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No. 84

House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Compassionate God, thank You for giving us another day.

In an earlier national crisis, President Gerald Ford bound the Nation with these words: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works. Our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here, the people rule. . . . Let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate."

Much earlier, President John Adams felt that Americans were engaged in the best cause that ever employed the human heart, but feared success was doubtful not for want of power or of wisdom, but of virtue. We are now engaged in a similar challenge in a new world emerging.

Inspire the men and women of Congress to bend their energies not to strengthen positions of privilege, but, to the extent possible, reduce privilege in favor of the common weal. For we are a Nation of laws, not men, and the responsibility of government is the benefit of all its citizens.

May each American rise to our shared effort to remind ourselves that we are all responsible for the greatness of our Nation and to make the sacrifices necessary to emerge better in virtue and stronger in national well-being. With Your grace, O Lord, may it be so.

And may everything done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 7(a) of House Resolution 891, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. BUTTERFIELD 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Ms. Linda H. Lamone, Administrator, Maryland State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held April 28, 2020, the Honorable Kweisi Mfume was elected Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional District, State of Maryland.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Annapolis, MD, April 30, 2020.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, for Representative in Congress from the 7th Congressional District of Maryland, show that Mr. Kweisi Mfume received 83,868 votes as of April 29, 2020 or 72.8% of votes of the number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Mr. Mfume was elected as Representative in Congress from the 7th Con-

gressional District of Maryland. To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by the Board of Canvassers, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

LINDA H. LAMONE,
State Administrator.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE KWEISI MFUME, OF MARYLAND, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Maryland, the Honorable Kweisi Mfume, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect Mfume and the members of the Maryland delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will raise his right hand.

Mr. MFUME appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 116th Congress.

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

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



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WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
KWEISI MFUME TO THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, all of us, of course, were deeply saddened by the passing of our friend, Elijah Cummings, last year. He was a giant of moral strength and unquestioned integrity.

In his 24 years in office, Elijah built a reputation for legislative skill, excellence in constituent service, an unyielding energy for rooting out corruption in government, and fighting tirelessly for justice, equality, and opportunity. He served his constituents in Maryland's Seventh Congressional District well. And today, Madam Speaker, they are sending someone to take his place whom I believe is an excellent choice.

As the dean of the Maryland Congressional delegation, it is my honor today to welcome the House's newest Member, Representative Kweisi Mfume.

However, he is not new to the House. He is a veteran of this body, a skilled and experienced legislator, who represented Maryland's Seventh District from 1987 to 1996. When he left to become the national president of the NAACP, Elijah Cummings was chosen to succeed him.

Now, as we continue to mourn Elijah's passing, we welcome Representative Mfume back to his old seat to carry on the work that he and Elijah have both been engaged in for many, many years.

The voters of the Seventh District, to their credit, replaced great intellect with great intellect, a passion for justice, equality, and opportunity, with a successor who mirrors and shares that passion and history of commitment.

Their shared work has been to ensure that the promise of America is kept for all Americans equally, regardless of race or faith or gender or sexual orientation or national origin; to break down disparities in justice and access to opportunity; to address the tragic and unacceptable disparities in access to quality, affordable healthcare, which the COVID-19 tragedy has made so starkly evident; to make certain that every child in this country can go to a good, safe public school and receive a quality education that leads to a rewarding career.

That is what Representative Mfume fought for as a member of the Baltimore City Council and as a Member of this House. It is what he worked hard to achieve as a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and as the NAACP national president.

I speak on behalf of our delegation, but all who served with him here in the Congress of the United States, we are pleased that he is back with us. And I know that those who were not Members when he last served will find him to be a wonderful colleague, a man of

wisdom, thoughtfulness, depth, and whose experience can help guide this House and our majority as we navigate challenges both longstanding and new.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating Representative Mfume on his election to represent Maryland's Seventh Congressional District once more and in welcoming him back to the House.

I am now honored, Madam Speaker, to yield to my friend of longstanding, my colleague, and my fellow Marylander, Kweisi Mfume.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I thank the majority leader for his kind and overly gracious remarks.

Madam Speaker, I rise to offer my heartfelt thanks and my deepest appreciation to the people of Maryland's Seventh Congressional District for the high honor and the distinct privilege of again representing them here in the Congress of the United States.

I am happy to have been joined by members of our distinguished delegation from the State of Maryland, and I appreciate their presence here among us.

I thank Almighty God for the victory and for my wonderful family and friends. I am joined here in the gallery by my wife, Dr. Tiffany Beth Mfume, and a longtime family friend, attorney Eric Bryant, and others.

I am honored by those supporters who are Black and White, Latino and Asian, who could not be here at this time but who have worked so very hard to make sure that this moment would be possible. And I believe, as they do and as we continue to do, that racism, sexism, and anti-Semitism are wrong, that Black bigotry can be just as cruel and evil as White bigotry, that gay bashing, immigrant bashing, and union bashing ultimately deplete us as a Nation and rob us of our ability to make true and lasting change.

Today marks my return to this body after 24 years and following the death of the Honorable Elijah Cummings, my friend of 42 years. I do so against the backdrop of COVID-19 and in the midst of our Nation's greatest health crisis of the 21st century.

Simultaneously, we are also locked in the Nation's greatest economic collapse, where there are now families and individuals who haven't had a paycheck in weeks as they struggle to buy food and to pay bills.

Madam Speaker, our challenges as a Nation at this hour, as you and others know better than I, are economic, educational, social, and systemic, and they require both the courage of conviction and the unwavering resolve that the American spirit has always exhibited in order to solve them.

Thus, in yielding back my time, I call forth the words of Dr. James Cheek, when he so eloquently exclaimed: "I have not given up on the American idea or on the American possibility, and I ask my colleagues in this body not to give up also."

"I am convinced that our Nation still stands before the world as perhaps the

last expression of a possibility of mankind devising a social order where justice is the supreme ruler, and law is but its instrument; where freedom is the dominant creed, and order . . . but its principle; where equity is the common practice, and fraternity the true human condition."

It is against that backdrop that I welcome and embrace both this challenge and opportunity before me.

Madam Speaker, I thank you and I thank the distinguished majority leader for his words of introduction.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Maryland, the whole number of the House is 430.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 7(b) of House Resolution 891, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2020.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, May 8, 2020, at 10 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 116th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

KWEISI MFUME, Seventh District of Maryland.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H.R. 6696. A bill to establish a program providing grants to certain small business concerns to modify or reallocate their productive facilities to begin or increase production

of certain medical supplies critical to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CISNEROS, and Mr. STEUBE):

H.R. 6697. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to expand the Paycheck Protection Program for certain organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 6698. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the quality of care in skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare program and nursing facilities under the Medicare program during the COVID-19 emergency period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. DEAN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. WELCH, Ms. MENG, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 6699. A bill to establish a commission to determine essential employment during the COVID-19 crisis period and provide loan repayment and education credit to workers employed in such essential employment during such crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BASS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. BERA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HURD of Texas, Ms. MENG, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 6700. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to approve State, local, and Indian tribal government plans to partner with small and mid-size restaurants and nonprofit organizations to provide nutritious meals to individuals in need, to waive certain matching fund requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H.R. 6701. A bill to require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID-19; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BERA, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. TONKO,

Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING of New York, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire):

H.R. 6702. A bill to amend the national service laws to prioritize national service programs and projects that are directly related to the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. VELA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 6703. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to include eating disorder prevention within local school wellness policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 6704. A bill to authorize additional funding for housing counseling services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself and Mr. KING of New York):

H.R. 6705. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a State and Local Government Coronavirus Relief Program to make grants to States to make up for lost revenue due to COVID-19 and social distancing steps taken by the State and political subdivisions of the State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6706. A bill to place temporary restrictions on acquisitions by the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Ms. OMAR, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. GOMEZ, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 6707. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to reduce certain royalties, to amend the CARES Act to limit the provision of assistance to certain businesses, to impose a moratorium on certain oil and natural gas lease sales, the issuance of coal leases, and modifications to certain regulations, to extend certain public comment periods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 6708. A bill to support the advanced manufacturing technologies program of the

Food and Drug Administration, to establish National Centers of Excellence in Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6709. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a coronavirus fund to provide hazard payments to high-risk health care workers and essential workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRIST (for himself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 6710. A bill to modify certain requirements of the Corps of Engineers relating to periodic nourishment of private beaches, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. RYAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. CLAY, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. KILMER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SOTO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. TRONE, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. LURIA, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. FUDGE):

H.R. 6711. A bill to provide for the expedited and transparent procurement and distribution of equipment and supplies needed to combat COVID-19; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Armed Services, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, and Mr. HICE of Georgia):

H.R. 6712. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to allow health share pools to be deemed an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of offering a group health plan or group health insurance coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 6713. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and modify the credit for increasing research activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 6714. A bill to provide assistance to pay off rental arrearages of low- and moderate-income households accruing during the public health emergency relating to coronavirus, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 6715. A bill to require the removal of aliens in detention during a national emergency related to a communicable disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDEN:

H.R. 6716. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include certain critical access hospitals in the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 6717. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to extend the period of authorized stay for certain alien health care workers during the COVID-19 emergency period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. TED LIEU of California, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6718. A bill to place a moratorium on large concentrated animal feeding operations, to strengthen the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to require country of origin labeling on beef, pork, and dairy products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6719. A bill to require the Federal Government to provide critical health care resources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Energy and Commerce, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 6720. A bill to provide student loan forgiveness to health care workers who are on the front line in response to COVID-19; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 6721. A bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID-19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 6722. A bill to strengthen Federal nutrition assistance programs as automatic stabilizers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PETERSON (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. COX of California, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CASE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 6723. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the eligibility of broadband internet access services for Federal universal service support, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. TLAI, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WATERS, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6724. A bill to authorize emergency homeless assistance grants under the Emergency Solutions Grants program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for response to the public health emergency relating to coronavirus, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. KILMER, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 6725. A bill to provide Federal funding for targeted purchases to buy food from producers who rely on local agricultural food markets affected by COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. WRIGHT):

H.R. 6726. A bill to provide a State option for certain cash-value voucher increases during the COVID-19 public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. MCEACHIN):

H.R. 6727. A bill to hold Medicare beneficiaries harmless for specified COVID-19 treatment services furnished under part A or part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. MARSHALL):

H.R. 6728. A bill to amend the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to raise the borrowing limit of the Commodity Credit Corporation; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 6729. A bill to establish a Homeowner Assistance Fund to provide funds to State housing finance agencies for the purpose of preventing homeowner mortgage defaults, foreclosures, and displacements of individuals and families experiencing financial hardship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SHIMKUS:

H.R. 6730. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to convey certain property to the Massac-Metropolis Port District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 6731. A bill to require executive agencies to purchase pharmaceuticals from the

United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 6732. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to modify certain regulations relating to insurance-dedicated exchange-traded funds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 6733. A bill to amend section 6304 of title 5, United States Code, to restore annual leave lost by certain Federal employees due to the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.J. Res. 87. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Michael M. Lynton as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. SHIMKUS):

H.J. Res. 88. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Franklin D. Raines as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself and Mr. KING of New York):

H. Con. Res. 99. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2020, as "Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. HAALAND (for herself, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. COLE, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. BASS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. KIND, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GALLEGOS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. COOK, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. POCAN, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H. Res. 950. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 5, 2020, as the "National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. TRONE, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. SIRE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RYAN, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. COHEN):

H. Res. 951. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, to be observed from May 6 through May 12, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. ROUNTA, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. BERA, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. COX of

California, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H. Res. 952. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives to recognize the resettlement of Southeast Asian refugees, commemorate the contributions of Southeast Asian Americans to the United States, urge the President to halt the deportation of Southeast Asian refugees, and advance equitable policies for Southeast-Asian-American communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VEASEY:

H. Res. 953. A resolution expressing support for designation of May 2020 as "Health and Fitness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. YOUNG introduced a bill (H.R. 6734) to deem the vessel M/V LISERON to be less than 100 gross tons, as measured under chapter 145 of title 46, United States Code, and for other purposes; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H.R. 6696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general welfare of the United States; . . ."

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 6697.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 6698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire:

H.R. 6699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 6700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I.

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 6701.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 6702.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, which states: "The Congress shall have Power To . . . pro-

vide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . ."

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 6703.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 6704.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 6705.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6706.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 6707.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 6708.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 6709.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 6710.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 6711.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all others Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6712.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DELBENE:

H.R. 6713.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 1 Article 8

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 6714.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One of the United States Constitution, Section 8

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 6715.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution

By Mr. GOLDEN:

H.R. 6716.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 6717.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6718.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 6719.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 6720.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 6721.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 6722.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PETERSON:

H.R. 6723.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 3

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 6724.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 6725.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1.

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 6726.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 6727.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 6728.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution..

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 6729.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SHIMKUS:

H.R. 6730.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. STAUBER:
H.R. 6731.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Mr. WENSTRUP:
H.R. 6732.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. WEXTON:
H.R. 6733.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 6734.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.
By Ms. MATSUI:
H.J. Res. 87.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution
By Ms. MATSUI:
H.J. Res. 88.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 444: Mr. RASKIN and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 463: Mr. TURNER and Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 587: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LONG, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. HECK, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. FRANKEL.
H.R. 663: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 913: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 945: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 1461: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 1730: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 2070: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 2195: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2314: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 2457: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 2651: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 2859: Mr. TIPTON, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. LONG.
H.R. 2895: Mr. YOHO, Mr. DUNN, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 3040: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 3221: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 3711: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3771: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3929: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 4348: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 4481: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 4701: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 4710: Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. TIPTON, and Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 4807: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 4932: Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. COX of California.
H.R. 5481: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 5531: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 5626: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 5674: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 5739: Ms. TLAIB and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 5761: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 5831: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 5857: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 5934: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 5983: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 5986: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5998: Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. LAMB, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. TRONE, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BACON, and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 6067: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 6216: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 6305: Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 6316: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6319: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6329: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6330: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6331: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6332: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6333: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6340: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6350: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6358: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6361: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6362: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WATERS, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 6365: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 6368: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6369: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6370: Ms. WATERS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 6371: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6373: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6374: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6375: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6376: Ms. WEXTON, Mr. PAYNE, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6378: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6380: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6381: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6382: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6384: Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MENG, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 6387: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6393: Mr. SPANO.
H.R. 6394: Mr. MCCAUL and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 6399: Mr. HAGEDORN.
H.R. 6409: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 6414: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 6420: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6425: Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 6437: Mr. COSTA, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6445: Ms. HOULAHAN and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 6449: Mr. HASTINGS and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 6455: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 6474: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 6485: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 6487: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 6491: Mrs. MILLER.
H.R. 6508: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 6512: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 6514: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 6515: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 6525: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 6535: Mr. KILMER and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 6541: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6550: Mr. CORREA, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 6559: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CLAY, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 6563: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HECK, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Ms. HAALAND.
H.R. 6571: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 6588: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 6590: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6591: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 6597: Mr. LAMB, Mr. KATKO, and Ms. FUDGE.
H.R. 6600: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 6613: Mr. YOHO, Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 6614: Ms. HOULAHAN and Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 6615: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 6619: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 6623: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 6624: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 6632: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. CRIST, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 6635: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. ROY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 6654: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 6666: Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 6669: Mr. STANTON, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.
H.R. 6690: Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 6691: Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 6695: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H. Con. Res. 97: Mr. GIANFORTE, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DUNN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H. Res. 917: Mr. EMMER, Mr. COMER, and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H. Res. 943: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.



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No. 84

Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, Your words are true. Guide our lawmakers with Your precepts. Give them a passion for whatever is just, worthy, and honorable. Guide them to cultivate such reverence for Your providence that they will repeatedly pray for Your will to be done. Remind them that if they faint under pressure, then their strength is too small. Help them, therefore, to look to You, for You are able to do immeasurably, abundantly above all that they can ask or imagine, according to Your power, working in and through them.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. LOEFFLER). The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I would like to speak for 1 minute in morning business.

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, despite the hardships and headaches and heartaches that so many families are experiencing right now, there are countless acts of kindness that show humanitarian goodness taking place in the entire country, but I notice them

across my State of Iowa. From rainbow art decorating windows to inspirational chalk messages on sidewalks, Iowans are donating their time, talent, and treasure to support local businesses, food pantries, and grab-and-go meals for students.

As just one example, the residents of a retirement community are sewing 35 to 40 masks per day for healthcare professionals and laundry service workers at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics. They are also supplying local food banks and others who need them in their community. The Iowa City senior threaders are among the countless silver linings that are lighting America's path to recovery.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, it has been a little more than 100 days since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in the United States. Since then, our Nation has come face-to-face with this full-scale pandemic. Families have hunkered down and changed their routines. Bustling Main Streets have literally come to a halt. Essential workers have taken new precautions to keep the supply chains running. And, of course, brave healthcare providers have stretched the limits of their supplies and their stamina to care for patients. All the while, even with the entire country doing its best to fight this disease, it has stolen the lives of nearly 70,000 of our fellow Americans.

