

had one of the highest rates of veterans per capita, and it is why towns across Maine offer a wide range of resources to help lift up our fellow citizens struggling with challenges ranging from substance use disorders to unemployment to food insecurity. I have been lucky enough to travel to every corner and pocket of our State, and the way our communities care for our own never ceases to amaze me. No matter if it is a time of crisis or business as usual, Maine people are in it together. That is a profoundly rare phenomenon, and we are infinitely better for it.

Maine's motto, "Dirigo," is simple, declarative, and fitting; translated from Latin, it means "I Lead." That is exactly right: For the last 200 years, Maine has led the way, economically, politically, and socially. As we honor the 200th anniversary of Maine's statehood, I know that our State is positioned to continue its leadership for generations to come. So, regardless of which of the 16 counties you are from, let us come together—as is the Maine tradition—and celebrate our great fortune to live, work, and play in the greatest State in the Nation. Happy 200th birthday, Maine, and thanks to each and every person who makes our State so special. Thanks to your efforts, I am certain we will see history repeat itself as Maine embarks on another 200 years of prosperity, community, common sense, and leadership.

#### 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF "BLOODY SUNDAY"

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this past weekend marked the 55th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, one of the darkest moments in our democracy. On March 7, 1965, Alabama law enforcement officers brutally attacked hundreds of peaceful demonstrators marching from Selma to Montgomery to demand full civil rights for African Americans. These brave protesters put their safety and liberty on the line to build an America that lives up to its ideals of freedom, justice, and equality. It is thanks to their heroism—and the heroism of many civil rights activists before and since—that our country has made great strides towards those ideals. However, in order to fully honor their struggle, we must also recognize that much of the hatred and discrimination which they fought to root out persists, although perhaps in less overt or easily recognized forms.

One of the strongest, most disheartening examples of this phenomenon is the ongoing assault on the right of minorities to vote. This is not ancient history. States all over the country continue to "modernize" strategies developed a century ago to suppress African-American voting power. Some of these strategies are blatant and recognizable, like mass purges of voter rolls; the gerrymandering of districts with "surgical precision," according to one court; and intimidation of voters of color. Some of the strategies are dis-

guised behind excuses or fear tactics, like obstructive voter ID laws, felony disenfranchisement, and closures of polling sites in heavily minority-populated areas.

So long as we allow these sorts of practices to continue, we are denying American citizens the right to vote promised to them by our Constitution, and we are undermining the integrity of our democracy. This is a problem on principle, of course—until we guarantee the right to vote regardless of race, we fall short of the unique promise and potential of the United States of America. But it is also a problem for broader practical reasons—when we exclude people from fully participating in our democracy, we prevent them from achieving the social, economic, and civic reforms they need to strengthen their communities.

So, what are we going to do about that? I know what I will do: I will fight for laws that will guarantee every American a voice in our democracy. That is why I have introduced bills like the Democracy Restoration Act, S.1068, to restore the Federal right to vote to ex-offenders, and the Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation and Suppression Act, S.1834, to penalize the voter suppression efforts so frequently aimed at minority communities.

It is also why I am a fervent supporter of H.R. 4, the Voting Rights Advancement Act. This bill, which was passed by the House of Representatives at the end of last year, would remedy the Supreme Court's 2013 decision decimating section 5 of the Voting Rights Act and thereby strengthen our ability to prevent discriminatory changes to State voting laws and procedures. I thank Senator LEAHY for championing this bill and call on Leader MCCONNELL and Chairman GRAHAM to urgently bring H.R. 4 for consideration in Committee and in the Senate.

Let's honor all of those whose struggles for freedom and equality throughout our Nation's history have been met with violence and hatred. Let's carry on their torch and help make their dreams a reality. Let's fulfill the right to vote.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of the United States. With a commitment to civic participation, the League has secured its place nationally as a relied-upon source of voter education and a protector of voting rights. The centennial celebration is a historical benchmark for the State of Michigan, as well as the entire Nation.

Just 6 months before the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the suffragists of the National American Woman Suffrage Association as well as other suffrage groups embarked on a mission to ensure that voters, particularly women, would have the necessary non-

partisan information to make informed decisions on who and what to support in elections. With this newfound mission, the suffrage movement began a "mighty political experiment" designed to help 20 million women carry out their new civic duty.

With Michigan women winning the right to vote in 1918, the mission to educate Michigan women voters started before the League was established nationally when the Michigan League of Women Voters formed out of the Michigan Equal Suffrage Association in 1919. The following year, they became part of the League of Women Voters of the United States. The early Michigan LWV advocated for changes to State-level voter registration laws and civil service reform; they also established citizenship classes through citizenship schools in people's homes. Many of their actions influenced early programs of the National League, and the intent of those programs continue today through the League's work.

