(III) the resale or reuse of other parts of a school bus replaced using grant funds.

(C) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

(i) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The maximum amount of a grant under the program is \$2,000,000.

(ii) AMOUNTS FOR PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—For any grant under the program, the amount of funds awarded for the purchase of an electric school bus shall not exceed 110 percent of the amount equal to the difference between—

(aa) the cost of an electric school bus; and

(bb) the cost of a diesel school bus.

(II) DETERMINATION OF COST OF SCHOOL BUSES.—In determining the amount of funds under subclause (I), the Secretary may determine the cost of a school bus for the purpose of calculating the marginal cost under that subclause through—

(aa) a competitive solicitation process for the manufacture of the school bus;

(bb) a cooperative purchase agreement permitted by the laws of the State in which the grant recipient is located; or

(cc) another method that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(iii) AMOUNTS FOR SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES.—For any grant under the program, the amount of funds awarded for the purposes described in subclauses (II) through (IV) of subparagraph (A)(i), or other purposes related to those subclauses, as determined by the Secretary, shall not exceed \$600,000.

(D) BUY AMERICA.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), any electric school bus purchased using funds awarded under the program shall comply with the requirements described in section 5323(j) of title 49, United States Code.

(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—

(I) WAIVER.—The Secretary may provide any waiver to the requirements described in clause (i) in the same manner and to the same extent as the Secretary of Transportation may provide a waiver under section 5323(j)(2) of title 49, United States Code.

(II) PERCENTAGE OF COMPONENTS AND SUBCOMPONENTS.—The Secretary may grant a waiver in accordance with section 5323(j)(2)(C) of title 49, United States Code, when a grant recipient procures an electric school bus using funds awarded under the program for which the cost of components and subcomponents produced in the United States—

(aa) for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025, is more than 60 percent of the cost of all components of the school bus; and

(bb) for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, is more than 70 percent of the cost of all components of the school bus.

(6) WAIVER.—On request of a grant recipient, the Secretary may grant a waiver under paragraph (5)(B)(i)(II)(bb) to authorize a grant recipient—

(A) to transfer a diesel school bus replaced using grant funds under the program under an agreement—

(i) between—

(I) the grant recipient; and

(II) an entity described in subsection (a)(2) that serves an area that is in attainment of national ambient air quality standards under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.);

(ii) that provides that—

(I) not later than 1 year after the transfer subject to the agreement, the entity receiving a school bus from the grant recipient will scrap a number of diesel engines of school buses that is equal to the number of school buses being received; and

(II) any diesel engines described in subclause (I) are older and more polluting than the diesel engines in the school buses being received; and

(iii) provided to the Secretary; or

(B) to delay the requirement under paragraph (5)(B)(i)(II)(aa) for not more than 3 years after receiving the school bus purchased using a grant under the program for the purpose of using the school bus being replaced for a use determined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

(7) DEPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

(A) achieve nationwide deployment of electric school buses through the program; and

(B) ensure a broad geographic distribution of grant awards, with no State receiving more than 15 percent of the grant funding made available to carry out the program for each fiscal year.

(8) ANNUAL REPORTING.—

(A) DATA RELEASE.—The Secretary shall make available to the public on the website of the Department a downloadable electronic database of information with respect to each grant made under the program, including—

(i) the name and location of the grant recipient;

(ii) the school district served by the grant recipient, if the grant recipient is not a school district;

(iii) the criteria that the grant recipient met under subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (3), if any;

(iv) the grant amount, including a description of the amounts of the grant used for—

(I) the purchase of electric school buses;

(II) the purchase of infrastructure;

(III) workforce development;

(IV) the purchase of hydrogen or electricity; and

(V) any other purpose;

(v) with respect to an electric school bus purchased using a grant under the program,

the number, make and model, year of make, cost, estimated annual vehicle miles to be traveled, and estimated number of students to be transported per day;

(vi) with respect to a school bus replaced using a grant under the program, the number, make and model, year of make, fuel type, annual vehicle miles traveled, and the number of students transported per day;

(vii) whether the grant recipient received a waiver under paragraph (6) and, if the grant recipient received such a waiver, with respect to a school bus scrapped by the receiving entity described in paragraph (6)(A), the number, make and model, year of make, fuel type, type of school bus, annual vehicle miles traveled, and the number of students transported per day;

(viii) an estimate of the local air pollution emissions and global greenhouse gas emissions avoided as a result of the grant; and

(ix) any other data determined by the Secretary to enable an analysis of the use and impact of grants under the program.