Our Nation is facing the most severe pandemic since 1918 and quite possibly the worst economic shock since the Great Depression. And we are facing

them at the same time. This is a historic challenge, and the Senate is helping the country meet it.

In early March, we passed an initial response to help communities handle the outbreak. We spent billions of dollars to enhance our public health response, to promote development of vaccines and treatment, and to help the healthcare providers and small businesses in places that were bearing the brunt of the virus.

Just days later, we delivered billions more in phase 2. It sought to expand access to testing and to help workers.

Then we built the historic CARES Act, the largest rescue package in America's history, and then passed it without a single vote in opposition. It sent more than \$2 trillion in direct money to American households, support for employees' paychecks, stability for major employers, and resources for the healthcare fight itself.

Predictably, these huge, historic efforts have encountered some challenges along the way. There is no way the Federal Government could make years' worth of small business loans in a few weeks or rapidly cut checks to most American households without any hiccups at all. But on the whole, it has been encouraging to see Congress, the administration, the Federal Reserve, and the American people—all of us—leap into action together to help our country.

Our work is making a difference. But, ultimately, we know there is no policy Congress could pass, nor any amount of money we could spend, that would keep the entire economy glued together if these blunt shutdowns continue indefinitely.

So while our legislation has rightly poured money into short-term help for the economy, we have also made sure to invest in the tools and tactics we will need to contain and beat the virus so that our country can step back toward normalcy: testing, tracking, treatments, and the race for a vaccine.

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



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S2225

Our task in the weeks ahead will be to keep seeking thoughtful solutions that are not just for the very short term but will help pivot toward a phased reopening and recovery. We will need to ask not only how we endure each week but also how we foster recovery on the other side.

Early February feels like it was about 2 years ago, but the truth is, it was just 12 weeks ago. American workers and families were in one of the most prosperous economic moments in our history. Wages were growing. Unemployment was near a 50-year low. Formerly discouraged Americans were being drawn off the sidelines. The country was buzzing—literally buzzing—from coast to coast. The American people built that. It is our job to help them build it again.

As we carefully consider what may come in the weeks ahead, we will need smart and targeted policies to help jump-start our economic engine, not unrelated ideological wish-list items that would gum it up even further. The country will need pro-growth, pro-certainty policies—pro-growth, pro-certainty policies.

The last thing we need is for the political left to view this national crisis as an exploitable opportunity to achieve other goals they have wanted for a very long time. That is how, for example, former Vice President Biden has repeatedly described the pandemic. Here is what he had to say: “an incredible opportunity . . . to fundamentally transform the country”—“an incredible opportunity . . . to fundamentally transform the country.”

This cannot be about ideological transformation. It needs to be what will actually work for the American people.

Here is just one example of a commonsense policy Republicans will insist on. Even as the entire country is rallying behind healthcare workers and small businesses, trial lawyers are already looking for ways to line their pockets by suing the very people we are bending over backward to help.

As one recent Washington Post column put it, “[f]ear of COVID-19 lawsuits is not [some] mere Republican reflex”—a Washington Post column: “[f]ear of COVID-19 lawsuits is not [some] mere Republican reflex.”

It went on to list all sorts of lawsuits that are already pouring in. This kind of hostile climate would create yet another major headwind we cannot afford. Republicans will be insisting on strong legal protections for the frontlines. We will not let our historic recovery efforts be diverted so that taxpayers foot the bill for the biggest trial lawyer bonanza in our history.

Our discussions in the weeks ahead do not need to be partisan or contentious. There is nothing partisan about the coronavirus, and there is nothing partisan about the inspiring example being set by citizens across our country.

In my home State of Kentucky, we are proud of a father-daughter duo in

Breathitt County. They both came down with the virus. They both beat it and then turned right around and started donating plasma to the race for new medicines.

We are proud of the family resource coordinators of Fayette County Public Schools who are collecting donated household supplies to add to weekly food deliveries for thousands of students and families.

These stories only scratch the surface in the Bluegrass, and I know every one of my colleagues has stories of their own to tell. We are all in this together. We have stepped up to meet the challenge. Let's continue to stand together for our country.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center. (New Position)

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the Republican leader has called the Senate back into session during a time when there are significant risks to the health of the Members of this Chamber and the staff who make this place function.

This is a time of national emergency. We should be working to provide our country with the relief and support it so direly needs. But this is only the second day of business since Leader MCCONNELL called the Senate back into session, and there will be no votes on the floor—not one vote. And so far, there is no plan—no plan at all—to consider COVID-related legislation on the floor in the near future.

If we are going to be here in session, with an elevated health risk, why doesn't Leader MCCONNELL have us work on issues that are directly related to COVID-19?

Last night, we confirmed a non-controversial nominee to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The next nominee on the floor is for a counterintelligence post—no doubt important but unrelated to COVID—whose nomination has been delayed by a hold by a Republican Senator. So when the Republican leader reasons that we must process nominees on the floor this week because of a previous Democratic obstruction, he should check his notes and his facts first.

We could be using our time here to address a number of urgent priorities, whether it is rescuing our ailing health system, increasing testing capacity, assisting small businesses, renters, and homeowners. Providing vigorous oversight of legislation we have already passed would have been a better use of the Senate's time.

Instead of coming together to work on these pressing matters, we are talking about nominations and rightwing judges, including a former protege of the Republican leader who was rated unqualified by the American Bar Association, a man who argued against the constitutionality of our healthcare law in the midst of a public health crisis—someone who probably 80 percent or 90 percent of Americans would reject if they knew his views. But he is a protege of the leader. We are rushing him through. We are not paying attention to COVID.

The Senate Intelligence Committee is holding a virtual hearing on the nomination of Representative RATCLIFFE to serve as the next Director of National Intelligence. This is an extremely important post that demands a candidate with deep experience, credibility on both sides of the aisle, and, above all, the ability to speak truth to power.

Representative RATCLIFFE meets none of these criteria. He is a deeply partisan cheerleader for the President, a yes-man in every sense of the phrase—someone who doesn't speak truth to power to the President of the United States. He tells the President what he wants to hear.

Doesn't this sound familiar? Right now, we are living with the consequences of a President who doesn't want to hear the truth about the coronavirus, who doesn't want to believe it is as bad as it truly is, who wants to cling to quack medicines that will not work, and who runs away from the fact that his administration bears responsibility for the inadequacy of our national response—a President who still doesn't have a testing plan when we desperately need tests to get this country open again.

The President doesn't like hearing the truth. It is that simple. That has hurt us dearly when it has come to the coronavirus. This crisis is partly the

result of an administration that did not take COVID-19 seriously enough early enough and refused to heed the warnings of public health officials and scientists.

The same phenomenon of the President's not wanting to hear the truth will hurt us dearly when it comes to national security as well. If the Director of National Intelligence can't stand up and tell the President what is really happening, even when the President doesn't want to hear it, our country will be dramatically less safe—the same thing that has happened during the coronavirus crisis. If we move RATCLIFFE and pass him, we will repeat the same mistake that the President has made on COVID. Not hearing the truth, not acting on the truth, listening to flattery and not much else, which we did on COVID, will be repeated on national security.

Now, I think many of my Republican colleagues actually know this. This is not the first time that President Trump has floated RATCLIFFE's name—it is the second—because, the first time, the Republicans balked. Many Republicans whispered: He has no experience. Some Republicans said to one another and to some of us: You don't need someone in the DNI who is just a cheerleader for the President; you need someone who knows intelligence and will speak the truth.

There is no new evidence that Mr. RATCLIFFE will act with the necessary independence. Nothing has changed about RATCLIFFE's qualifications since he was shot down by the Republican Senators in their saying he was the wrong man for the job. Yet sometimes—all too often in this Senate and to the detriment of this country—even when my Republican colleagues know the President is wrong, they go blindly along with him anyway. That happened with COVID and will now happen with our intelligence agency. I hope it is not the case. I hope Mr. RATCLIFFE's nomination will be roundly rejected, as it should be.

NOMINATION OF BRIAN MILLER

Madam President, the second hearing this morning is in the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs on Brian Miller to be the Special Inspector General of the pandemic relief efforts. Having an independent, experienced, and strong IG to oversee the administration's use of taxpayer funds in this pandemic is critically important. Under President Trump, who has been firing IGs left and right simply because they tell the truth and who believes that he is accountable to no one, selecting a truly independent watchdog is essential and urgent.

As someone who currently works directly for President Trump as a member of his White House Counsel's Office, Mr. Miller's independence from the President is very much in doubt. We need a strong, tough IG. Billions of dollars are being spent. We don't want someone who has in his mind: I have to

please the President. Mr. Miller needs to explain why the Senate should confirm him to a position that requires genuine independence. In particular, he must answer specific questions from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs about his role in the White House Counsel's Office and what issues he has worked on. It is not acceptable to hide behind vague assertions that he can't answer those questions. It is too important. The burden on Miller is to demonstrate that he can be a truly strong and independent inspector general.

CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, there are serious questions about the fitness of both of these nominees—Mr. RATCLIFFE and Mr. Miller. Yet, more broadly, the Republican leader has made a mistake by choosing to dedicate this session to nominations only instead of to urgent legislative business—COVID-19.

We could and should be focused on issues like testing. The first diagnosed case of COVID-19 was diagnosed here in the United States just over 100 days ago. We still don't have a national testing strategy that is adequate. In early March, President Trump said that anybody who needs a test gets a test, which has entered the pantheon of Presidential lies, alongside: "I am not a crook," and "Read my lips: no new taxes." It was not true then, and it isn't true now. We still don't have a situation in which everyone who needs a test and wants a test gets one.

As nations around the world, like South Korea and Canada, flatten the curve with rigorous national testing programs, the United States—this great United States, usually the leader of the world—is lagging so far behind. So, today, 42 Senate Democrats are sending a letter, demanding that the Trump administration fulfill its responsibility to produce a comprehensive, national strategic plan of action by May 24. Congress provided \$25 billion in the last round of COVID legislation to help build up our testing capacity. The administration needs to take those resources and produce results. We have given him the money and the wherewithal. Where are they? The strategy they must come up with must include a strategy for managing supply chains and for making sure resources are equitably allocated and a strategy to use all available tools, like the Defense Production Act, to make sure we reach the level of testing that will manage this disease, save lives, and get our economy moving again.

Until we have a vaccine, the most important tool we have at our disposal for tracking the disease, limiting its spread, and understanding where we can safely open is testing, testing, testing. We await the President's response to our letter and want to work with the administration to make sure we can end its embarrassment of inadequate testing, which, frankly, is far more than an embarrassment—it is crucial. It is life and death.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING TRANSPARENCY

Madam President, finally, on small business lending transparency, over the past several months, Congress has provided historic levels of funding to help small businesses retain employees, meet payroll, and stay afloat during these turbulent times. Because of the depth of this crisis, we have dedicated trillions—not billions but trillions—to this effort. We must absolutely make sure these relief programs are implemented properly. With so much taxpayer money at stake, oversight, transparency, and accountability are musts.

Issues with the small business lending programs cropped up almost as soon as the administration began implementing them. Truly, small businesses had a difficult time in securing loans while larger businesses that had standing relationships with big banks had a much easier time. Minority-owned businesses, women-owned businesses, and other unbanked businesses—the proverbial small restaurant owner, the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker—have been left out to a large degree. We tried to rectify some of these problems, particularly in COVID 3.5, but more must be done.

As Justice Brandeis said: "Sunlight is the best disinfectant." Transparency around these programs is the order of the day. So, this afternoon, Senator CARDIN and I will ask the Senate to pass legislation that demands new disclosure requirements for the Paycheck Protection Program and other disaster relief accounts. Our bill is very simple. It would require the daily and weekly reporting of the PPP, the Economic Injury Disaster Loan, and debt relief programs to be broken down, in each case, by geography, demographics, and industry. The data would need to be downloaded and would include the names of the entities and the loans or grant amounts. It would need to detail whether the programs are reaching underserved communities.

This is hardly a controversial idea. There is nothing partisan about it. Our legislation would simply require the basic transparency we expect from any Federal program—certainly, one of this size and importance. It is my hope that my Republican colleagues will not block our request simply because it comes from this side of the aisle. I would hope, on a day when the Republican leader has scheduled literally no business on the floor of the Senate, that we could come together to pass this very simple bill to make sure we know how taxpayer dollars are being spent.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, to date, more than 1 million people have contracted coronavirus in the United States—61,000 in the State of Illinois. Sadly, we are quickly approaching a death toll of 100,000 Americans. While more people continue to contract and

succumb to the virus, another alarming trend has come to light. The coronavirus disproportionately affects minority communities. Black Illinoisans make up less than 15 percent of the State's overall population. However, they account for 34 percent of all coronavirus deaths. In Chicago, Black residents account for 52 percent of the total coronavirus deaths despite their comprising only 30 percent of the city's population.

Recently, a survey of Latinos in Illinois, who make up 17 percent of our State's population, surpassed Black Illinoisans in confirmed cases of coronavirus. Now Latino Illinoisans account for 23 percent of confirmed cases in the State—the most cases of any race or ethnicity. Last week, on a call with the Illinois community health centers, I learned that, of the 34,000 African Americans who were tested in Illinois, 36 percent were positive for coronavirus. Of the 24,000 Latinos tested, 62 percent tested positive—62 percent. Compare that to the 73,000 White Illinoisans tested for coronavirus, wherein 18 percent tested positive.

Latino and Black populations in Illinois and across the Nation are bearing the brunt of this pandemic. As we continue to hit new, grim milestones during this public health crisis, these disparities are a sobering reminder of the historical inequities of our healthcare system in our country. Nationwide, Black and Latino Americans are more likely to have chronic diseases, such as diabetes, asthma, and heart disease, and are less likely to have health insurance than are White Americans. These health gaps are the result of historic and structural inequality, including their exposure to trauma, racism, stigma, and food deserts, and this pandemic magnifies the need to immediately address them.

Black and Latino Americans are also more likely to hold frontline jobs that have been deemed essential in the food, retail, and service industries. That increases their risk of contracting the coronavirus when reporting for work. I have spoken with many community organizations, such as the First Ladies Health Initiative and West Side United, as well as the Illinois community health centers, and they have all stepped up to help Illinoisans find solutions to these challenges. Yet we can't just talk about the problem. We need to put solutions on the table.

Congress needs to step up. I am working with the Illinois congressional delegation to improve our Nation's coronavirus data collection efforts so that we can better understand and address these racial disparities. It is unacceptable that not all States are currently reporting coronavirus incidents and deaths by race. We need these vital statistics to help the Federal Government, as well as the State and local governments, to develop plans to protect our most vulnerable populations.

A few moments ago on the floor, the Republican leader—the Senator from

Kentucky, Mr. McCONNELL—kind of warned us about the next stage of the debate when it comes to this coronavirus. He warned those of us on this side of the aisle not to see this crisis as the basis for fundamentally transforming our country. Well, I want to say to my colleague from Kentucky and all other colleagues, if we don't learn from this crisis the weaknesses of this great Nation when it comes to healthcare, if we don't understand the inequities of this great Nation when it comes to healthcare, and if we don't resolve to do something about it, shame on us. If at the end of this crisis we breathe a sigh of relief and say that now we will go back to business as usual, wherein health disparities are accepted in this country, shame on this Senate.

Yes, I want to see our way through this crisis with the fewest number of infections and the fewest number of deaths. That is our immediate goal—to protect America and to restore the economy. Yet, when it is over, if we don't step back and take a look at what we have learned from this crisis and vow to make America stronger, fairer, and more just when it comes to healthcare in this country, shame on us.

There are those who voted against every aspect of the Affordable Care Act—so-called ObamaCare—10 years ago. I remember it well. Not a single Senator from the other side of the aisle would support our effort to reduce the number of uninsured people in America dramatically. We barely passed it—by one vote in the U.S. Senate and with Senator Harry Reid as the majority leader at the time—and without any help, without any votes, from the other side of the aisle. And what happened? In my State, the number of those who were uninsured was cut in half by this so-called ObamaCare. Proudly, I call the Affordable Care Act “ObamaCare.”

Since then, those on the other side of the aisle have been resolute in their determination to repeal it, not to replace it with anything that is better—they don't even have a replacement—and to give up on our quest of making sure that every American has the peace of mind for having the protection of health insurance—affordable, quality health insurance.

At the end of this health crisis, are we still going to hear the other side of the aisle arguing that we shouldn't dedicate ourselves to reducing the number of uninsured? I hope they will take the time, as I have, to talk to administrators at hospitals about what is happening in their emergency rooms, in their surgical suites, and in other places in which they have had to address this crisis firsthand. One major hospital in Chicago said that half of the people in that hospital who have died from coronavirus-related disease had no health insurance. Is this a coincidence? No. It is a pattern. Without health insurance and with gross disparities in the delivery of healthcare,

we know that there are groups of Americans who are suffering and that many will die.