While the League is nonpartisan, even from their conception, the League used their voice and their platform for advocacy. One of their earliest initiatives was for child welfare reform, as well as civil service and election law reforms across the country. In 1941, the League advocated successfully for amending Michigan State law to forbid factory work by those under 16 and to mandate school attendance by all children between the ages of 7 and 16. Other major legislation the League advocated for includes the Equal Rights Amendment, National Voter Registration Act, and the Help America Vote Act.

Today, Leagues from across the country advocate for issues such as fighting voter suppression, limiting the influence of money in politics, and redistricting. They are constantly encouraging and pushing for further investment in our election infrastructure and election security. With a presence in over 700 communities and across all 50 States, the League of Women Voters of the United States has become an activist, grassroots organization which plays a critical role in our democracy.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the League of Women Voters of the United States on the lasting impact it has made throughout our Nation's history and for the work it continues to do. As the League of Women Voters of the United States celebrates this centennial milestone, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating its members and extending best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE DESIGNATION AS EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS ALL FUNDING SO DESIGNATED BY THE CONGRESS IN THE CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(B)(2)(A) OF THE BALANCED BUDGET AND EMERGENCY DEFICIT CONTROL ACT OF 1985, FOR THE ENCLOSED LIST OF ACCOUNTS, RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON MARCH 6, 2020—PM 51

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report and papers; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 507 of division A of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (H.R. 6074; the "Act"), I hereby designate as emergency requirements all funding so designated by the Congress in the Act pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as outlined in the enclosed list of accounts.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed memorandum from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 6, 2020.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

## ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 5214. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to prevent fraud by representative payees.

H.R. 5671. An act 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.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3422. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Indian Education, and to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-4226. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Lacey Act Implementation Plan: De Minimis Exception" ((RIN0579-AD44) (Docket No. APHIS-2013-0055)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4227. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Regulations for the Evaluation and Recognition of the Animal Health Status of Compartments" ((RIN0579-AE43) (Docket No. APHIS-2017-0105)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4228. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting a report entitled "Review of Security Assistance Programs as Requested in the Conference Report (H.R. 115-952) Joint Explanatory Statement to Accompany the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2019 (Division A of P.L. 115-245)"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4229. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Updates and Elimination of Certain TAAF and PWEDA Regulations" (RIN0610-AA80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 4, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4230. A communication from the Board of Trustees, National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual management report relative to its operations and financial condition for fiscal year 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4231. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) relative to tribal crime data collection activities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-4232. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Elder Fraud Legislative Proposal"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4233. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)" (RIN0790-AK90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2020; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-4234. A communication from the Chairman, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the memorial construction; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-4235. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Government Contracting and Business Development,

Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Defense Authorization Acts of 2016 and 2017, Recovery Improvements for Small Entities After Disaster Act of 2015, and Other Small Business Contracting; Correction" (RIN3245-AG86) 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-4236. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Connect America Fund" ((RIN3060-AK57) (WC Docket Nos. 19-126 and 10-90)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 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-187. A joint resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico urging the United States Congress to enact legislation providing for a five year transition period to enforce the provisions of the Farm Bill through which the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. section 2156) is applied to Puerto Rico, banning any type of animal fighting venture; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 126

The United States Congress passed the H.R. 2 Conference Report, known as the Farm Bill, which included an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2156) extending the application thereof to Puerto Rico. The aforementioned statute bans all animal fighting ventures including cockfights.

Cockfighting is considered a traditional sport in Puerto Rico which has been deeply rooted in our culture and history for over five hundred years. Cockfights in Puerto Rico are regulated by Act No. 98-2007, as amended, known as the "Puerto Rico Gamecocks of the New Millennium Act," and by Regulation No. 7424. Both the Act and the regulations in effect, which stem from our extensive experience holding cockfights officially overseen by the State, regulate, control, oversee, and promote all the activities related to this sport.

In Puerto Rico there are over seventy (70) cockpits distributed among forty-five (45) municipalities throughout the Island. This industry creates a total of eleven thousand one hundred and thirty-four (11,134) direct, indirect, and induced jobs. The cockfighting industry injects \$65 million annually into Puerto Rico's economy mainly from the consumption of agricultural products, gamecock farms, medications, vitamins, services, tourism, establishment operations, attendee consumption, permits, and licenses. Just in one year, a total of eighty-eight thousand three hundred (88,300) cockfights were held for a total three hundred and forty-four thousand (344,000) attendees.

The one (1)-year transition period provided by this Act is not enough to mitigate the economic impact it shall have on the Island, nor does it provide enough time for the federal law enforcement agencies to implement it. Therefore, it would promote the proliferation of underground cockfights.

Thus, it is essential to allow for a five (5)-year transition process. It is very important