(B) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than January 31 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and make available on the website of the Department a report that describes—

(i) the grant applications received under the program, including a summary of the grant applications meeting the criteria described in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (3), if any;

(ii) the grants awarded under the program, including a summary of the data described in subparagraph (A);

(iii) the effect of the receipt of the grant on students, schools, local communities, industry, and the workforce;

(iv) the impact of the awarded grants on local air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; and

(v) any other information determined by the Secretary to enable Congress to understand the implementation, outcomes, and effectiveness of the program.

(C) REPORT ON BUY AMERICA WAIVERS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report describing any waiver granted under paragraph (5)(D)(ii)(I) during the preceding year to—

(i) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(ii) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(iii) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(iv) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(c) EDUCATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after funds are appropriated to carry out the Program, the Secretary shall develop an education outreach program to promote and explain the program.

(2) COORDINATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS.—The outreach program under this subsection shall be designed and conducted in conjunction with national school bus transportation associations, educators, school bus drivers, and other stakeholders.

(3) COMPONENTS.—The outreach program under this subsection shall—

(A) inform eligible entities of the process of applying for grants;

(B) describe the available technologies and the benefits of the technologies;

(C) explain the benefits of participating in the program;

(D) facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned among grant recipients and between grant recipients and eligible entities; and

(E) include, as appropriate, information from the annual reports required under subsection (b)(8).

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out the program \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025, to remain available until expended.

SA 1338. Ms. HARRIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . WATER EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible entity” means—

- (A) a State;
- (B) a unit of local government;
- (C) an entity established by an interstate compact; and
- (D) an Indian tribe.

(2) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(3) **PROGRAM.**—The term “program” means the program established under subsection (b).

(4) **STATE.**—The term “State” means—

- (A) a State;
- (B) the District of Columbia;
- (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and
- (D) any other territory or possession of the United States.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a program, to be known as the “Water Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program”, under which the Secretary shall provide grants to eligible entities to carry out activities to achieve the purpose of the program described in subsection (c).

(c) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the program is to assist eligible entities in implementing strategies—

- (1) to reduce water use in a manner that—
 - (A) is environmentally sustainable;
 - (B) improves the affordability of water and sanitation for disadvantaged communities; and

(C) maximizes benefits for local and regional communities;

(2) to reduce the total water use of the people, businesses, farms, and institutions located within the jurisdiction of eligible entities receiving grants under the program;

(3) to improve water efficiency in the agricultural sector, building sector, or any other appropriate sector operating within the jurisdictions of the eligible entities receiving grants under the program; and

(4) to reduce the energy required to pump, transport, treat, and heat water.

(d) **ACTIVITIES.**—An eligible entity may use a grant under the program to carry out activities that include—

(1) developing and implementing a water efficiency and conservation strategy;

(2) retaining technical consultant services to assist in the development of a strategy described in paragraph (1), including services to assist with—

(A) the formulation of water efficiency, water conservation, and water usage goals;

(B) the engagement of water users and other stakeholders in the identification of goals and priorities for water efficiency and conservation;

(C) the identification of strategies to achieve the goals formulated under subparagraphs (A) and (B)—

(i) through investments in physical measures to increase water efficiency and reduce water consumption;

(ii) by encouraging water conservation practices by—

(I) the population served by the eligible entity; and

(II) the suppliers of water and sanitation services operating within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity; and

(iii) by collecting any revenues that may be required to support the implementation of those strategies through fair and transparent mechanisms that encourage efficient water use and support the affordability of water and sanitation services for low-income households;

(D) the development of methods to measure progress in achieving the goals formulated under subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(E) the development and publication of annual reports, made available to the population served by the eligible entity, describing—

(i) the goals formulated under subparagraphs (A) and (B) and the strategies identified under subparagraph (C); and

(ii) the progress made in achieving those goals and strategies during the preceding calendar year; and

(F) any other activities appropriate to implement the strategy described in paragraph (1);

(3) conducting residential and commercial building water audits;

(4) conducting water loss audits of public water distribution systems, securing validation of the audit reports, and conducting component analyses of any leaks and losses described in an audit report;

(5) establishing a financial incentive program for water efficiency improvements;