So I would just say to the Republican leader, yes, I hope that our experience from this coronavirus makes us all vow, on both sides of the aisle, to truly change America for the better when it comes to healthcare and health protection. That is a must.

Last week, I had the opportunity to speak with several Illinois-focused community development financial institutions. These organizations do amazing work by offering lending services to small businesses and populations that are typically overlooked by the big banks. They were grateful for the work we have done so far and for the legislation we have passed, but they had suggestions on how to improve the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program to ensure that financial relief makes it to minority-, women-, and veteran-owned small businesses.

In addition, I am working with my colleagues to help ensure that vaccine and drug trials that are related to COVID-19 include diverse patient populations and are widely available and affordable. I have cosponsored the COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Disparity Task Force Act with Senator KAMALA HARRIS. This important piece of legislation would create a task force comprised of healthcare, economic, and government leaders to provide recommendations about how to best allocate resources to address racial disparities in our healthcare system.

When the Senator from Kentucky, the majority leader, comes to the floor and says to those of us—warns those of us—on this side of the aisle not to use this healthcare crisis as an excuse or an opportunity to transform America, is he wedded to the racial inequality that we see in our system in his warning us not to try to address it? I hope not. I hope that we can have a bipartisan approach to making this system fairer in its reaching more people.

This week, I am introducing the Health Heroes 2020 Act, and here is what is behind it: As we all put up signs in our windows and yards across America to thank healthcare workers for risking their lives, we understand that these doctors, nurses, and lab technicians and these people who work in nursing homes who are taking care of the elderly folks, as well as those who clean up and provide food, are all healthcare workers who are risking their lives to do their work. I thank them. We should all thank them day in and day out.

Yet what are we going to do about recognizing the work they have done?

First, I think we ought to compensate them for jobs well done. Senator BOB CASEY has legislation on that subject, which I am happy to support.

Beyond that, what can we do for our healthcare workforce? Why is it that in the United States of America the best and brightest, who get great grades in

high school, go through college taking the tough courses and getting good grades, get accepted to medical school, and after working hard for 4 years or more there, go through residencies which are backbreaking exercises in actually learning the clinical practice of medicine, and just before we tell them they are licensed doctors ready to practice in America, we give them bad news—the news that they must be carrying a student debt from medical school of between \$200,000 to \$240,000 on average? What are we thinking? These women and men are critical to our future and our own healthcare. Why do we burden them with this certain awesome debt that they have to carry forward and build their career around? That is why this bill really seeks to look at this from a new angle and says that we ought to reward those medical students who are willing to practice in areas of greatest need—minority students as well—and provide for them scholarships to defray the cost of medical school so they don't end up graduating with this incredible financial burden. This legislation would help provide doctors, nurses, mental health professionals, dentists, and others to communities with shortages which often contribute to health disparities as I described earlier—inner-city areas, rural America, smalltown America. Studies show that having doctors who reflect the communities they treat actually helps health outcomes. So my bill would help to expand the representation of minorities in the workforce.

Last week, in a letter to the CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, I urged the agency to support global efforts to build up our community health workforce capacity. Communities of color across America are suffering at disproportionate rates across this pandemic, and we have to step up to help all Americans against the threat of coronavirus. It is unacceptable, but sadly not surprising, that communities of color are bearing the burden of this dangerous virus. I stand here to continue fighting with my colleagues in the Senate to try to solve these inequities happening in communities across the Nation.

There aren't many redlines that have been drawn publicly so far as we have considered coronavirus legislation. We passed the original CARES Act, \$2.2 trillion, with 96 votes on the floor of the Senate and with no dissenting votes. The next bill, the coronavirus 3.5, as it was characterized, passed the U.S. Senate by a voice vote, adding \$484 billion to the effort. More will obviously be needed, not just for small business loans but also for unemployment insurance and certainly to make sure that our hospitals, large and small, can survive this crisis as we all hope America will. We are certain they will, but we have to be prepared to do that.

Yet, this morning, the Republican leader came forward and said he is drawing a redline; that Republicans

will not move forward when it comes to dealing with these challenges without addressing one issue, and that was the issue of legal liability. I will not describe in detail what the Senator from Kentucky is proposing because we haven't seen it, but what he is suggesting is that our greatest fear shouldn't be the coronavirus; it should be trial lawyers—trial lawyers.

He is fearful that we are going to see COVID-19 lawsuits. Well, let me tell you, there could easily be COVID-19 lawsuits and some—and I think most Americans would agree—should be filed. Is there a COVID-19 lawsuit if someone is profiteering with protective equipment, raising the prices way beyond reach because they have this moment of opportunity with the crisis we are facing? One downstate hospital in Illinois talked about surgical gowns that cost 22 cents apiece and now cost between \$11 and \$20 apiece. Clearly, there is price gouging and profiteering. If we can, can we hold those responsible for profiteering liable? I would say yes. Is that a COVID-19 lawsuit? I think it is related to COVID-19, but it relates to it in a way that most Americans would agree there should be legal action.

If there are scams and profiteering, the people responsible for it should be held legally responsible in a lawsuit, if necessary. If people are promulgating phony tests and making representations that are a fraud on the public, should they be held accountable? Well, of course. Is that a COVID-19 lawsuit? Could be.

What about those who are talking about the protection of workers? If workers are not protected on the job, they may be turning to workers' compensation for any of the injuries and illnesses that result. Are we going to stop those as COVID-19 lawsuits going too far? Nurses are suing in some situations because they are not being given adequate or quality protective equipment. Do we want to stop that litigation as well? Is that what the Senator from Kentucky is suggesting?

There is an interesting situation with meatpacking workers right now. I know a little more than some Senators about that. When I was working my way through college, I spent 12 months working in a meatpacking plant in East St. Louis, IL. I was paid \$3.65 an hour. I thought that was pretty good, but it was hard, hard work. I saw what it was like then, many, many years ago. I have gone back to see the meatpacking and meat processors today. It is not much different. People stand literally elbow-to-elbow, shoulder-to-shoulder, as conveyor belts bring through hundreds and hundreds of pounds of meat and poultry that have to be acted on immediately to keep up with the line. It is tough, hard work, and now it turns out to be an extraordinarily dangerous line of work as well. We are learning that disproportionate numbers of workers in this industry are coming down with the

COVID virus infection. United Food and Commercial Workers, which represents many of these plant workers, estimated that at least 5,000 have already reported infected and anywhere from 10 to 20 have died. Now the President issues an Executive order mandating that these companies open for business. Well, I can say to the President, yes, they should open, but only if they dedicate themselves to the health and safety of their workforce as the highest priority. Let's make that workplace safe before we talk about making it a mandatory opening.

In fairness to the industry, in my State of Illinois, several companies that have been affected have reached out to us and are, in fact, determined to make their workplace safe. I salute them for taking that approach. They are talking about testing and making sure that workers on the job have necessary distancing and protective equipment. That is the right approach. In the meantime, those companies that ignore that responsibility, should they bear some liability for the illnesses or injuries that result? Well, under workers' compensation law, they certainly would. Is the Senator from Kentucky calling that the COVID-19 lawsuit? It could be related to COVID-19, for sure. Should they have their day in court? I certainly hope so.

As we look at the challenges before us, and there are many, this notion of drawing a redline on legal liability, unfortunately, fails to take into account that system of justice in America which we have turned to in good times and bad to make sure that justice is meted out to those who have no recourse but to consider lawsuits in court. Let's take this issue seriously, carefully. Let's not squander the opportunity of protecting the people who are risking their lives every day in essential workplaces and believe they, too, should be protected by our system of justice. I will stand with them, and I hope that other Members of the Senate will join me.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, after a few weeks of working remotely to help flatten the coronavirus curve, we are back in Washington to continue our coronavirus response and address other important issues. It has been an incredibly difficult couple of months for our country and, in fact, for most of the world. More than 1 million Americans have contracted the coronavirus, and thousands have died. Our economy has taken a huge hit. Millions of Americans are out of work, and businesses are struggling to stay afloat. Americans are worried. They are worried about their own health. They are worried about the health of their families and loved ones, and they are worried about their finances.

My colleagues and I know that Americans are suffering. Our overriding priority over the past 2 months has been

responding to the coronavirus crisis. We passed several major response bills and provided substantially more than \$2 trillion in assistance. We have funded testing, medical care, personal protective equipment for frontline medical personnel, vaccine and treatment development, paid sick leave, unemployment benefits, direct relief payments to American citizens, forgivable loans for small businesses, and much more.

Our goal has been to provide a comprehensive response, addressing not just the medical priorities but also the economic impact this virus has had on so many American families, and there is more work to be done. Right now a big part of that work is monitoring the implementation of legislation we have already passed. We provided a tremendous amount of money, and we need to make sure it is getting to where it needs to go as quickly as possible and is being spent in the most effective way.

Monitoring the implementation of the legislation we have already passed is also crucial for informing any future legislation. As I said, we have provided a tremendous amount of money for coronavirus, equal to almost 50 percent of the entire Federal budget for 2020, and it is important that any future funding be carefully targeted. We need to make sure that Federal dollars are going only to real coronavirus priorities. Our children and grandchildren will be footing the bill for the money we are adding to the national debt.

As a case in point, the debt to GDP, which was scheduled to be 79 percent this year, is now expected to be, in the Year 2020, 101 percent. That jump from 79 percent debt to GDP to 101 percent debt to GDP is the largest jump, I am told, literally, since 1943, in the middle of World War II. So it is essential that we spend wisely.

In addition to overseeing the implementation of the coronavirus legislation we passed and gathering data to inform any future bills, we also have a number of coronavirus-related nominations to consider, something that is a role that is unique to the U.S. Senate under the Constitution. When it comes to judicial nominations, nominations to the executive branch, the Senate has the responsibility to ensure that we conduct the research, investigate nominees, hold confirmation hearings, and ultimately vote to put people into key positions in the administration and on the courts.

So the question about why we are here this week I think is a fairly easy one to answer, and that is because there are lots of really important positions that are key not only to the healthcare crisis we are facing in this country but to our ongoing national security priorities as well as to the economic challenges we are facing through this crisis.

In fact, this week, the Senate Banking Committee will be holding a hearing on the nomination of Brian D. Miller to be the special inspector general

for pandemic recovery at the Treasury Department, a key role created by the legislation that we passed here in the Congress, critically important to the implementation, making sure everything is done in the right way. As we all know, inspectors general play a key oversight role in Federal departments, helping to root out waste, fraud, and other abuses of taxpayer dollars. If confirmed, Mr. Miller will be an essential part of ensuring that the trillions we provided for coronavirus relief are spent properly.

Committees are doing other essential coronavirus work this week as well. The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee is holding hearings on an initiative Senators Blunt, Alexander, and others worked to get included in the coronavirus legislation. This initiative was designed to spur innovation in private sector and public sector collaboration, with a goal of dramatically increasing our coronavirus testing capabilities. So that is going on in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

The Senate Commerce Committee, of which I am a Member, is holding a hearing this week looking at the impact of COVID-19 on the airline industry, an industry we know is being profoundly impacted by what is happening with the virus.

Next week, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee will be hearing directly from the leaders of our fight against the coronavirus—Drs. Fauci, Redfield, and Hahn and Admiral Giroir. Committee work will play a key role in any future coronavirus bill, and it is good to have committees able to meet once again here in Washington, DC.

Of course, while the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to be our priority in Washington in the coming weeks and months, there is other essential work that we have to do for the American people: appropriations bills, nominations to essential administration posts, and critical national security legislation is just some of the items on our agenda over the next couple of months. This week, the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Intelligence Committee are holding hearings on nominees for key national security positions, including the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of the Navy.

Senate Republicans are committed to getting our country through this crisis and helping American workers and businesses deal with the virus's impact. We will be discussing a lot of ideas over the next couple of weeks, from tax and regulatory relief to support farmers and ranchers to ways to spur job creation and shield responsible businesses from frivolous litigation once the economy is opened up again. As I said, we will continue to focus on making sure that the money we provided gets where it is needed as fast as possible.

The United States undoubtedly has more tough days ahead, but we are

going to get through them. We are going to come out tougher on the other side. In the meantime, we have work to do here in the U.S. Senate. People across this country are hurting and struggling, and there are many priorities that need to be addressed. So I am pleased that the Senate is open for business. We are going to be working the next few months, as I mentioned, on the national defense authorization bill, a piece of legislation that we have to do on an annual basis that deals with all of our national priorities, making sure that the men and women who defend this country, the American people, and our interests around the world have the training, equipment, and resources to do their jobs to keep Americans safe.

We have a critical water infrastructure bill that will be marked up by the Environment and Public Works Committee, also a piece of legislation that is important to the economy in this country. If you look at the long list of things and priorities that we need to deal with here in the U.S. Senate, it is important that we be about the people's business.

I know I can speak from personal experience that over the past several weeks, like my colleagues, we have worked really hard to stay connected. I worked really hard to stay in touch with people across South Dakota using technology, platforms, and apps that I never really had much experience with using in the past. From Zoom to Skype, to Google Hangouts, to Shindig, there are all kinds of interesting new apps that I think many of us became acquainted with, conducting lots of virtual meetings and staying in touch with our constituents to see what is important to them, finding out what is working and what is not working and getting feedback on what we could be doing to even better respond to the crisis that is out there. But there is no substitute, when it comes to doing the Nation's business, for being here, for committees to work, to meet, for us to be able to vote, for us to be able to deal with the important nominations I mentioned that under the Constitution, we, the Senate, have an obligation and responsibility to advise and consent on, whether that is a judicial nomination, key Cabinet post, or an important administration position that pertains to national security and the virus.

There are lots of priority items for which the U.S. Senate has a key and principal responsibility, and we need to be about that business. So I hope, in the days and weeks ahead, as we take on those challenges, that we can work together in a way that provides maximum safety for the people who work here but also gives the important priority to the items and the issues that are critical to Americans at this point, in the middle of this crisis and, hopefully, when we get on the other side of it, those important critical national security priorities, economic priorities, and other business that the American

people need us to deal with on a daily basis.

I thank the Presiding Officer for the time and look forward to working with my colleagues, albeit in different circumstances than we have had to deal with in the past but, nevertheless, to have the U.S. Senate, the people's representatives, here doing the important work the American people expect us to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, let me join our friend and my friend, the Senator from South Dakota, and say that I am glad to be back in this Chamber doing the work of 29 million Texans. I see the Presiding Officer and my partner, my fellow Senator from Texas, joining us as well.

I was listening closely to the Senator from South Dakota's recitation of all the things we have to do. There is no shortage of work for us to do, and there is no reason for us to continue to curl up in a fetal position in some undisclosed location and be afraid to go outdoors.

The fact is, the experts at the Centers for Disease Control, people like Dr. Fauci and Dr. Birx, whom we have seen on TV on a nightly basis, tell us what we need to do in order to function safely. It is the same thing that our grocery clerks and our doctors and nurses and, frankly, our law enforcement personnel are doing. We know how to do this and how to do it safely.

At the same time, we simply cannot hide out and not show up for work. What kind of message does that send to the American people?

We know this is an extraordinary crisis, an unprecedented crisis, and we have done some things we would never consider doing under normal times—appropriating more than \$3 trillion at warp speed. I, frankly, think it is a good time for us to tap the brakes and to consider what it is we have already done and where we need to make some corrections.

Anytime you do anything this big and this fast, you are going to make some mistakes. We have seen that, and there have been corrections both in terms of the way the Treasury is administering the program, but also we have heard about gaps. For example, I have done a number of video conferences with our chambers of commerce around the country, and they ask me: Why did you leave the chambers out of the support under the Paycheck Protection Program for nonprofits? I, frankly, don't have a good answer for that. I said that is something we need to go back and fix. If we can't do it by Treasury guidance, then we need to do it by future legislation.

I have no doubt we will continue to legislate, but we need to do it smartly. We need to be here in person so we can have the interaction and deliberation and debates that are so important to coming up with a good product.

We have done some pretty extraordinary work in the last 6 weeks or so. Both Chambers have come together and quickly passed four separate pieces of legislation to strengthen our response to the coronavirus.

We sent vital funding to our hospitals. Ironically, at a time when our hospitals were the frontline of defense dealing with people with COVID-19, many of them were laying off employees because we had asked them to forgo elective surgery, which is one of the ways that they end up paying the bills.

Then we learned, in the global competition for personal protective equipment, literally every mayor, every Governor, every President, every leader of every country around the world was in a global rush to try to come up with personal protective equipment.