(6) providing grants to nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, and Tribal governments for the purpose of performing water efficiency upgrades that result in quantifiable savings;

(7) developing and implementing water efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity, including programs that—

(A) identify the most effective methods for achieving maximum participation rates and administrative efficiency;

(B) effectively engage the owners and tenants of affordable housing;

(C) have a public education component;

(D) use measurement and verification protocols; and

(E) identify water efficient technologies;

(8) developing and implementing building codes and inspection services to promote building water efficiency;

(9) adopting ordinances for the annual benchmarking of the water use of large buildings and the public posting of water benchmark reports;

(10) implementing water distribution technologies that significantly increase water efficiency, including—

(A) customer service meters with enhanced accuracy at low flow levels;

(B) automated meter infrastructure for data collection, analysis, and display;

(C) pressure monitoring and management to mitigate excessive pressure;

(D) agricultural water distribution improvements, including—

(i) water measurement devices of sufficient accuracy to use for billing purposes;

(ii) enclosure and pressurization of agricultural water delivery systems; and

(iii) addition of regulatory storage and automated controls within distribution systems to enable fulfillment of irrigation delivery requests in not more than 24 hours; and

(E) other activities that may have water conservation and efficiency benefits; and

(11) any other appropriate activities, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with—

(A) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(B) the Secretary of Transportation;

(C) the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(D) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$2,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

SA 1339. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title I, add the following:

SEC. 18 ____ . RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Section 902(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16181(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by inserting “and greenhouse gas emissions” after “environmental impact”; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) preparing the energy systems of the United States for the impacts of climate change.”.

SA 1340. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 12 ____ . CONTRACTS FOR FEDERAL PURCHASES OF ENERGY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part 3 of title V of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act is amended by adding after section 553 (42 U.S.C. 8259b) the following:

“SEC. 554. LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR ENERGY.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 501(b)(1)(B) of title 40, United States Code, a contract for the acquisition of renewable energy or energy from cogeneration facilities for the Federal Government may be made for a period not to exceed 30 years.

“(b) **STANDARDIZED ENERGY PURCHASE AGREEMENT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, acting through the Federal Energy Management Program, shall publish a standardized energy purchase agreement setting forth commercial terms and conditions that agencies may use to acquire renewable energy or energy from cogeneration facilities.

“(c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to assist agencies in implementing this section.”.

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents for the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (Public Law 95-619; 92 Stat. 3208) is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to part 3 of title V of the Act the following:

“Sec. 554. Long-term contracts for energy.”.

SA 1341. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . USE OF FEDERAL DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS AND STRUCTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 328. USE OF ASSISTANCE FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS AND STRUCTURES.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘energy-efficient product’ means a product that—

“(A) meets or exceeds the requirements for designation under an Energy Star program established under section 324A of the of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6294a); or

“(B) meets or exceeds the requirements for designation as being among the highest 25 percent of equivalent products for energy efficiency under the Federal Energy Management Program; and

“(2) the term ‘energy-efficient structure’ means a residential structure, a public facility, or a private nonprofit facility that meets or exceeds the requirements of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Standard 90.1-2019 or the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code, or any successor thereto.

“(b) USE OF ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance relating to a major disaster or emergency may use the assistance to replace or repair a damaged product or structure with an energy-efficient product or energy-efficient structure.”

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to assistance made available under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act that is expended on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1342. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . NATURAL GAS DEMAND RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(2) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “pilot program” means the natural gas demand response pilot program established under subsection (b)(1).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 150 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, shall establish a natural gas demand response pilot program to use the latest demand response technology from the energy sector for natural gas—

(A) to reduce the cost of energy for consumers;

(B) to reduce market price volatility;

(C) to increase reliability of the energy system; and

(D) to achieve reductions in air emissions and other benefits.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), to be eligible to participate in the pilot program, an entity shall be—

(i) a gas utility, including a local distribution company;

(ii) a State public utilities commission;

(iii) an electric utility, including a local distribution company;

(iv) a municipality;

(v) a large industrial consumer, large commercial consumer, or retail marketer of natural gas; or

(vi) a third-party energy efficiency program administrator.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—An entity described in any of clauses (ii) through (v) of subparagraph (A) shall not be eligible to participate in the pilot program if the State law to which the entity is subject specifically precludes the participation of the entity in a natural gas demand response pilot program.

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program under different scenarios, including in a region that is experiencing fuel shortages or natural gas infrastructure constraints that cause the cost of energy to increase for consumers.

(4) DATA COLLECTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pilot program, the Secretary shall collect data, including data on, with respect to the regions in which the pilot program is carried out—

(i) the reduction in natural gas usage;

(ii) decreases in the frequency and severity of natural gas infrastructure constraints; and

(iii) changes in energy costs and reliability.

(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing—

(i) how to improve data collection;

(ii) the metrics that should be used to quantify natural gas demand response usage; and

(iii) opportunities to improve the measurement and verification of changes in natural gas consumption resulting from natural gas demand response measures, including opportunities to collect data that could be used to estimate the quantity of natural gas that could be shifted through the implementation of natural gas demand response measures.

(c) APPLICATIONS; CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On establishment of the pilot program under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall submit to all relevant eligible entities notice that the Secretary is accepting applications for the pilot program.

(2) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 200 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each eligible entity desiring certification to participate in the pilot program shall submit to the Secretary an application containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(B) AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE CERTAIN INFORMATION.—The Secretary may require as part of the application under subparagraph (A) information on—

(i) the current energy prices and energy supply issues in the region in which the eligible entity is located; and

(ii) how implementation of the pilot program in the region in which the eligible entity

is located can alleviate the current energy prices and energy supply issues in the region.

(3) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 250 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall notify each eligible entity that applied for certification under paragraph (2)(A) of whether the eligible entity is certified to participate in the pilot program.

(d) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the pilot program is established under subsection (b)(1).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the pilot program \$10,000,000.

SA 1343. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PROTECTION OF THE MERCURY AND AIR TOXICS STANDARDS.

Section 112(n)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(n)(1)(A)) is amended, in the fourth sentence, by striking “, if the Administrator” and all that follows through “this subparagraph”.

SA 1344. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . WOOD HEATERS EMISSIONS REDUCTION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) AFFECTED WOOD HEATER MODEL.—The term “affected wood heater model” means a model of wood heater described in—

(A) section 60.530(a) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation); and

(B) subsections (a) and (b) of section 60.5472 of that title.

(3) CERTIFIED CLEAN HEATER.—The term “certified clean heater” means a heater that—

(A) has been certified or verified by—

(i) the Administrator; or

(ii) the California Air Resources Board;

(B) meets or has emissions below the most stringent Step 2 emission reductions standards described in the Final Rule;

(C) with respect to an affected wood heater model, has a thermal efficiency rating of not less than 65 percent, as certified by the Administrator under the Final Rule; and

(D) is installed by a licensed or certified professional or verified by the State in which the heater is being installed.

(4) FINAL RULE.—The term “Final Rule” means the final rule entitled “Standards of Performance for New Residential Wood Heaters, New Residential Hydronic Heaters and Forced-Air Furnaces” (80 Fed. Reg. 13672 (March 16, 2015)).

(5) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(6) REGIONAL AGENCY.—The term “regional agency” means a regional or local government agency—

(A) with jurisdiction over air quality; or
(B) that has received approval from the air quality program of the State of the agency to carry out a wood heater emissions reduction and replacement program.

(7) REPLACEMENT OF AN OLD WOOD HEATER.—The term “replacement of an old wood heater” means the replacement of an existing wood heater that—

(A) does not meet the reductions standards described in paragraph (3)(B);

(B) is removed from a home or building in which the wood heater was the primary or secondary source of heat; and

(C) is surrendered to a supplier, retailer, or other entity, as defined by the Administrator, who shall render the existing wood heater inoperable and ensure the existing wood heater is disposed through—

- (i) recycling; or
- (ii) scrappage.

(8) STATE.—The term “State” means—

(A) each of the several States of the United States;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

(D) Guam;

(E) the United States Virgin Islands;

(F) American Samoa; and

(G) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(9) WOOD HEATER.—The term “wood heater” means an enclosed, wood-burning appliance capable of and intended for residential space heating or space heating and domestic water heating that is an affected wood heater model, including—

- (A) a residential wood heater;
- (B) a hydronic heater; and
- (C) a forced-air furnace.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM FOR WOOD HEATER EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator shall establish a grant program that provides funding for grant, rebate, and other programs administered by States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes that are designed—

(A) to provide financial incentives to homeowners for the replacement of old wood heaters that greatly contribute to particulate pollution with more efficient, cleaner-burning heaters that are—

- (i) properly installed; and
- (ii) certified clean heaters;

(B) to achieve significant reductions in emissions from wood heaters in terms of pollution produced by wood heaters and wood heater emissions exposure;

(C) to help homeowners transition to safer and more efficient sources of heat; and

(D) to support retailers, installers, and manufacturers that sell and make certified clean heaters that are more efficient and cleaner-burning.