One of the things I have told my constituents and friends that I think we have learned is we can't depend on China and on these uncertain supply chains for things as important as personal protective equipment—or pharmaceuticals, for that matter. So these are some of the lessons and some of the feedback we have gotten as we have interacted with our constituents.

We know that testing has gotten much more widespread, and we have made tremendous advances in terms of treatment with all the clinical trials that are underway—well over 70 of them—and now the hope of a vaccine, hopefully sooner rather than later. Once we get a vaccine, then hopefully this will be relegated to the same status as the seasonal flu, for which we typically do have a vaccine, so the particularly vulnerable individuals—the elderly, people with underlying chronic disease—can be protected first and foremost.

We also sent funding to our State and local Governors: \$150 billion. Now, we have all talked to our mayors and our county judges—in Texas, that is what we call our county leaders—and Governors. Obviously, the sales tax revenue has fallen off a cliff because there is not much business going on in our retail stores, to be sure, although there is a lot going on online with deliveries and those sorts of orders.

But we know our State and local governments provide for law enforcement and other essential services, so we felt it was important to throw them a lifeline, too, to help them meet their budgets and maintain those vital services.

Perhaps the most ambitious and the most popular thing we did is to try to help our small businesses stay afloat through the Paycheck Protection Program. Obviously, this was successful—or it is certainly popular in that \$350 billion was spent in 2 weeks. Then we had to come back and replenish that with another \$320 billion. But we know that money is flying out of our local community banks and credit unions, helping small businesses keep their employees on the payroll. And, if they do that, then this low-interest loan will turn into a grant.

The goal, of course, is, once we defeat this virus—as we will—we will then be in a position for those businesses to bring their employees back, if they have furloughed them, to help us build out of this recession in which we are currently involved.

We also provided critical funding for our farmers and ranchers and other producers so they can keep our country fed. We have taken unprecedented steps to minimize the impact of this virus on the American people and our economy and tried to provide some modicum of certainty amid so much uncertainty.

I don't think there is a single event in my lifetime that rivals the breadth and depth of the crisis that we have reached. Certainly, 9/11 was a different type of crisis. The 2008 great recession—with the meltdown of the banks on Wall Street and the great recession, those were significant events to be sure, but nothing quite has rivaled what the coronavirus has done to our public health and to our economy.

The cascading consequences of this virus have reached every community, every sector of our economy, and every corner of the globe. Every single American has experienced some sort of shift in their daily routine as a result of the virus. Maybe "shift" is too tentative a word. Actually, many of us have had our lives turned on their head.

For some, the changes were very significant. Think about those who contracted the virus, the loved ones who couldn't be at their side, the healthcare workers who were there and are helping them, those who are sick. Then there are billions of Americans who have lost their jobs, small business owners wondering whether they are going to cease to exist and whether they can survive this current crisis, and then the farmers seeing a glut of supply and reduced demand.

Now, many people have been able to safely work from home, and that is wonderful, but often they end up pulling double duty as teachers for their children with the schools having been closed, and others have continued heading out to work every day to keep the cogs of our society running—so-called essential workers.

By the way, I really don't like the designation between essential and non-essential. I think, really, what we ought to call it is safe and unsafe because all workers are, I believe, essential.

In ways big and small, this virus has affected everybody in this country. While we must continue working to slow the spread and reduce the economic impact, we cannot ignore the profound human impact it has had. Many people have been isolated under very difficult circumstances, not knowing whether they will still have a job to go back to. Many are living with the uncertainty of this pandemic, perhaps in a crowded house or apartment with children, maybe elderly parents and others, cut off from the rest of society.

It is no secret that this pandemic is taking a toll on America's mental

health. Last weekend, the family of a New York City emergency room doctor released some devastating news. Dr. Lorna Breen had been in the trenches battling this virus for weeks. She was working long hours, as many of our healthcare providers are, and told her family about the devastation that she was seeing every day.

She contracted COVID-19 and took a week and a half off to recover, but then she went back to work, eager to help where she could. Shortly after, Dr. Breen's family intervened and brought her home to Charlottesville, VA, to rest and to spend a little time with her family and for R&R.

Sadly, tragically, the struggles Dr. Breen was facing felt untenable. After overcoming COVID-19, she ultimately took her own life by suicide.

Dr. Breen was a hero who devoted her entire life to caring for others, to putting others before herself. While her tragic death cannot be reversed, it should serve as a warning signal about the broader impact of this virus.

In a recent poll by the Kaiser Family Foundation, nearly half of Americans reported that coronavirus is having a negative impact on their mental health—one-half. That is up from one-third in March. The number of texts to the Federal Disaster Distress Helpline skyrocketed in April—more than a 1,000-percent increase.

As we continue to discuss what future coronavirus legislation could look like, we cannot ignore the mental health impact. Nationwide, we rely on the community mental health centers and community behavioral health organizations to support those battling mental health and substance abuse disorders. As the need for these services has increased, resources have actually decreased. More than 90 percent of the community behavioral health organizations nationwide have been forced to reduce their operations—reduce their operations at a time of increased need and demand—and more than 60 percent of behavioral health organizations project they can't survive financially for more than 3 months under the current COVID-19 conditions.

Congress tried to do something to help. We provided \$175 billion for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund to support healthcare providers on the frontlines of this crisis. As this funding is being distributed, mental health providers cannot be forgotten.

Along with 24 of our colleagues, Senator STABENOW and I have sent a letter to Secretary Azar and Administrator Verma, urging them to quickly allocate this funding and ensure that these mental health organizations are included. Not only do they provide vital care and support for individuals struggling with mental health issues; they also are key to fighting addiction and substance abuse.

Those struggling to overcome addiction are often living in a fragile state, fighting each day to stay the course,

but the current circumstances have made those daily battles much more difficult. They are isolated from their friends and loved ones, and they are dealing with the anxiety caused by the virus and possibly—probably—facing financial struggles.

The new stressors brought on by this virus are compounded by reduced capacity for treatment. In-person support meetings are canceled, treatment clinics and counselors are curtailing appointments, and the barriers to overcoming addiction loom even larger. For those individuals, treatment cannot simply be delayed.

Our country has made serious inroads in our battle against the opioid epidemic. In 2018, overdose deaths were down 4 percent from the previous year, the first decrease in nearly three decades. We can't let the coronavirus derail the progress we have fought so hard to make.

The CARES Act—I am glad to say—does expand access to telehealth. I think many Americans are experiencing the benefits of telehealth, and I predict at some point this will change a lot of the ways that we receive consultation by healthcare providers: not having to drive our car and make appointments, pay for parking, spend a lot of time out of our day. We can simply do it through video conference, conveniently and effectively. But more must be done to support those battling addiction and mental health challenges.

For those who are transitioning from the criminal justice system, the need for additional resources and support is especially dire. Earlier this year, Senator BLUMENTHAL and I introduced the Crisis Stabilization and Community Reentry Act to support those who have been a part of the criminal justice system and to provide stable treatment for those with mental illness.

Most prisoners who are receiving treatment for a mental health or a substance use disorder are released without a plan to keep them on their regimen. This often leads to higher recidivism rates, unsurprisingly, which could be avoided. It also means that law enforcement is, all too often, left to be the first responders for those suffering a mental health crisis, which can escalate those confrontations and put both the officer and the individual in that crisis at risk.

This bill creates grants to connect law enforcement, State and local, and community resources to help individuals who are either engaged in the criminal justice system or have been released from prison and makes it possible for them to access the resources they need to have a successful reentry into civilized society. These grants connect those services to make sure that people suffering from an acute episode can access treatment without the risk of being reincarcerated.

We are facing a battle unlike any we have seen in my lifetime, and the stress and the anxiety that come with

it are taking a tremendous toll on the American people. It is not just the virus and the threat of catching the virus that are taking the toll. We need to look at this holistically and realize, if you are a victim of domestic violence and you are forced to be confined with your abuser and have nowhere else to go and maybe have no money coming in the front door, only to have your abuser abusing alcohol and perhaps becoming even more violent—there are a whole catalog of problems associated with this virus and the virus itself, the risk of infection being just one, and we need to look at this holistically.

As our discussions continue this week on how to support the American people during this unprecedented time, resources for mental health and substance abuse treatment providers cannot fall by the wayside.

(Mr. CRUZ assumed the Chair.)

RECESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 2:15 p.m. today.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:18 p.m., recessed until 2:17 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. CAPITO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, over the past few months, both parties have worked together to provide historic levels of funding to help small businesses retain employees, meet payroll, and stay afloat during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Paycheck Protection Program—the main instrument to help small businesses—received \$349 billion under the CARES Act and another \$310 billion in supplemental legislation.

The public has a right to know how this money is being spent. Oversight, transparency, and accountability are crucial because from the moment the administration began implementing these funds, it became clear that much of it wasn't going to those who needed it most.

Today, we are not taking any other action on the floor dealing with COVID. We thought we would take this opportunity to ask unanimous consent to get something real done that should have bipartisan support on both sides of the aisle. Who can be against transparency? Who can be against accountability? Who cannot want to know where close to \$700 billion of the taxpayers' money is going? Is it going to the right places?

Unfortunately, today at least 200 publicly traded companies have managed to secure PPP loans, and most of those are not very small, including some companies whose owners are large contributors to President Trump. Truly small businesses, however—the

hundreds of thousands of mom-and-pop shops with less than 20 employees, the proverbial restaurant owner or the butcher, the baker, and the candlestick maker—have been mostly shut out because they didn't have a standing relationship with a big bank.

There have been great disparities when it comes to minority-owned businesses. According to the Center for Responsible Lending, over 90 percent of African-American-owned and Latino-owned businesses were likely shut out of PPP funding. Women-owned businesses have also been neglected. We have tried to fix some of these problems in COVID 3.5, working closely with the Senators from Maryland and New Hampshire and the Senator from Florida, but much more needs to be done. We need data to help further inform who is being left out so we can continue to make the necessary fixes to see that all small businesses are helped.

My friends Senators CARDIN and SHAHEEN have a bill they worked on to do just that. I want to thank them. They will talk more about this bill in a moment, but I want to make one point here. This is a very simple piece of legislation. It requires the kind of transparency expected from any Federal program of this size and importance: regular public reporting of how and where taxpayer dollars are spent.

This is something my Republican colleagues have always believed in. I hope that my Republican colleagues will not object to this legislation when I ask unanimous consent in a few minutes, after Senators CARDIN and SHAHEEN have spoken. I hope they will not object just because it comes from this side of the aisle. It is a good idea. There is no reason to object to this very unobjectionable idea and get this body focused on COVID, not on extraneous matters, which we seem to be doing now, when COVID is the most important issue we face.

We are doing quite literally nothing else on the floor of the Senate today. There is no other business before us, no votes whatsoever. We are here to force some action, force some progress, and force some focus on COVID-related legislation. I prefer to do this in a completely bipartisan way. But from the get-go, Democrats have had to force the issue on many COVID response programs. The leader lays down a bill, it has no Democratic input, and then, of course, we have to work toward that goal, and we have. The fact that the first bill passed 96 to 0 is a tribute to this body that we can come together when there is real need.

We should be doing it the same way today. We should be working together in support of our healthcare system, for testing so desperately needed, unemployment insurance, and crucial improvements to small business lending, all of which Democrats said we needed—our Republican friends first resisted and then came along, led by the Republican leader—and all of which passed with unanimous support.

The same thing should happen today. We should pass this. We should UC it and get the oversight this program so desperately needs.

I yield the floor to Senator CARDIN.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, let me thank Leader SCHUMER for initiating this discussion. I am very pleased Senator SHAHEEN is also on the floor. The two of us worked on the Democratic side, with Senator RUBIO and Senator COLLINS on the Republican side. We are very proud of the tools we made available to small business. These are important tools to keep small businesses alive during COVID-19.

The Paycheck Protection Program got money out quickly and helped small businesses stay afloat. We have provided \$660 billion under the Paycheck Protection Program. The economic disaster loan program, the loan and grant program—we have now provided \$70 billion for that program. But here is the issue. We had to adjust both of those programs without even knowing all the specifics on how the first amount of money was distributed. We are hearing that we are going to be running out of money again soon and that Congress is going to be asked to make additional changes in these programs, and we still don't know the specifics on how this money was distributed.

We are all frustrated here. I really appreciate the leadership. I know my chairman is on the floor. He has been demanding this information and has been unable to get it. We are going to be asked to act again without having the specific information.

Senator SCHUMER is absolutely right. We know in the first round that those who had preferred relationships with banking institutions got priority. That we know. But we don't know how much. We don't know how many loans the big banks have issued and what size they have issued, what their compensation has been, and how those loan decisions were made. We need to know that because we are relying on the private banking institutions to make the 7(a) loans in all communities.

We expanded this program to nonprofits. That was a good thing. But we don't know how many of the nonprofits have received help under this program—the specific dollar amounts, the specific loans, the specific locations.

Here is the challenge. I got a call yesterday where they wanted to expand eligibility under this program. We know there are some difficulties in the programs themselves that need attention. There is now a desire to expand eligibility. They are also being asked what comes next.

Restaurants are still ordered to be closed in my State. They are going to need additional help. How do we go about crafting what we need to do if we don't know what has been done already?

We have been asking for this information over and over again. We haven't been able to get it. It is our responsibility to oversight these programs.

Now I am quoting from my chairman. He said—and I agree with him—it is our responsibility to oversight. But if we don't have the information, how can we oversight? I am concerned about underbanked and underserved communities getting their fair share of this help, and yet we don't have the specifics on the number of minority small businesses, the number of women-owned small businesses, the number of veteran-owned small businesses. We don't know about rural small businesses and how well they have done.

We need to have that information in order to make the next judgments in this Congress. And yes, we do need transparency because we have even heard from this administration that there may very well have been small businesses that didn't qualify for this loan that have gotten help or had their own ability to handle this crisis but yet still asked the government for these funds or may have violated the size standards that are in this legislation.

We need to have that transparency for oversight. It is our responsibility. That is why we do need to act as a Senate. The legislation that we are going to bring forward is very common sense. It just tells the Small Business Administration to make available the information on the PPP loans, on the EIDL loans and grants, so that we can analyze this, know how these loans have been made and make the proper oversight and adjustment that we may need to make in these programs in order to make sure small businesses get through COVID-19.

I urge my colleagues, let's get this done and continue to work in a bipartisan way to make sure small businesses in this country are protected.

I see Senator SHAHEEN is on the floor. I will yield the floor so Senator SHAHEEN can be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I am pleased to be able to join my colleague Senator CARDIN, who is the ranking member on the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, as well as Minority Leader SCHUMER. I am pleased that the chairman of the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, Senator RUBIO, is also here because Senator CARDIN, Senator RUBIO, Senator COLLINS, and I all worked on the Paycheck Protection Program and the small business provisions that are in the CARES package that we passed over 5 weeks ago. I am proud of our efforts to negotiate in a bipartisan way to help small businesses get through this crisis.

Not only did we pass, in that first CARES package, \$350 billion to help small business, but just a couple of weeks ago, Congress also came together to pass an additional \$370 billion

for the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program.

Our intent in passing that legislation was to deliver relief to small businesses that are truly hurting. Small businesses are the lifeblood of this economy nationally, really, and certainly in New Hampshire, where 99 percent of our businesses are considered small businesses. They employ over 50 percent of the New Hampshire workforce.

In New Hampshire, 20,000 small businesses and nonprofits have received over \$2.5 billion in low-interest, forgivable loans under the Paycheck Protection Program. There have been challenges. We have heard some of those stories from small businesses that weren't able to access this assistance because some larger businesses got into the queue ahead of them—some of those large, publicly traded companies that had a relationship with their lender, and so they were able to get in early. We need information if we are going to correct the things that haven't been working about this program. That is why the legislation that Senator CARDIN, Senator SCHUMER, and I are introducing, I think, would be so helpful.

The Trump administration and Congress need to be held accountable for implementation of these programs. In order to do that, we have to have oversight, as Senator CARDIN said. Transparency is fundamental. We need to ensure that assistance is going to the small businesses and nonprofits that need it most.

Senator CARDIN listed off a number of those companies: the women-owned companies, minority-owned companies. We also need to think about those businesses that have fewer than 10 employees—those mom-and-pop shops that really need help, that may not have as long a relationship with their lender or may not have any relationship with a lender.

All we are asking for today is a measure that would provide the bare minimum that this administration should provide to ensure that these programs are functioning as Congress intended.

This is commonsense legislation. All it would do is require the Small Business Administration to provide daily reporting on PPP and EIDL loans, to provide more detailed weekly reports on these programs, and to make this information publicly available, while at the same time protecting borrower and participant privacy.

We have heard the horror stories about problems with this program. There have also been a lot of success stories. But the public isn't going to know both sides of that unless there is reporting and transparency so that people know what is working and what is not working.

The bill would also ensure that PPP and EIDL funds are reaching underserved and underbanked borrowers. It would establish an early warning sys-

tem for the SBA and for Congress so we can figure out how to respond to things that aren't working and when we are expecting an additional funding shortfall.

These proposals shouldn't be controversial. These are all things that I have heard people on both sides of the aisle talking about supporting. What they will do is allow Congress to perform our basic oversight responsibilities and foster public confidence in the integrity of these programs. And perhaps, most important, these improvements will help make sure that the limited resources that are available are getting to the small businesses that need them the most.

I yield the floor.

Mr. SCHUMER. I want to thank my colleagues not only for their eloquent remarks but their hard work. We know that Senator RUBIO has a 2:30 appointment so Senator BLUMENTHAL has graciously agreed to speak after we ask our unanimous consent request.

As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of a bill that is at the desk that would require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on COVID-19 recovery small business programs; I further ask that the bill be considered read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Reserving the right to object, let me first begin by saying that this is the first time I had a chance to speak on the floor about the Paycheck Protection Program since it passed. I want to say this unequivocally. Despite everything you read out there, in my mind, I don't think there is any question that by far this has been the most successful part of the CARES Act.

To put it in perspective, this was something we worked on in a bipartisan way. In less than a week, it was crafted, and then the agencies had less than 6 days to put together the rules.

Until Friday, April 4, no bank in America had ever made a PPP loan; no one had ever applied for one; and the SBA had never approved one. It was a massive program. We looked at the results. They are stunning—the results that we have seen.

Does the program have problems? Sure. I think any time that you create something that spends \$500 billion, \$600 billion that reaches over 50 percent of the U.S. economy and put it together so quickly, there are going to be unintended consequences. I will come back to that point in a moment. I think the biggest problem this program has had from the very beginning, which created some of these tensions that we read about in the press, is that it was underfunded from the very beginning. I mean, the demand was greater than the

supply, even potentially right now after the second round.

We have heard the reports about publicly traded companies. We all know how we feel about that, and I am glad that is being addressed now. I also want to put it in perspective. They have taken 0.35 percent of the funds that were approved—not 35 percent, not 3.5 percent, 0.35 percent of the money that has been lent.

It is not like they took half the money, which is what the perception is that has been created in the coverage. Meanwhile, that means the rest of it went to somebody who is not publicly traded. That is an extraordinary achievement, nonetheless, and I am glad that is being looked at.

On transparency, they are all valid points. Myself—Friday, Saturday—I was really upset that we weren't getting those numbers. The reason why I want the numbers is, A, we want to make sure this program that we put our names on and worked hard on—all of us have—is reaching its intended audience and, B, the points that were made here as well, to the extent that changes have to be in any future funding, we want to make sure that future funding is targeted in the right way. The problem is—I was as upset as anybody.

I hope that the agencies are watching these proceedings now and understanding why it is so important that our Members have accurate details and regular information about how this program is rolling out.

What we do know, when they finally released numbers on Saturday, is that in round 2, the average loan went from \$206,000 in round 1 to \$76,000 or so in round 2. That is a stunning drop. It tells you it is reaching smaller business.

We know that 72 percent of loans made in round 2 were under \$50,000, and 85 percent were under \$100,000. We do know that 4,400 of the 5,200 lenders in the program—or 5,400 lenders in the program have less than \$1 billion in assets. We know it is reaching the regional banks, the smaller banks, the credit unions.

The reason why doing what is being proposed now will be problematic is twofold. The first is, some of the demographic data that is being asked is not on the application. It is not even clear that they would be able to produce that for us unless they stopped the process, created a new application, and then began the process as well.

We will know the answer to that question in the forgiveness phase. I do believe in the forgiveness phase it is very valid to ask that information on demographics be included in the forgiveness application that people are going to have to file.

I think the best path forward is, in my view, not to pass something like this today, although something like this may be necessary if we can't get these numbers. But let's find out, first and foremost, what data points do they

have. What data points does the SBA have at their disposal and see if we can get them to do what they should be doing already, which is producing it on a regular—maybe not on a daily basis. What I don't want to see is an already overburdened agency that is small to begin with and struggling to get all these programs running having to pull people off getting people money to fill out this information.

We have to understand that in the end, it is not the Administrator or the Treasury Secretary who will have to write these things up and collect it. It is going to be people who, in many cases, are working from home, living in this region under all the restrictions that are there.

I think this agency is already struggling to manage this massive program, and to add an additional requirement without thinking it through would have an unintended consequence of potentially slowing the program down.

It is my view that we are going to find out all of this information, and we are going to know it in a timely fashion so we can do something about it. I do not believe that passing this today is the right approach, given the fact that we first need to know what data they have at their disposal before we can ask them to produce it. Otherwise, I fear they are going to stop or they are going to slow down, and real businesses, small businesses, and not-for-profits will be delayed. I will object to this request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. I want to thank my colleague from Florida. I believe he is sincere and has the best of intentions to want to make this program work.

I want to make two quick points. The first point is, the more data we have and the sooner we have it, the better we can make the program. It will not slow it down. It will improve it and make it better—the sooner the better.

Second, about demographic information, I understand the problem, but there are a lot of ways to skin that cat. If we looked at ZIP Codes, we might very easily be able to tell demographic information.

I thank my colleague. I regret that we cannot move this legislation—the only COVID legislation that will be talked about on the floor thus far, even though we were asked by the majority leader to come back during the crisis, and I hope we can move forward quickly in the future to get the kind of information we need.

With that I yield the floor. I yield to the Senator from Connecticut.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I thank my colleagues Senator CARDIN, Senator SHAHEEN, and Senator SCHUMER for their leadership on this issue of seeking better transparency and oversight with regard to a program that involves now almost a trillion tax-

payer dollars. I also join Senator SCHUMER in the sentiment that our colleague from Florida has been both sincere and bipartisan in his efforts on this program.

The fact is that this program, the Paycheck Protection Program, cries out for stronger oversight as does the entire CARES package. We will now be spending an authorized \$3 trillion—the Federal budget and then half again—with little or no oversight. Yet we know that this program meets a need among small businesses that is absolutely critical. I have traveled my State via video conference and have had telephone calls and communications of all kinds with small businesses around Connecticut, and I have seen and heard firsthand how they are hanging by a thread—struggling to keep their doors open and stay alive. This program gives them a lifeline.

It has, in fact, provided many powerful success stories, as my colleague Senator SHAHEEN said, but it has also produced some horror stories about big customers of big banks who have received favored treatment to the detriment of the smaller businesses that were supposed to have been the beneficiaries of this program. We need to make sure that these funds go to the small businesses, which really need it, and we should make sure that this program is adequately and effectively administered. We need to make sure there is transparency and disclosure about who is receiving these loans that can be converted and forgiven so that they can become grants and so that the real needs of those businesses can be met and their employees can continue to be employed. Those kinds of imperatives we must assure.

We know that the ripple effect of the closures of these businesses is tragic and traumatic. That is why we need to continue this program, but we need to do so with the oversight that assures that its purposes are met. For the businesses that have told me, for example, that they need more flexibility, those needs need to be met. Numbers of them have indicated they would like to extend the time provided to them to hire back their employees past the time in which the State is likely to allow them to open. They also need more funding for fixed costs. Basically, they need some flexibility because every business is different, and the oversight in this bill will help to alert the SBA and Congress to those needs.

Finally, the oversight needed here is simply one example of the accountability that should be imposed on the entire CARES Act. Real accountability demands a watchdog, not a lap dog, in order to stop the waste, fraud, and favoritism that seems all too common in this administration. That is why I have been working with my colleagues—most prominently, Senator WARREN—in the strengthening of the oversight of programs created by the CARES Act during this pandemic. We need to make sure there is effective enforcement and

a hammer, which will be essential to deter wrongdoing, preserve resources, and conserve credibility.

Strong scrutiny is required to make sure that aid reaches the right hands. I know that all of us believe, for example, that conflicts of interest should be barred; that retaliation against whistleblowers should be prevented; and that the firing of the inspector general without just cause should be stopped, which means keeping an eye on these programs—not just a wandering eye but one of focused, strict scrutiny that will assure transparency and make sure this program serves the needs it was intended to.

The only people who feel threatened by that kind of oversight are the ones who are trying to game the system or hide something. The rest of us, which means the workers, their families, and small businesses, demand oversight. This bill is a good way to begin. It is a start, not a finish, to the task of the oversight ahead of us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, when it comes to the virus pandemic that faces the world, the World Health Organization is not serving its member nations the way it should. The World Health Organization's mission is to promote worldwide health, to reduce the burdens of disease and poverty, and to provide access to healthcare, especially for the world's most vulnerable populations. The World Health Organization states as its guiding principle that all people should enjoy the highest standard of health regardless of race, religion, economics, social condition, or political belief. It serves primarily as a coordinating body to share information and best practices by connecting experts in different countries.

The virus that emerged in Wuhan, China, which has caused the disease now known as COVID-19, has had a devastating impact on the health of people worldwide as well as the global economy. Nations, including the United States, have been scrambling to deal with the impact of the virus since the beginning of the year. Without a doubt, worldwide efforts to combat COVID-19 would have been greatly benefited from independent, unbiased, and informative data from the world's leader in health, the World Health Organization. Unfortunately, information coming from this organization since the beginning of the year has left much to be desired in its often providing information that we know now to be inaccurate or at least incomplete. The American people and the citizens of every country—all of whom rely on direct and truthful information—deserve better from Dr. Tedros and his team who lead the World Health Organization.

China, which is where the current crisis began, has not done its part either in its seeking of or in providing that very crucial information that, had

it come out sooner, would have saved many lives. As an example of China's not cooperating, a doctor in Wuhan, China, by the name of Dr. Li Wenliang, raised concerns about the growing pandemic in early January. Dr. Li tried to blow the whistle on the spread of one of the world's deadliest diseases. Do you know what he got for doing that? He was punished by the Communist Chinese Government for "spreading rumors."

Tragically, Dr. Li passed away in early February due to this virus, COVID-19. After the death of Dr. Li, he actually became a rallying point for Chinese citizens who were very upset about their government's coverup of this virus. Only then, after he died and after the public outcry, did the Chinese Government apologize to his family and posthumously drop Dr. Li's reprimand. Throughout this time, the World Health Organization demonstrated no interest in the accurate and verifiable information on the true dangers of this virus.

We now know that, in late December 2019, Taiwanese officials sounded the alarm directly to the World Health Organization about the human-to-human transmission of the virus. Prior to that, it was only thought there was an animal-to-human transmission, but Taiwanese officials blew the whistle. The Taiwan Centers for Disease Control sent an email to the World Health Organization—an email that has now been forwarded to my office and has been widely reported. It warned of "at least seven atypical pneumonia cases in Wuhan, China." Additionally, this email communication noted that those individuals had been isolated for treatment, which we now know is said to be the standard operating procedure for preventing human-to-human transmission, but still, at that time, it was considered to be animal to human.

Taken together, this information should have been very much a red flag to the World Health Organization's leadership that the virus was capable of having human-to-human transmission. Unfortunately, the World Health Organization chose to ignore these warnings and, thus, failed to pass on this critical information to other countries. Instead, what did the World Health Organization do? It was complicit in the Chinese Government's coverup. It stated the opposite—that there was not human-to-human transmission. In fact, the World Health Organization even retweeted Chinese propaganda on January 14—that there was "no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission," which is contrary to the information that the World Health Organization got from the Taiwanese.

It ought to be very clear that misleading the public like this is simply egregious. By sidelining Taiwan's participation, which has one of the lowest known COVID-19 infection rates per capita, despite its proximity to Mainland China, the World Health Organiza-

tion stymied information about a more effective response to the pandemic. It was during these critical days back in January when the spread of the virus could have been greatly slowed or even contained and could have saved a lot of lives.

The World Health Organization's mandate is to coordinate responses and facilitate information sharing to all of its members on a health emergency—members which include probably almost every country on this globe. This gross mishandling of the organization's most important mandate has cost countless lives around the world.

While China covered up the extent of the virus's spread, the World Health Organization continued to praise China for its so-called proactive response and transparency. General Secretary Xi waited a crucial 6 days, until January 20, before announcing the findings by China's National Health Commission about the danger of the widespread human-to-human coronavirus contagion. Now, just think for a while of the time lost between Taiwan's warning to the World Health Organization in late December 2019 and General Secretary Xi's admitting on January 20 of its human-to-human transmission. That time lost could have saved the whole world thousands of lives because they could have been on top of the situation as to how bad it was, which was much more than anybody knew at that particular time.

General Secretary Xi's government also delayed an access request for the World Health Organization's experts to visit affected regions at the end of January by almost 2 weeks—another 2 weeks lost. He has also continually fed disinformation to foreign citizens via several misleading tweets by his foreign ministry and multiple unfounded claims that have been posted on state-run media websites.

Despite this and also other evidence that China actively silenced whistleblowers and doctors domestically and that the Communist Party's officials were aware of the spread well before reporting it, the World Health Organization's officials continued to praise China's response and transparency. The World Health Organization lauded China for releasing the virus's genome in mid-January while it neglected to mention that it took China at least 14 days to do this even as the virus continued to spread across Europe and reach America.

Dr. Tedros said in early February that there was no need for measures that unnecessarily interfered with international travel and trade in trying to halt the spread of that coronavirus. Now, early February was a few days after President Trump stopped travel from China except for American citizens who were coming home. Yet, during that period of time, Dr. Tedros thought it was unnecessary to interfere with international travel.

Time and again, the World Health Organization endorsed and also repeated

Chinese Government talking points, and it did it all to the rest of the world's detriment. We now know that there was a continued flow of misinformation that came from the Chinese Government since the onset of the pandemic with there being little to no pushback from the World Health Organization as to whether that information was accurate.

In mid-February, officials from the World Health Organization—yet again, uncritically—parroted Chinese Government propaganda by stating that there were signs that confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19 had declined in China. The U.S. intelligence community has, in fact, asserted that China misrepresented both the number of cases and its death toll from the virus, concealing the real extent of the outbreak in its country, and that China intentionally hid or even destroyed evidence of the virus' outbreak.

In a dossier that was leaked to the Australian Daily Telegraph, it is alleged that China began censoring information as early as December 31, 2019—precisely when Taiwan, in its caring about the whole world as it knew what might be going on, was sounding that alarm to the World Health Organization.

Previously, Chinese leaders came under incredible scrutiny by the World Health Organization back in 2003 for the SARS outbreak. China was not transparent with SARS, just like they weren't transparent until too late in regard to this virus pandemic that we are fighting today. Back then, the Chinese Government made sure that information regarding the outbreak was not made public. At that point, the World Health Organization did what they are responsible for doing: They publicly reprimanded China back in 2003 on the SARS outbreak. Chinese leaders then quickly fell in line with the rest of the world in sharing its data with the World Health Organization member countries. If the World Health Organization had been doing its job on this pandemic, then maybe China would have been quicker admitting that its spread was human-to-human and how bad it was even in their own country.

However, we are seeing a very different approach now to the organization's handling of China's information suppression campaign, with the World Health Organization often praising China for its information sharing, but make no mistake, China has been nothing but deceptive in its handling of COVID-19.

We must remember that China has a long history of not being transparent with respect to the outbreaks of viruses, and there is little to no evidence suggesting we should start believing China now—meaning, of course, the Chinese Communist leaders. Nobody in this world is going to hold the Chinese people responsible for this.

Global leaders are now coming to realize that China is responsible for this pandemic, with global sentiment

against the Chinese Communist Party at its highest since the 1999 Tiananmen Square crackdown.

It is important that world leaders, including President Trump, keep pressure on China to finally be transparent with its data so we can join together in combating this deadly disease. We have a report from the Department of Homeland Security that says that China “intentionally concealed the severity” of the pandemic from the world. To make matters worse, the report further states that while China continues to downplay the pandemic, it began to increase imports and decrease exports of medical supplies. This report from the Department of Homeland Security suggests that China was beginning to hoard these medical supplies from the rest of the world. So they knew how bad this was in their own country. Secretary Pompeo recently stated that there is a significant amount of evidence that this virus came from the laboratory in Wuhan, China, contrary to what Chinese Communist Party propagandists have been pushing throughout the world.

On April 9, I wrote to the World Health Organization seeking answers to several questions regarding the organization’s handling of COVID-19. I wanted to know what the World Health Organization knew and when they knew it. I asked that my questions be answered no later than May 1. Much to my dismay, the World Health Organization has refused to answer my questions about its handling of the virus. It would seem that the organization is much more focused on covering for China than it is in answering questions that every single American has a right to know.

Not only does the United States have the right to know this information for the benefit of the world, because transparency brings accountability, but because we give about \$400 million a year to support the World Health Organization. I believe we are the largest contributor to it, and I believe China gives about 10 percent of what the U.S. taxpayers put in. I want to state that I will continue to push the World Health Organization for answers. There are probably a lot more questions that ought to be asked in addition to the questions in my letter.