(2) APPLICATIONS.—The Administrator shall—

(A) provide to States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes guidance for use in applying for funding under this subsection, including information regarding—

- (i) the process and forms for applications;
- (ii) permissible uses of funds received under this subsection; and
- (iii) the cost-effectiveness of various emission reduction technologies eligible for funds provided under this subsection;

(B) establish, for applications described in subparagraph (A)—

(i) an annual deadline for submission of the applications;

(ii) a process by which the Administrator shall approve or disapprove each application;

(iii) a simplified application submission process to expedite the provision of funds; and

(iv) a streamlined process by which a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe may renew an application described in subparagraph (A) for subsequent fiscal years;

(C) require States or regional agencies applying for funding under this subsection to provide detailed information on how the State or regional agency intends to carry out and verify projects under the wood heater emissions reduction program of the State or regional agency, including—

(i) a description of the air quality in the State or the area in which the regional agency has jurisdiction;

(ii) the means by which the project will achieve a significant reduction in wood heater emissions and air pollution, including the estimated quantity of—

(I) residences that depend on non-certified clean heaters as a primary or secondary source of heat; and

(II) air pollution produced by wood heaters in the State or the area in which the regional agency has jurisdiction;

(iii) an estimate of the cost and economic benefits of the proposed project;

(iv) the means by which the funds will be distributed, including a description of the intended recipients of the funds;

(v) a description of any efforts to target low-income individuals that own older wood heaters;

(vi) provisions for the monitoring and verification of the project; and

(vii) a description of how the program will carry out the replacement of old wood heaters, including—

(I) how the older units will be removed and placed out of service; and

(II) how new heaters purchased with funding provided under this subsection will be installed; and

(D) require Indian tribes applying for funding under this subsection to provide detailed information on how the Indian tribe intends to carry out and verify projects under the wood heater emissions reduction program of the Indian tribe, including—

(i) the means by which the project will achieve a significant reduction in wood heater emissions;

(ii) an estimate of the cost and economic benefits of the proposed project;

(iii) the means by which the funds will be distributed, including a description of the intended recipients of the funds;

(iv) a description of any efforts to target low-income individuals that own older wood heaters;

(v) provisions for the monitoring and verification of the project; and

(vi) a description of how the program will carry out the replacement of old wood heaters, including—

(I) how the older units will be removed and placed out of service; and

(II) how new heaters purchased with funding provided under this subsection will be installed.

(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, the Administrator shall allocate funds made available to carry out this subsection—

(i) among States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes that submitted an application under this subsection that was approved by the Administrator;

(ii) of which not less than 4 percent shall be allocated to Indian tribes to perform functions that include—

(I) addressing subsequent maintenance costs resulting from the installation of wood heaters under this subsection; and

(II) training qualified installers and technicians; and

(iii) among different geographic areas and varying population densities.

(B) ALLOCATION PRIORITY.—The Administrator shall provide to each State, regional agency, and Indian tribe described in subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year an allocation of funds, with priority given to States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes that will use the funds to support projects that—

(i) maximize public health benefits, including indoor and outdoor air quality;

(ii) are the most cost-effective;

(iii) target the replacement of wood heaters that emit the most pollution;

(iv) include certified clean heaters and other heaters that achieve emission reductions and efficiency improvements that are more stringent than the Step 2 emission reductions standards, as described in the Final Rule;

(v) target low-income households;

(vi) encourage the recycling of old wood heaters when replacing those heaters; and

(vii) serve areas that—

(I) receive a disproportionate quantity of air pollution from wood heaters;

(II) have a high percentage of residents that use wood as their primary source of heat; or

(III) are poor air quality areas, including areas identified by the Administrator as—

(aa) in nonattainment or maintenance of national ambient air quality standards for particulate matter under section 109 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7409); or

(bb) class I areas under section 162(a) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7472(a)).

(C) UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Any funds that are not obligated by a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe by a date determined by the Administrator in a fiscal year shall be reallocated pursuant to the priorities described in subparagraph (B).