Ultimately, the primary responsibility for this pandemic lies with the Chinese Communist Government authorities who actively concealed the outbreak since the fall of 2019 and suppressed the spread of accurate information about the virus, but the World Health Organization also bears responsibility for aiding and abetting the Chinese Communist Party’s coverup. That is why I support a full congressional investigation into how the World Health Organization has bowed to Chinese pressure with the COVID-19 outbreak. The leaders of the World Health Organization need to be held accountable for their role in promoting misinformation and helping China cover up this

global pandemic. Americans deserve to know what the World Health Organization leaders knew and when they knew it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today as the Senate returns to help the country recover from coronavirus. This global pandemic is hopefully a once-in-a-lifetime, once-in-a-century shock, but it has been an earthquake that continues to shake the world to its core. Tragically, we have lost tens of thousands of Americans to the disease, and our hearts and prayers go out to each of those impacted and all of their loved ones.

More than 30 million Americans have lost their jobs in the last 6 weeks due to the virus and the State lockdowns that have been put in place as a result of the virus. People want and need to get back to work as soon as possible. It is vital we reopen America smartly and safely and we do it as soon as we can.

Many States are starting to open. Wyoming did this past Friday. We must all be prepared and alert for any likely aftershocks that will occur from the virus.

The economy could not reopen had it not been for the major medical progress we have been experiencing. Our heroic nurses, doctors, and others on the frontlines have saved many lives. Testing in the United States has been dramatically expanded, and we are producing promising treatments. The American people deserve a lot of credit for their tremendous sacrifices to contain the spread of the virus. Everyone in my home State of Wyoming is suffering from the economic fallout, as are Americans all across the country. The best way to help these people is to push the start button on the economy.

The Senate is in session and will consider taking targeted temporary and bipartisan relief measures. We are now assessing the relief money that has already been spent. We know what has worked—the Paycheck Protection Program funds that go to mom-and-pop organizations that are part of the CARES Act has saved 30 million jobs. Small business is the backbone of our economy, the engine of job creation. In Wyoming, the program has been very successful and very popular. Before the pandemic, the United States had record job growth and record low unemployment. Our economy will bounce back, there is no question in my mind.

As we look to the future, in terms of recovery legislation, what we need to do is to prevent a second epidemic. I am very concerned that the second epidemic will be that of frivolous coronavirus lawsuits. Any future legislation must focus on the virus and must include reasonable liability protections for the hard-hit healthcare workers and for American employers.

Opportunistic lawyers are already advertising, and they are targeting the healthcare workers and small businesses that we have assisted during the crisis. Ironically, the relief money could end up lining the pockets of greedy trial lawyers.

As businesses bravely begin to reopen, class action lawsuits are being planned nationwide. Ambulance chasers are running recruitment ads right now that read “receive a free coronavirus lawsuit review.” They go on to say: Call if you or a loved one has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and you believe another party’s negligence caused the exposure.

Nursing homes appear to be the prime target. One lawyer who described himself as a “coronavirus exposure lawyer” encouraged action for nursing home negligence. That is why nurses, doctors, and hospitals are counting on Congress to pass commonsense liability reform.

Yet Speaker PELOSI and Senator SCHUMER say they oppose this critical liability protection. Instead, Democrats are demanding more aid for States and local governments. They want American taxpayers to bail out States with long histories of financial mismanagement. That is already on top of the \$150 billion that the States have just received within the last 2 weeks. NANCY PELOSI now wants a lot, lot more.

We put the full force of the American Government in this fight against the coronavirus. We cannot afford to allow an avalanche of abusive lawsuits to crush our awakening economy. Republicans will insist on a legal shield for essential workers and for businesses before spending another dime. It is our job to do everything that we can to get people back to work and back to work safely.

The physical and economic health of our country is at stake today. We are continuing to deliver financial support plus medical help to all people across the country. One thing is clear: trial lawyers should not profit from our Nation’s pain. Together, America will come back and Americans will come back and it will be stronger and better than ever.

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.

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

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

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, we are here in the U.S. Senate on this Tuesday. We had a vote yesterday evening, the first that we have had in some 6 weeks here. As I walked over to the Chamber just now from the Hart Building, at 4 o’clock on a Tuesday afternoon, the only individuals whom I saw were the extraordinary men and

women of the Capitol Police here in the building.

Suffice it to say, these are strange, unusual, challenging, and difficult times as we face the COVID-19 pandemic and as we address the challenges that our constituents, our friends, and our families are dealing with at home, whether it be the impact of the virus itself on our health and our health facilities or whether it be the impact—truly, the economic devastation—that we are seeing in all corners of the Nation.

So the opportunity to be together as a body to address these challenges is important. It is challenging for us as we adapt to this time and this situation of wearing protective masks, of being separated from one another, of teleworking as we are. We are adapting. We are facing that challenge. We rightly must be doing this because, as the Nation deals with these matters related to the COVID-19, there are other matters that are taking place every day—issues that need to be addressed, problems that must be tackled, and matters of governance that we must be engaged in.

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

Madam President, I woke up this morning and looked at my little news caps with which to focus on the day, this Tuesday, and they noted that today is Teacher Appreciation Day. We thank all of our teachers. Our teachers are certainly in an unusual situation now, as all of our students are. It is also Cinco de Mayo. It is also Giving Tuesday. For many, it feels like Groundhog Day every day because of, again, this strange time in which we are living. For so many, it just seems that every day is more and more of the same.

Today, May 5, is also a day that we have recognized for several years now as being the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It is a matter that I would like to speak briefly to this afternoon. I recognize the devastation that so many families have seen when it comes to those they love who have gone missing or who have been found murdered, and I recognize the dark reality that many, we know, are still missing.

Unfortunately, for far too long, there has been silence on this issue. There has been a failure to act in the face of what we know and sometimes in the not knowing of what we are dealing with because we haven't asked the questions, which is equally problematic. It tears at my heart to hear the stories of those whom I have come in contact with in Alaska—a woman's story, a family's story—in that their words have been discounted. They have been dismissed because the woman who went missing or the woman who was murdered was a Native American woman.

We have to change that. We cannot accept that. We cannot let the statis-

tics that have really just been allowed to accumulate for too long to remain as statistics. Every single one of these women was her own person, each story her own life story, each a member of her community. In addition to their being someone's lost daughters, wives, mothers, sisters, we should mourn the promise that these missing and murdered women meant to our communities—their being the next generations of mentors, role models, and changemakers.

When women are murdered or abducted, when women are trafficked—when individuals are left missing, discarded, or discounted—there is an injustice that is being done, and we cannot let that continue. By raising awareness of the epidemic, by giving these women their faces, their names, and by telling their stories, we are shining a light on a problem, and we are giving hope.

I acknowledge the work of a former colleague of mine here in the Senate, Senator Heidi Heitkamp, who came to this floor often as a strong, strong advocate for those Native women who have been dismissed and discounted. She shared pictures, gave names, and went beyond the statistics. She reminded me—encouraged me—that this is an effort that, together, we must address.

Unfortunately, we all have the stories—the stories that sicken you and just literally break your heart. The one that, perhaps, touches me most immediately and directly is the life of Ashley Johnson Barr. She was a beautiful 10-year-old girl who was taken from the children's playground in her hometown of Kotzebue, AK, which is a Native village on the northwest coast. She was brutally raped and murdered. Again, she was taken from the kids' playground to just outside her town. Her death and the tragedy around the circumstances of how she left the world are still open. It is still raw and has left a permanent scar on Alaskan communities.

What happened to Ashley is a reminder that, in my State, unfortunately, there is a darkness that is still, to this day, very, very hard to talk about, but we must. We have to talk about it. We have to act on it. We cannot turn a blind eye simply because it is difficult to talk about. We have to because we are seeing the stories that represent these statistics in unprecedented proportions. Let me give you some numbers to just put that into perspective.

Alaska Native women are 2½ times more likely to be victims of domestic violence. In Tribal villages and Native communities, domestic violence rates are up to 10 times higher than in the rest of the Nation. In 2015, it was estimated that 40 percent of sex-trafficking victims were Native Americans. Almost 40 percent of those who have been trafficked have been Native Americans. The rate of sexual violence victimization among Alaska's Native

women is at least seven times greater than of non-Native females.

Again, I will just say these are unprecedented proportions. So, when we designate a day as a day of awareness—an awareness of those who have gone missing and who have been murdered as being indigenous women and girls—it has to be about more than awareness. It has to be about action. This is where Senator CORTEZ MASTO and I have picked up on this work. She and I have worked together on several pieces of legislation that have helped to pave the way for greater collaboration and data collection between Federal agencies—our law enforcement and elected Tribal officials—to not only understand the extent of the issues but to develop methods with which to end these horrible crimes.

There are two bills. The first one is Savanna's Act. It combats the epidemic of murdered and missing Native women and girls by improving the Federal Government's response in addressing the crisis. We do this through the coordination among all levels of law enforcement by increasing data collection and information sharing and by empowering Tribal governments with the resources they need in the cases involving missing or murdered indigenous women and girls wherever they may occur.

The second piece of legislation is called the Not Invisible Act. It is aimed at addressing the crisis of missing, murdered, and trafficked Native women by engaging law enforcement, Tribal leaders, Federal partners, and service providers and by improving the coordination across the Federal agencies. The more we have reviewed this, we have learned that so much of the data is lacking. We have gaps. We just haven't been able to get the data that we need in order to do a better job of coordinating with our agencies.

The good news from all of this is that both of these bills have passed this body, and I thank my colleagues here in the Senate for their support of the measures. We advanced them unanimously on March 11, which was just a little while before we left to deal with the COVID pandemic. I truly want to thank the Senate for helping to prioritize these measures to protect indigenous women.

In addition to these measures that we have passed in the Senate, we have done more on the appropriations side. We have worked through the committees, and for the first time in the appropriations bill that President Trump signed in December, there was funding specifically directed to address the crisis of missing, murdered, and trafficked indigenous women—\$6.5 million included for the BIA to take a really comprehensive look at the issue across BIA and IHS, the Indian Health Service.

It covers everything for the funding of cold casework, background checks, equipment needs, training, and a directive to the IHS with regard to forensic

training. It also includes language that does more for the coordination and data collection amongst Tribal, local, State, and Federal law enforcement. So that is significant. The Executive order that was issued by the Trump administration late last year was very important in this effort.

I personally acknowledge the good work that Tara Sweeney has done, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. She has pulled together the agency coordination to respond to these cases. She has shown extraordinary heart—real heart—in responding to the calls from Tribes and advocates to address the crisis of missing and murdered Native women. So there has been so much at play that has come together.

What we need now is for the House to act on these legislative measures that we have moved through the Senate so that the President can sign them into law.

I think we recognize that as we are dealing with these matters that are directly related to the day-to-day response to COVID, as we have seen our economies slowed, as we have moved indoors to telework, the work that is required for us to help protect the most vulnerable among us continues. We know that work continues.

As we have worked aggressively across the country and in Alaskan communities to flatten the curve out there as it relates to the coronavirus, we know, unfortunately, that we have seen an uptick in domestic violence. Unfortunately, and truly sadly for so many, the order to shelter in place—“safer at home” is the terminology used in some communities, and safer at home doesn't necessarily mean safe at home for far too many. Shelter in place is not a safe shelter. We are seeing increased calls to police departments during this time, but, interestingly enough, we are not seeing an increase in those who are seeking help or shelter in our women's shelters.

It was just a couple of weeks ago that I had a phone call with representatives from the various women's shelters around my State, with probably a dozen or so women on the line, and I asked specifically: How are we doing in the shelters? What are we seeing? Their numbers are down, and if you look at it from just a numbers perspective, you would say “Good.” But we know that domestic violence doesn't disappear or go away at times like the ones we are facing now; it just goes underground. I think what we are seeing is that concern and fear. As difficult as the situation may be at home, it might be more frightening to go to a shelter where one may be exposed to this invisible threat of the virus.

I wish I could say that, as a consequence of what we are seeing, our shelters are better off, but I fear that those who would seek shelter are not better off. So to make sure we are prepared to address these needs is yet another challenge for us in this body: to come together to address these issues

that we know are with us—not only the levels of domestic violence but the impact that we know is present when it comes to mental and behavioral health, when people are fragile and yet are afraid to seek help because of the exposure to something else. We have work to do in this area, and that is something I intend to focus on in the days and weeks ahead.

I was encouraged to hear my friend, the Senator from Texas, Mr. CORNYN, speaking to just these issues yesterday on the floor. We have much to do. These are challenging times on many different levels.

As we recognize this day of awareness for those who have gone missing—for those women and girls who have been murdered—know that this is more than just raising awareness. It is up to us. We owe it to them, their families, and their loved ones to act as well.

With that, 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 (Mr. CASIDY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for 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.

IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Iowa Safe Schools is holding its 15th annual Iowa Governor's Conference on May 11, this time as a virtual conference, given the circumstances. I understand this has been an annual tradition starting in 2006. It is an effort to help end bullying in our schools and to create leadership opportunities for LGBTQ youth students from not just Iowa but from States across the Midwest. I wish all the participants a successful conference. I hope you have a good time.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING NORTH DAKOTA'S DELEGATES TO THE SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, one of the outstanding programs offered in the U.S. Senate recognizes the best of America's high school juniors and sen-

iors. Since 1963, the U.S. Senate Youth Program has selected two students from each State who rank high academically, excel in leadership and volunteerism, and have a passion for public service. They also receive a \$10,000 college scholarship.

These young delegates have come to Washington, DC, every spring for a week of education and tours highlighting all three branches of government. Unfortunately, like so many other programs and events, this year's trip to Washington was cancelled as our Nation faces the coronavirus threat. This is only the second time in the program's nearly 60 years that the delegates have not gathered in Washington for this memorable week.

As one of the eight Senators serving on the Senate Youth Program's Advisory Committee, I want to congratulate all who were selected to be delegates this year and assure them we share their disappointment they could not be with us this month. I also want to recognize North Dakota's two delegates, Megha Bharadwaj and Rachel Goven.

Megha is a junior at St. Mary's Central High School in Bismarck. Her leadership positions include being the State treasurer for the North Dakota Future Business Leaders of America and a board member and publicity director for AchieveWE. Megha has received top honors participating in school, district, and State competitions in Voices of Democracy, debate, speech, and Science Olympiad. In addition, she reports for her school newspaper, sings in the jazz choir, and speaks at community events. She plans to attend law school and enter the world of politics.

Rachel is a senior at Turtle Lake Mercer High School, where she is the vice president of her senior class and involved in Student Council and National Honor Society. She attended North Dakota Girls State and is a North Dakota rural electric cooperative youth leader. Rachel enjoys band and choir, yearbook, cheerleading, and basketball. In her church, she is a youth band member and camp counselor and is a willing volunteer for other community events.