(D) STATE, REGIONAL AGENCY, AND TRIBAL MATCHING INCENTIVE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), if a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe agrees to match the allocation provided to the State, regional agency, or Indian tribe under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year, the Administrator shall provide to the State, regional agency, or Indian tribe for the fiscal year a matching incentive consisting of an additional amount equal to 30 percent of the allocation of the State, regional agency, or Indian tribe under subparagraph (A).

(ii) REQUIREMENT.—To receive a matching incentive under clause (i), a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe—

(I) may not use funds received under this subsection to pay a matching share required under this paragraph; and

(II) shall not be required to provide a matching share for any additional amount received under that clause.

(4) ADMINISTRATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes shall use any funds provided under this subsection—

(i) to develop and implement such programs in the State or in areas under the jurisdiction of the regional agency or Indian tribe as are appropriate to meet the needs and goals of the State, regional agency, or Indian tribe; and

(ii) to the maximum extent practicable, to use the programs described in clause (i) to give high priority to projects that serve areas described in paragraph (3)(B)(vii).

(B) APPORTIONMENT OF FUNDS.—The chief executive officer of a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe that receives funding under this subsection may determine the portion of funds to be provided as grants and the portion to be provided as rebates.

(C) USE OF FUNDS.—A State, regional agency, or Indian tribe shall use funds provided under this subsection for—

(i) projects to complete the replacement of old wood heaters, including the installation of heaters and training of certified installers of heaters that—

(I) are at least as efficient and clean-burning as certified clean heaters; and

(II) meet the purposes described in paragraph (1); and

(ii) with respect to Indian tribes, the purposes described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii).

(D) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made available under this subsection shall be used to supplement, not supplant, funds made available for existing State clean air programs.

(E) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Administrator makes funding available under this subsection each fiscal year, the Administrator shall publish on the website of the Environmental Protection Agency—

(i) the total number of grants awarded and the amounts provided to States, regional agencies, and Indian tribes;

(ii) a general description of each application of a State, regional agency, or Indian tribe that received funding; and

(iii) the estimated number of wood heaters that will be replaced using funds made available under this subsection.

(F) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which funds are first made available under this subsection, and biennially thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report evaluating the implementation of the program under this subsection.

(c) OUTREACH AND INCENTIVES.—The Administrator shall establish a program under which the Administrator shall—

(1) inform stakeholders of the benefits of replacing wood heaters that do not meet the Step 2 emission reductions standards described in the Final Rule;

(2) develop nonfinancial incentives to promote the proper installation and use of certified clean heaters; and

(3) consult with Indian tribes to carry out the purposes of this section.

(d) SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS.—

(1) EPA AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT WOOD HEATER EMISSIONS REDUCTION SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS.—Section 1 of Public Law 110-255 (42 U.S.C. 16138) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “and wood heater” after “diesel”; and

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “and wood heater” after “diesel”.

(2) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PROVISIONS.—Section 2 of Public Law 110-255 (42 U.S.C. 16139) is amended in the first sentence—

(A) by inserting “or wood heater” after “diesel” each place it appears;

(B) by inserting “, as applicable,” before “if the Administrator”; and

(C) by inserting “, as applicable” before the period at the end.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2026, to remain available until expended.

(2) MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT.—The Administrator may use not more than 1 percent of the amounts made available under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year for management and oversight of the programs under this section.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows in my office be granted

floor privileges through June 30, 2020: Robert Ivanauskas, Stephanie Miller, and Heather Boothe.

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

MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5671 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5671) to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Merchant Mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 5671) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 3; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2657 and that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2657.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KENNETH J. BRAITHWAITE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, VICE RICHARD V. SPENCER.
MATTHEW P. DONOVAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS, VICE ROBERT L. WILKIE, RESIGNED.
VICTOR G. MERCADO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE JAMES H. ANDERSON.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DANA T. WADE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE BRIAN D. MONTGOMERY.

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOSEPH RYAN GRUTERS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE ALBERT DICLEMENTE, TERM EXPIRED.

LEON A. WESTMORELAND, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS. (NEW POSITION)

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

CHRISTOPHER T. HANSON, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2024, VICE STEPHEN G. BURNS, RESIGNED.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BETH HARWELL, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2024, VICE VIRGINIA TYLER LODGE, TERM EXPIRED.