I congratulate both Megha and Rachel for receiving this honor and welcome them to an alumni group of Senate Youth Program delegates who are 5,500 individuals strong. Many of them have gone on to distinguish themselves in every area of public service, including two of my colleagues, Senator SUSAN COLLINS of Maine and Senator CORY GARDNER of Colorado. I fully expect that I will meet up with Megha and Rachel in the future as they continue to excel in academic and professional arenas throughout their lives.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section

7221(b)(1)(A)(x) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: Mr. TRONE of Maryland.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 7221(b)(1)(A)(x) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: Admiral James Alexander Winnefeld of McLean, Virginia.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Mr. KIND of Wisconsin, Chair.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY) announced that on today, May 5, 2020, he has signed the following enrolled joint resolution, which was previously signed by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BEYER) of the House:

S.J. Res. 68. Joint resolution to direct the removal of the United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, May 5, 2020, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 68. Joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

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-4380. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Mary M. Jackson, United States Navy, and her advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4381. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in Executive Order 13536 on April 12, 2010 with respect to Somalia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4382. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled "Updated Disclosure Requirements and Summary Prospectus for Variable Annuity and Variable Life Insurance Contracts" (RIN3235-AK60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4383. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the Accelerated Filer and Large Accelerated Filer Definitions" (RIN3235-AM41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4384. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Relief for Form ID Filers and Regulation Crowdfunding and Regulation A Issuers Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)" (Release Nos. 33-10768, 34-88492, 39-2531, and IC-33832) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4385. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of 'Covered Clearing Agency'" (RIN3235-AL48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4386. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Securities Offering Reform for Closed-End Investment Companies" (RIN3235-AM31) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 5, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4387. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on discretionary appropriations legislation relative to sec. 251(a) (7) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-4388. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Direct Commercial Sales Authorizations to Foreign Countries and International Organizations for Fiscal Year 2019 as Required by Section 655 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as Amended"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4389. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022 and 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4390. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Within-District Allocations Under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, As Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4391. A communication from the Agency Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2019 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4392. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-259, "Games of Skill Consumer Protection Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4393. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-260, "CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4394. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-261, "Warehousing and Storage Eminent Domain Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4395. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-262, "Office of Resilience and Recovery Establishment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4396. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-263, "Office on Caribbean Affairs Establishment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4397. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-264, "Strengthening Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4398. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-265, "Collective Bargaining Fair Compare Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4399. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-254, "Supporting Essential Workers Unemployment Insurance Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4400. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-255, "Credit Union Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4401. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-256, "Legitimate Theater Sidewalk Cafe Authorization Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4402. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-257, "The National League of American Pen Women Real Property Tax Exemption Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4403. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report

on D.C. Act 23-258, "Freedom Forum, Inc. Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4404. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP); to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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 Mr. PERDUE (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3599. A bill to enhance our Nation's nurse and physician workforce during the COVID-19 crisis by recapturing unused immigrant visas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 3600. A bill to authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to the deliberate concealment or distortion of information about public health emergencies of international concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SASSE:

S. 3601. A bill to prevent States from using or distributing resources during the COVID-19 national emergency in accordance with a State policy that discriminates on the basis of disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3602. A bill to provide loan forgiveness for certain borrowers of Department of Agriculture direct farm loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3603. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 to require the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force to develop a priority list for reducing, mitigating, and controlling invasive species within the South Florida ecosystem, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. REED):

S. 3604. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on COVID-19 recovery small business programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3605. A bill to amend the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 to provide specialty crop block grants to fund State food banks and food access networks; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3606. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Health Force and a Resilience

Force to respond to public health emergencies and meet public health needs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. COONS, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. LOEFFLER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3607. A bill to extend public safety officer death benefits to public safety officers whose death is caused by COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 3608. A bill to amend the CARES Act to provide flexibility in use of funds by States, Indian Tribes, and municipalities; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3609. A bill to ensure that all communities have access to urgently needed COVID-19 testing, treatment, public health information, and relief benefits regardless of immigration status or limited English proficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SASSE):

S. 3610. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to allow health share pools to be deemed an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of offering a group health plan or group health insurance coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3611. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to reduce certain royalties, to amend the CARES Act to limit the provision of assistance to certain businesses, to impose a moratorium on certain oil and natural gas lease sales, the issuance of coal leases, and modifications to certain regulations, to extend certain public comment periods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 3612. A bill to clarify for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that receipt of coronavirus assistance does not affect the tax treatment of ordinary business expenses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 3613. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen existing benefits for certain descendants of veterans exposed to herbicide agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 3614. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to approve State and local plans to partner with small and mid-size restaurants and nonprofit organizations to provide nutritious meals to individuals in need, to waive certain matching fund requirements, and for other purposes; to the Com-

mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental 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. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 557. A resolution recognizing the cultural and historical significance of the Cinco de Mayo holiday; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. Res. 558. A resolution recognizing April 30, 2020, as "El Dia de los Ninos-Celebrating Young Americans"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 559. A resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 696

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 696, a bill to designate the same individual serving as the Chief Nurse Officer of the Public Health Service as the National Nurse for Public Health.

S. 2563

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 2563, a bill to improve laws relating to money laundering, and for other purposes.

S. 2621

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) 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. 2791

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2791, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that sums in the Thrift Savings Fund may not be invested in securities that are listed on certain foreign exchanges, and for other purposes.

S. 2898

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2898, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a full annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers.

S. 3018

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr.

CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3018, a bill to require the United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to oppose assistance by the Bank for any country that exceeds the graduation threshold of the Bank and is of concern with respect to religious freedom.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3176, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 3360

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3360, a bill to establish the National Center for the Advancement of Aviation.

S. 3517

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3517, a bill to increase the ability of nursing facilities to access to telehealth services and obtain technologies to allow virtual visits during the public health emergency relating to an outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and for other purposes.

S. 3538

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3538, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on the reliance by the Department of Defense on imports of certain pharmaceutical products made in part or in whole in certain countries, to establish postmarket reporting requirements for pharmaceuticals, and for other purposes.

S. 3569

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3569, a bill to help small business broadband providers keep customers connected.

S. RES. 509

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the

Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 509, a resolution calling upon the United Nations Security Council to adopt a resolution on Iran that extends the dates by which Annex B restrictions under Resolution 2231 are currently set to expire.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 557—RECOGNIZING THE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 557

Whereas May 5, or "Cinco de Mayo" in Spanish, is celebrated each year as a date of importance by Mexican and Mexican-American communities;

Whereas the Cinco de Mayo holiday commemorates May 5, 1862, the date on which Mexicans defeated the French at the Battle of Puebla, one of the many battles that the Mexican people won in their long and brave fight for independence, freedom, and democracy;

Whereas the victory of Mexico over France at Puebla represented a historic triumph for the Mexican government during the Franco-Mexican war fought between 1861 and 1867 and bolstered the resistance movement;

Whereas the success of Mexico at the Battle of Puebla reinvigorated the spirits of the Mexican people and provided a renewed sense of unity and strength;

Whereas the French army, which had not experienced defeat against any of the finest troops of Europe in more than half a century, sustained a disastrous loss at the hands of an outnumbered and ill-equipped, but highly spirited and courageous, Mexican army;

Whereas the courageous spirit that Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza and his men displayed during that historic battle can never be forgotten;

Whereas, in a larger sense, Cinco de Mayo symbolizes the right of a free people to self-determination, just as Benito Juarez, the president of Mexico during the Battle of Puebla, once said, "El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz", meaning "respect for the rights of others is peace";

Whereas the sacrifice of Mexican fighters was instrumental in keeping Mexico from falling under European domination while, in the United States, the Union Army battled Confederate forces in the Civil War;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder that the foundation of the United States was built by people from many coun-

tries and diverse cultures who were willing to fight and die for freedom;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo also serves as a reminder of the close ties between the people of Mexico and the people of the United States;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo encourages the celebration of a legacy of strong leaders and a sense of vibrancy in communities; and

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder to provide more opportunity for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic struggle of the people of Mexico for independence and freedom, which Cinco de Mayo commemorates; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe Cinco de Mayo with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 558—RECOGNIZING APRIL 30, 2020, AS "EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS—CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS"

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 558

Whereas, each year in the United States, El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans is recognized as a day to affirm and recognize the importance of young children and adolescents in the United States;

Whereas children and adolescents represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States, and the well-being of children and adolescents is emphasized as a top priority in the United States;

Whereas, according to data of the Bureau of the Census, the Hispanic population in the United States is the youngest major racial or ethnic group in the United States, as—

(1) more than 18,100,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents nearly ⅓ of the Hispanic population in the United States, are younger than 18 years of age; and

(2) in 2017, more than 15,600,000 Hispanics in the United States, a group that represents more than ¼ of the Hispanic population in the United States, were individuals between 18 and 34 years of age (commonly referred to as "millennials");

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States continues to grow and is a significant part of the workforce in the United States, and children in that population will be consumers, taxpayers, and voters in the future;

Whereas, as the United States becomes more culturally and ethnically diverse, the people of the United States must strive to bring about cultural understanding and celebrate a tradition that honors all children and adolescents on El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans, a day that acknowledges and shares traditions and customs with all people in the United States;

Whereas parents are at the center of teaching children about family values, morality, life preparation, health, survival, and culture;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition to honor children and adolescents in the United States—

(1) will help affirm the significance of family, education, health, and community among the people of the United States; and

(2) will provide an opportunity for those children and adolescents to reflect on their futures, to articulate their aspirations, to find comfort and security in the support of their family members, communities, and

schools, and to grow to contribute to the United States;

Whereas the National Latino Children's Institute, which serves as an advocate and a voice for young Latino children—

(1) will celebrate its 22nd anniversary in 2020;

(2) has partnered with States and cities throughout the United States since 1998; and

(3) will declare April 30, 2020, as “El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans”, a day to bring communities and Latinos together across the United States to celebrate and uplift children; and

Whereas April 30, 2020, would be an appropriate day to recognize as “El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes April 30, 2020, as “El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans”;

(2) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to nurture and invest in children and adolescents in order to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the free and open exchange of ideas, which are concepts that are essential to the spirit of the United States; and

(B) to celebrate the gifts of children and adolescents and to help them take their rightful place in the future of the United States; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to join with children, families, communities, schools, churches, cities, and States across the United States to observe El Día de los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans with appropriate ceremonies, including activities that—

(A) center on children and are free or of minimal cost so as to facilitate full participation by all people;

(B) uplift and help children positively envision a path to their futures by allowing children to voice their hopes and dreams;

(C) offer opportunities for children of diverse backgrounds to learn about the cultures of one another and to share ideas;

(D) include family members, especially extended and elderly family members, so as to—

(i) promote understanding and communication among generations within families; and

(ii) enable young people to learn from, and respect and benefit from the experiences of, their family elders;

(E) enable diverse communities to build relationships of understanding; and

(F) provide children with safe schools, homes, and communities that give them the long-term support they need to learn, develop, and become confident young adults who are ready and eager to believe in and contribute to the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 559—HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEGACY OF CÉSAR ESTRADA CHÁVEZ

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 559

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was born on March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez spent his early years on a family farm;

Whereas, at the age of 10, César Estrada Chávez joined the thousands of migrant farm workers laboring in fields and vineyards throughout the Southwest after a bank foreclosure resulted in the loss of the family farm;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez, after attending more than 30 elementary and middle schools and achieving an eighth grade education, left school to work full-time as a farm worker to help support his family;

Whereas, at the age of 17, César Estrada Chávez entered the United States Navy and served the United States with distinction for 2 years;

Whereas, in 1948, César Estrada Chávez returned from military service to marry Helen Fabela, whom he had met while working in the vineyards of central California;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez and Helen Fabela had 8 children;

Whereas, as early as 1949, César Estrada Chávez was committed to organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, livable housing, and the outlawing of child labor;

Whereas, in 1952, César Estrada Chávez joined the Community Service Organization, a prominent Latino civil rights group, and worked with the organization to coordinate voter registration drives and conduct campaigns against discrimination in East Los Angeles;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez served as the national director of the Community Service Organization;

Whereas, in 1962, César Estrada Chávez left the Community Service Organization to establish the National Farm Workers Association, which eventually became the United Farm Workers of America;

Whereas, under the leadership of César Estrada Chávez, the United Farm Workers of America organized thousands of migrant farm workers to fight for fair wages, health care coverage, pension benefits, livable housing, and respect;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was a strong believer in the principles of non-violence practiced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez effectively used peaceful tactics that included fasting for 25 days in 1968, 25 days in 1972, and 38 days in 1988 to call attention to the terrible working and living conditions of farm workers in the United States;

Whereas, through his commitment to non-violence, César Estrada Chávez brought dignity and respect to the organized farm workers and became an inspiration to and a resource for individuals engaged in human rights struggles throughout the world;

Whereas the influence of César Estrada Chávez extends far beyond agriculture and provides inspiration for individuals working to better human rights, empower workers, and advance the American Dream, which includes all individuals of the United States;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez died on April 23, 1993, at the age of 66 in San Luis, Arizona, only miles from his birthplace;

Whereas more than 50,000 people attended the funeral services of César Estrada Chávez in Delano, California;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was laid to rest at the headquarters of the United Farm Workers of America, known as “Nuestra Señora de La Paz”, located in the Tehachapi Mountains in Keene, California;

Whereas, since the death of César Estrada Chávez, schools, parks, streets, libraries, and other public facilities, as well as awards and scholarships, have been named in his honor;

Whereas more than 10 States and dozens of communities across the United States honor

the life and legacy of César Estrada Chávez each year on March 31;

Whereas March 31 is recognized as an official State holiday in California, Colorado, and Texas, and there is growing support to designate the birthday of César Estrada Chávez as a national day of service to memorialize his heroism;

Whereas, during his lifetime, César Estrada Chávez was a recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize;

Whereas, on August 8, 1994, César Estrada Chávez was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom;

Whereas, on October 8, 2012, President Barack Obama authorized the Secretary of the Interior to establish a César Estrada Chávez National Monument in Keene, California;

Whereas President Barack Obama was the last President to honor the life and service of César Estrada Chávez by proclaiming March 31, 2016, to be “César Chávez Day” and by asking all people of the United States to observe March 31 with service, community, and education programs to honor the enduring legacy of César Estrada Chávez; and

Whereas the United States should continue the efforts of César Estrada Chávez to ensure equality, justice, and dignity for all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the accomplishments and example of César Estrada Chávez, a great hero of the United States;

(2) pledges to promote the legacy of César Estrada Chávez; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to commemorate the legacy of César Estrada Chávez and to always remember his great rallying cry, “¡Sí, se puede!” which is Spanish for “Yes, we can!”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have 3 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 05, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 05, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 05, 2020, at 10:10 a.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS—AMENDED 4TH QUARTER REPORT FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Shelley Moore Capito:									
Luxembourg	Euro		1,026.00						1,026.00
* Delegation Expenses:									
Luxembourg	Euro						1,775.51		1,775.51
Total			1,026.00				1,775.51		2,801.51

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

RICHARD C. SHELBY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Apr. 24, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM TO JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Paul Grove:									
Burkina Faso	Franc		480.75						480.75
DRC	Franc		1,511.00						1,511.00
Rwanda	Franc		203.00						203.00
United States	Dollar				14,321.45				14,321.45
Laura Friedel:									
Burkina Faso	Franc		480.75						480.75
DRC	Franc		1,511.00						1,511.00
Rwanda	Franc		203.00						203.00
United States	Dollar				14,318.25				14,318.25
Allen Culler:									
India	Rupee		1,776.25						1,776.25
United States	Dollar				10,624.55				10,624.55
Jean Toal Elsen:									
India	Rupee		1,776.25						1,776.25
United States	Dollar				11,255.55				11,255.55
Tim Rieser:									
Haiti	Gourde		472.00						472.00
United States	Dollar				906.65				906.65
Senator Chris Van Hollen:									
Germany	Euro		1,612.67						1,612.67
Paul Grove:									
Afghanistan	Afghani		234.00						234.00
United Arab Emirates	Dirham		187.86						187.86
United States	Dollar				10,652.55				10,652.55
Senator John Boozman:									
Germany	Euro		317.80						317.80
Kuwait	Dinar		722.80						722.80
Uganda	Shilling		255.00						255.00
Ghana	Cedi		327.00						327.00
Spain	Euro		228.71						228.71
Patrick McGuigan:									
Germany	Euro		356.01						356.01
Kuwait	Dinar		722.80						722.80
Uganda	Shilling		255.00						255.00
Ghana	Cedi		327.00						327.00
Spain	Euro		228.71						228.71
Morgan Carter:									
Spain	Euro		1,234.62						1,234.62
Portugal	Euro		865.30						865.30
United States	Dollar				13,619.55				13,619.55
Patrick Carroll:									
Spain	Euro		1,234.62						1,234.62
United States	Dollar				7,414.25				7,414.25
Elizabeth King:									
Spain	Euro		1,234.62						1,234.62
Portugal	Euro		865.30						865.30
United States	Dollar				13,619.55				13,619.55
Dianne Neller:									
Spain	Euro		1,234.62						1,234.62
Portugal	Euro		865.30						865.30
United States	Dollar				13,619.55				13,619.55
Adrienne McCann:									
Spain	Euro		1,234.62						1,234.62
Portugal	Euro		865.30						865.30
United States	Dollar				13,619.55				13,619.55
* Delegation Expenses:									
Burkina Faso	Franc						4.63		4.63
DRC	Franc						388.00		388.00
Rwanda	Franc						1,020.11		1,020.11
* Delegation Expenses:									
Haiti	Gourde						1,061.50		1,061.50
* Delegation Expenses:									
India	Rupee						4,674.44		4,674.44
* Delegation Expenses:									
Germany	Euro						2,633.87		2,633.87
* Delegation Expenses:									
United Arab Emirates	Dirham						514.69		514.69
* Delegation Expenses:									
Germany	Euro						1,712.69		1,712.69
Kuwait	Dinar						527.96		527.96
Uganda	Shilling						611.43		611.43
Ghana	Cedi						357.23		357.23
Spain	Euro						145.19		145.19

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM TO JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Mauritania	Ouguiya						81.08		81.08
* Delegation Expenses:									
Spain	Euro						10,998.55		10,998.55
Portugal	Euro						1,479.17		1,479.17
Total			23,823.66		123,971.45		26,210.54		174,005.65