BRIAN NOLAND, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2024, VICE RONALD ANDERSON WALTER, TERM EXPIRED.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ALMA L. GOLDEN, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE ARIEL PABLOS-MENDEZ.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RONALD MORTENSEN, OF UTAH, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION), VICE ANNE CLAIRE RICHARD.

BARBERA HALE THORNHILL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

DONALD LEE MOAK, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2022, VICE ALAN C. KESSLER, TERM EXPIRED.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

JOHN L. RATCLIFFE, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE DANIEL COATS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PETER M. MCCOY, JR., OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE CHERYL A. LYDON, RESIGNED.

ANNA MARIA RUZINSKI, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE KEVIN ANTHONY CARR, TERM EXPIRED.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

DAVID CHRISTIAN TRYON, OF OHIO, TO BE CHIEF COUNSEL FOR ADVOCACY, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, VICE DARRYL L. DEPRIEST, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 9033:

To be general

GEN. CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DAVID A. KRUMM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE

AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. TIMOTHY G. FAY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. JON T. THOMAS

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

ADM. ROBERT P. BURKE

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) ANNE M. SWAP

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL W. STUDEMAN

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) CARL P. CHEBI

REAR ADM. (LH) DAVID A. GOGGINS

REAR ADM. (LH) DOUGLAS W. SMALL

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) STUART P. BAKER
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL D. BERNACCHI, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) FRANK M. BRADLEY
REAR ADM. (LH) DANIEL L. CHEEVER
REAR ADM. (LH) YVETTE M. DAVIDS
REAR ADM. (LH) DANIEL W. DWYER
REAR ADM. (LH) PETER A. GARVIN
REAR ADM. (LH) ALVIN HOLSEY
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM J. HOUSTON
REAR ADM. (LH) FREDERICK W. KACHER
REAR ADM. (LH) DOUGLAS G. PERRY
REAR ADM. (LH) FRED I. PYLE
REAR ADM. (LH) CHARLES W. ROCK

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DION D. ENGLISH
CAPT. MATTHEW N. OTT III

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. RICK FREEDMAN

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. SUSAN BRYERJOYNER
CAPT. JOHN A. WATKINS

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. THOMAS M. HENDERSCHIEDT

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. KEVIN P. BYRNE
CAPT. JASON M. LLOYD
CAPT. HOWARD B. MARKLE
CAPT. ELIZABETH S. OKANA
CAPT. KURT J. ROTHENHAUS

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. BRADLEY J. ANDROS
CAPT. MARK D. BEHNING
CAPT. PUTNAM H. BROWNE
CAPT. MATTHEW J. BURNS
CAPT. JOSEPH F. CAHILL III
CAPT. BRIAN L. DAVIES
CAPT. LAWRENCE F. LEGREE

CAPT. MARK A. MELSON
CAPT. MARC J. MIGUEZ
CAPT. CARLOS A. SARDIELLO
CAPT. MICHAEL S. SCRIBETTA
CAPT. RICHARD E. SEIF, JR.
CAPT. DEREK A. TRINQUE
CAPT. DENNIS VELEZ
CAPT. DARRYL L. WALKER
CAPT. ROBERT D. WESTENDORFF
CAPT. THOMAS R. WILLIAMS II

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOHN P. KENNEDY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOHN G. ST. ROMAIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

MARGARET E. BIELENBERG
KEVIN D. CAMP
STEVEN COLLINS
ROBERT W. FORD, JR.
AARON P. HARDING
JEFFREY A. HEATON
JOHN M. KRUEGER
ANDREW F. KUHN
DANIAL LISTER
LEONARD J. POIRIER
PIA ROMERO
JOCelyn S. URGESE
MICHAEL G. WALTZ
LEONARD A. WILLIAMS

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

To be major

KIMBERLY A. BROWN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

BENJAMIN T. CLEGHORN
FRED NASREDINE
ANDREW S. RENDON
MATTHEW M. SMITH

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

To be colonel

KEVIN D. BRADLEY

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

To be colonel

KELLY L. FRENCH

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

To be colonel

JEFFREY T. LOPEZ

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

To be lieutenant colonel

ADAM N. ARAUJO
KYLE P. BAIR

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

To be lieutenant colonel

JAMES A. ATTAWAY

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

To be lieutenant colonel

ALLAN J. CATINDIG
KIMBIA A. REY
BENJAMIN J. VANMETER

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

To be major

MATTHEW D. CLARK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

STEFANIE B. SCHWARZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DAVID S. HORLACHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

PAUL R. HELTEN
MICHAEL A. JACKSON
REECE D. ROBERTS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

EDWARD J. BENZ III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

PETER D. HUDSPETH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

JOHN R. HOLLAR

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

ERICK G. GARCIA

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

To be captain

GARY C. GROTHE, JR.

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

To be captain

PAUL D. SARGENT

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

To be commander

JONATHAN E. DOWLING

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

To be commander

ELAINE M. JENSEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

CHRISTOPHER C. SUPKO

IN THE MARINE CORPS

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

To be colonel

JOSHUA D. ANDERSON
SETH E. ANDERSON
MICHAEL F. ARNONE
MATTHEW A. BALDWIN
JAMES T. BARDO
JEREMY W. BEAVEN
EDUARDO C. BITANGA II
JOHN W. BLACK
CINDIEMARI BLAIR
CHRISTOPHER L. BOPP
JASON A. BOROVES
MARK D. BORTNEM
TIMOTHY S. BRADY, JR.
CHRISTOPHER M. BRANNEN
LEONEL O. BRITO, JR.
MICHAEL L. BROOKS
JOSEPH D. BROOME
MATTHEW A. BROWN
JEFFREY H. BUFFA
DOUGLAS R. BURKE, JR.
DUSTIN J. BYRUM
JOHN O. CALDWELL
JADE CAMPBELL
THOMAS J. CLEAVER
WARREN C. COOK, JR.

SEAN P. DYNAN
LAUREN S. EDWARDS
DAVID C. EMMEL
DAIL T. FIELDS
ROBERT E. FLANNERY
KELLY FRUSHOUR
WILLIAM J. GIBBONS
ERNEST GOVEA
LAWRENCE B. GREEN II
BRIAN D. GREENE
CHRISTOPHER M. HAAR
DENNIS L. HAGER II
DONALD W. HARLOW
DAVID J. HART
BRIAN M. HARVEY
BRYAN C. HATFIELD
JIMMY S. HICKS
EDMUND B. HIPPI
SEAN P. HOEWING
PETER D. HOUTZ
STEVEN P. HULSE
MATTHEW G. HUMPHREY
BRET M. HYLIA
DAVID C. HYMAN
GREGORY L. JONES
QUINTIN D. JONES
RANDALL K. JONES
ANDREW M. KELLEY
JAMES A. KIDD
NATHAN S. KRICK
ANTHONY G. KROCKEL
SAMUEL K. LEE
ADAM LEVINE
ANTHONY C. LYONS
TODD E. MAHAR
JOHN P. MAHER

DAVID L. MANKA
DAVID M. MARTINEZ
NATHAN S. MARVEL
JOHN S. MCCALMONT
REGINALD J. MCCLAM
FRANK L. MCCLINTICK
JAMES R. MCGRATH
ERIN K. MCHALE
KOLTER R. MILLER
RONALD E. NORRIS, JR.
MICHAEL E. OGDEN
DEREK S. OST
WILLIAM C. PACATTE
GREGORY B. PACE
KYLE G. PHILLIPS
ERIC D. PURCELL
CHARLES C. READINGER
SCOTT M. REED
DUANE T. RIVERA
CHRISTOPHER D. ROBERSON
KEVIN R. ROOT
JOHN S. SATTELY
RYAN E. SCOTT
RYAN E. SHADLE
SHANNON M. SHEA
JUDE C. SHELL
JONATHAN N. SIMS
JESSE L. SJOBERG
ELIESER R. SMITH
ERIK J. SMITH
JONATHAN R. SMITH
KIRK M. SPANGENBERG
CHRISTOPHER T. STEELE
IAN D. STEVENS
STEVEN M. SUTLEY
BARRON S. TAYLOR

JAYSON M. TIGER
JONATHAN H. VAUGHN
BENJAMIN M. VENNING
BRADLEY W. WARD
LAWRENCE H. WENTZELL
MARLIN D. WILLIAMS
PRESCOTT N. WILSON
JEREMY S. WINTERS
CRAIG A. WOLFENBARGER
SCOTT W. ZIMMERMAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER:

LAURA FARNSWORTH DOGU, OF TEXAS

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on March 2, 2020 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

ELAINE A. MCCUSKER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER), VICE DAVID L. NORQUIST, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON NOVEMBER 13, 2019.