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

RICHARD C. SHELBY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Apr. 24, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Katherine Sutton:									
United States	Dollar				12,258.93				12,258.93
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		958.08						958.08
Germany	Euro		302.67						302.67
Belgium	Euro		289.17						289.17
Arthur Tellis:									
United States	Dollar				12,236.07				12,236.07
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		751.08						751.08
Germany	Euro		234.67						234.67
Belgium	Euro		177.17						177.17
* Delegation Expenses:									
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling				200.00				200.00
Germany	Euro				369.68				369.68
Belgium	Euro				741.07				741.07
Robert Winkler:									
United States	Dollar				12,031.75				12,031.75
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		357.16						357.16
* Delegation Expenses:									
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling				846.00				846.00
Thomas Goffus:									
United States	Dollar				12,174.01				12,174.01
Germany	Euro		1,286.40						1,286.40
France	Euro		581.10						581.10
Belgium	Euro		701.24						701.24
Italy	Euro		387.30						387.30
Dustin Walker:									
United States	Dollar				13,784.75				13,784.75
Germany	Euro		983.43						983.43
France	Euro		1,469.09						1,469.09
Belgium	Euro		532.31						532.31
Italy	Euro		420.20						420.20
William G.P. Monahan:									
United States	Dollar				12,188.82				12,188.82
Germany	Euro		516.95						516.95
Belgium	Euro		620.02						620.02
* Delegation Expenses:									
Belgium	Euro				1,375.52				1,375.52
Adam Barker:									
United States	Dollar				10,441.25				10,441.25
Chile	Peso		669.00						669.00
Bolivia:	Boliviano		675.95						675.95
Ozge Guzelsu:									
United States	Dollar				10,518.75				10,518.75
Chile	Peso		670.00						670.00
Bolivia	Boliviano		669.95						669.95
* Delegation Expenses:									
Bolivia	Boliviano				77.04		509.16		586.20
Robert Winkler:									
United States	Dollar				16,986.03				16,986.03
Saudi Arabia	Riyal		1,043.67						1,043.67
Kuwait	Dinar		293.75						293.75
Qatar	Riyal		349.59						349.59
Eric Trager:									
United States	Dollar				15,459.61				15,459.61
Saudi Arabia	Riyal		940.18						940.18
Kuwait	Dinar		287.54						287.54
Qatar	Riyal		243.48						243.48
* Delegation Expenses:									
Saudi Arabia	Riyal						75.84		75.84
Kuwait	Dinar						469.41		469.41
Qatar	Riyal				362.64				362.64
Senator Deb Fischer:									
Poland	Zloty		797.98						797.98
Turkey	Lira		832.31						832.31
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		983.23						983.23
Czech Republic	Lira		1,067.79						1,067.79
Joe Hack:									
Poland	Zloty		797.98						797.98
Turkey	Lira		832.31						832.31
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		577.47						577.47
Czech Republic	Koruna		826.09						826.09
* Delegation Expenses:									
Poland	Zloty				415.63		1,108.60		1,524.23
Turkey	Lira				1,161.77		788.52		1,950.29
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling				698.59		418.85		1,117.44
Czech Republic	Koruna				517.99		481.24		999.23
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand:									
Germany	Euro		1,548.49						1,548.49
* Delegation Expenses:									
Germany	Euro				1,321.04		1,201.05		2,522.09
Adam Barker:									
United States	Dollar				27,545.75				27,545.75

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Niger	Franc		251.00						251.00
Mali	Franc		356.47						356.47
France	Euro		544.72						544.72
Mariah Cooper:									
United States	Dollar				27,416.75				27,416.75
Niger	Franc		242.00						242.00
Mali	Franc		384.47						384.47
France	Euro		509.72						509.72
*Delegation Expenses									
Niger	Franc						36.34		36.34
France	Euro				930.00				930.00
Senator Roger Wicker:									
Austria	Euro		1,998.29						1,998.29
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		586.97						586.97
Germany	Euro		2,698.15						2,698.15
Patrick Thompson:									
Austria	Euro		1,998.29						1,998.29
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		586.97						586.97
Germany	Euro		2,698.15						2,698.15
Daniel Tillson:									
Austria	Euro		849.80						849.80
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		568.01						568.01
*Delegation Expenses:									
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling				2,492.96				2,492.96
Germany	Euro					1,350.31			1,350.31
Senator James M. Inhofe:									
Germany	Euro		366.69						366.69
Kuwait	Dinar		623.39						623.39
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		272.00						272.00
Spain	Euro		236.62						236.62
Lucas Holland:									
Germany	Euro		300.21						300.21
Kuwait	Dinar		621.68						621.68
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		272.00						272.00
Spain	Euro		226.98						226.98
John Mark Powers:									
Germany	Euro		312.80						312.80
Kuwait	Dinar		704.45						704.45
Uganda	Shilling		249.96						249.96
Ghana	Cedi		265.26						265.26
Spain	Euro		198.93						198.93
Elizabeth Burke:									
Germany	Euro		300.21						300.21
Kuwait	Dinar		621.68						621.68
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		252.00						252.00
Spain	Euro		226.98						226.98
Anhtony Pankuch:									
United States	Dollar				7,171.55				7,171.55
Germany	Euro		309.71						309.71
Kuwait	Dinar		713.48						713.48
Don Archer:									
Germany	Euro		351.92						351.92
Kuwait	Dinar		621.68						621.68
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		323.00						323.00
Spain	Euro		255.51						255.51
Brian Hackler:									
Germany	Euro		307.21						307.21
Kuwait	Dinar		595.73						595.73
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		272.00						272.00
Spain	Euro		233.62						233.62
Senator Mike Rounds:									
Germany	Euro		300.21						300.21
Kuwait	Dinar		623.39						623.39
Uganda	Shilling		215.06						215.06
Ghana	Cedi		178.52						178.52
Spain	Euro		138.52						138.52
Dan Adelstein:									
Germany	Euro		300.21						300.21
Kuwait	Dinar		621.68						621.68
Uganda	Shilling		211.75						211.75
Ghana	Cedi		138.52						138.52
Spain	Euro		234.40						234.40
Senator Kevin Cramer:									
Germany	Euro		326.16						326.16
Kuwait	Dinar		693.71						693.71
Uganda	Shilling		119.91						119.91
Colby Kuhns:									
Germany	Euro		263.22						263.22
Kuwait	Dinar		613.74						613.74
Uganda	Shilling		271.93						271.93
*Delegation Expenses:									
Germany	Euro				8,392.86				8,392.86
Kuwait	Dinar				2,903.78				2,903.78
Uganda	Shilling				3,362.81				3,362.81
Ghana	Cedi				1,428.96				1,428.96
Spain	Euro				293.37				293.37
Mauritania	Ouguiya				411.65				411.65
Total			55,309.74		218,517.38		6,439.32		280,266.44

*Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

JAMES M. INHOFF,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Thune:									
Czech Republic	Koruna		2,111.37						2,111.37
Poland	Zloty		454.55						454.55
Turkey	Lira		488.48						488.48
United Kingdom	Pound		811.52						811.52
* Delegation Expenses:									
Czech Republic	Koruna						454.19		454.19
Poland	Zloty						762.11		762.11
Turkey	Lira						975.14		975.14
United Kingdom	Pound						507.92		507.92
Daffneel Riedel:									
Czech Republic	Koruna		2,111.36						2,111.36
Poland	Zloty		454.55						454.55
Turkey	Lira		488.48						488.48
United Kingdom	Pound		405.76						405.76
* Delegation Expenses:									
Czech Republic	Koruna						454.19		454.19
Poland	Zloty						762.11		762.11
Turkey	Lira						975.14		975.14
United Kingdom	Pound						507.92		507.92
Jon Abdnor:									
Czech Republic	Koruna		1,869.66						1,869.66
Poland	Zloty		454.55						454.55
Turkey	Lira		488.48						488.48
United Kingdom	Pound		405.76						405.76
* Delegation Expenses:									
Czech Republic	Koruna						454.19		454.19
Poland	Zloty						762.11		762.11
Turkey	Lira						975.14		975.14
United Kingdom	Pound						507.92		507.92
Total			10,544.52				8,098.08		18,642.60

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

ROGER F. WICKER,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,
Apr. 16, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Tristan Abbey:									
United States	Dollar				14,012.05				14,012.05
Japan	Yen		722.39						722.39
Australia	Dollar		793.00						793.00
* Delegation Expenses:									
Japan	Yen						1,075.36		1,075.36
Total			1,515.39		14,012.05		1,075.36		16,602.80

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1997.

LISA MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Mar. 20, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator John Barrasso									
Ukraine	Hryvnia		52.06						52.06
Germany	Euro		1,577.33						1,577.33
United States	Dollar				12,967.95				12,967.95
Senator Ron Johnson									
Ukraine	Hryvnia		52.06						52.06
Germany	Euro		1,115.12						1,115.12
United Kingdom	Pound		792.70						792.70
United States	Dollar				12,301.95				12,301.95
Lydia Westlake									
Ukraine	Hryvnia		52.06						52.06
Germany	Euro		631.84						631.84
United Kingdom	Pound		762.15						762.15
United States	Dollar				9,264.45				9,264.45
Senator Christopher Murphy									
Germany	Euro		1,191.08						1,191.08
United States	Dollar				11,543.85				11,543.85
Jessica Elledge									
Germany	Euro		763.80						763.80
United States	Dollar				11,543.85				11,543.85
* Delegation Expenses									
Ukraine	Hryvnia						19.03		19.03
Germany	Euro						8,530.42		8,530.42
United Kingdom	Pound						2,319.52		2,319.52
Senator Christopher Coons									
Germany	Euro		1,762.67						1,762.67
Senator Jeff Merkley									
Germany	Euro		1,623.66						1,623.66
Senator Robert Menendez									
Germany	Euro		1,504.01						1,504.01

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	Dollar				5,182.45				5,182.45
Sarah Arkin									
Germany	Euro		1,889.73						1,889.73
United States	Dollar				6,728.35				6,728.35
Damian Murphy									
Germany	Euro		1,617.80						1,617.80
Ukraine	Hryvnia		1,234.88						1,234.88
United States	Dollar				3,273.85				3,273.85
Senator Rob Portman									
Germany	Euro		1,598.50						1,598.50
* Delegation Expenses									
Germany	Euro						13,169.34		13,169.34
Ukraine	Hryvnia						262.54		262.54
Senator Mitt Romney									
Germany	Euro		643.89						643.89
United States	Dollar				16,999.76				16,999.76
Megan Reiss									
Germany	Euro		717.91						717.91
United States	Dollar				8,942.00				8,942.00
* Delegation Expenses									
Germany	Dollar						4,784.34		4,784.34
Margaret Dougherty									
Bangladesh	Taka		286.20						286.20
Burma	Kyat		782.00						782.00
United States	Dollar				6,092.45				6,092.45
* Delegation Expenses									
Bangladesh	Taka						3,363.48		3,363.48
Burma	Kyat						827.50		827.50
Heather Flynn									
Ethiopia	Birr		1,275.00						1,275.00
Sudan	Pound		1,547.34						1,547.34
United States	Dollar				7,174.38				7,174.38
* Delegation Expenses									
Sudan	Birr						159.03		159.03
Christopher Socha									
Germany	Euro		716.17						716.17
Belarus	Ruble		428.00						428.00
Georgia	Lari		565.00						565.00
United States	Dollar				9,490.95				9,490.95
Hannah Thoburn									
Germany	Euro		1,653.02						1,653.02
Belarus	Ruble		477.21						477.21
Poland	Zloty		951.27						951.27
United States	Dollar				3,486.15				3,486.15
* Delegation Expenses									
Georgia	Lari						75.00		75.00
Total			28,264.46		124,992.39		33,510.20		186,767.05

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Brian Kennedy									
Mexico	Peso		22.00						22.00
Caroline Bender									
Mexico	Peso		22.00						22.00
Samuel Rodarte									
Mexico	Peso		22.00						22.00
Eric Bursch									
Mexico	Peso		22.00						22.00
* Delegation Expenses:									
Mexico	Peso						948.00		948.00
Matthew Waldrup									
United States	Dollar				13,549.30				13,549.30
Germany	Euro		667.91						667.91
* Delegation Expenses:									
Germany	Euro						1,602.61		1,602.61
Total			755.91		13,549.30		2,550.61		16,855.82

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 5402(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

RON JOHNSON,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs,
Apr. 2, 2020.

May 5, 2020

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S2249

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE ADMEDED FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 31, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Emily Clise	1,216.78	.....	10,228.23	.....	.....	.....	1,216.78 10,228.23
Total	1,216.78	.....	10,228.23	.....	.....	.....	11,445.01

RICHARD BURR,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Jan. 28, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Brian Walsh	1,178.94	.....	6,799.43	.....	.....	.....	1,178.94 6,799.43
Total	1,178.94	.....	6,799.43	.....	.....	.....	7,978.37

RICHARD BURR,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Jacob Barton	798.60	.....	18,433.21	.....	.....	.....	798.60 12,895.85
Jim Catella	578.60	.....	7,082.36	.....	.....	.....	578.60
James Sauls	798.60	.....	5,573.36	.....	.....	.....	798.60
Mike Casey	63.25	.....	9,703.55	.....	.....	.....	63.25
.....	11.62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11.62
Senator Richard Burr	902.34	.....	12,183.85	.....	.....	.....	9,703.55 902.34
Chris Joyner	902.34	.....	10,491.85	.....	.....	.....	12,183.85 902.34
Emily Harding	902.34	.....	10,491.85	.....	.....	.....	10,491.85 902.34
Jacob Barton	335.00	.....	.....	.....	10,491.85 335.00
.....	396.99	.....	396.99
Total	5,226.52	.....	56,101.95	.....	396.99	.....	61,725.46

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

RICHARD BURR,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Jan. 28, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Jacob Barton	679.58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	679.58
.....	603.81	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	603.81
.....	349.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	349.00
.....	10,796.97	.....	.....	.....	10,796.97
.....	75.84	.....	75.84
Jon Estridge	1,613.58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,613.58
.....	9,225.05	.....	.....	.....	9,225.05
.....	1,652.97	.....	1,652.97
Russell Willig	422.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	422.00
.....	565.81	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	565.81
.....	11,867.25	.....	.....	.....	11,867.25
Maria Mahler-Haug	444.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	444.00
.....	565.81	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	565.81
.....	11,904.25	.....	.....	.....	11,904.25
.....	939.55	.....	939.55
Senator Richard Burr	1,936.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,936.37
.....	706.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	706.35
.....	850.48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	850.48
.....	1,047.52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,047.52
Senator Marco Rubio	1,939.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,939.37
.....	706.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	706.35
.....	850.48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	850.48
.....	1,047.52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,047.52
Brian Walsh	1,694.66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,694.66
.....	706.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	706.35
.....	362.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	362.00
.....	641.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	641.76
.....	1,867.65	.....	.....	.....	1,867.65
.....	4,516.47	.....	4,516.47
Jacob Barton	14,691.55	.....	.....	.....	14,691.55

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Jim Catella	14,691.55	.....	.....	.....	14,691.55
Jon Estdige	955.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	955.00
.....	875.22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	875.22
.....	11,044.75	.....	.....	.....	11,044.75
Brett Freedman	955.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	955.00
.....	583.47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	583.47
.....	312.11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	312.11
.....	17,401.65	.....	.....	.....	17,401.65
Chris Howell	955.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	955.00
.....	583.47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	583.47
.....	312.11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	312.11
.....	17,401.65	.....	.....	.....	17,401.65
Total	23,264.18	.....	120,892.32	.....	7,184.83	.....	151,341.33

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RICHARD BURR,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Lindsey Graham:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	1,712.67	.....	1,321.04	.....	.....	.....	3,033.71
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	1,712.67	.....	1,321.04	.....	.....	.....	3,033.71
Alice James:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	2,806.45	.....	1,321.04	.....	.....	.....	4,127.49
Matt Rinkunas:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	1,712.67	.....	1,321.04	.....	.....	.....	3,033.71
Chris Mewett:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	1,712.67	.....	1,321.04	.....	.....	.....	3,033.71
Ukraine	Hryvnia .....	.....	1,347.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,347.00
Delegation Expenses: *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Germany	Euro .....	.....	6,005.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,005.25
Ukraine	Hryvnia .....	.....	262.55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	262.55
Total .....	.....	.....	17,271.93	.....	6,605.20	.....	.....	.....	23,877.13

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Apr. 24, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator John Boozman:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	1,026.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,026.00
Senator Thom Tillis:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	961.91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	961.91
Patrick McGuigan:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	961.91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	961.91
William Bode:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	862.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	862.20
MacKensie McKernan:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	865.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	865.20
Rosie Heiss:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	430.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	430.67
Luxembourg	Euro .....	.....	961.91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	961.91
Delegation Expenses: *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium	Euro .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,482.32	.....	.....	5,482.32
Total .....	.....	.....	8,223.15	.....	.....	5,482.32	.....	.....	13,705.47

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95–384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JERRY MORAN,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Jan. 24, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Jerry Moran:	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Czech Republic	Koruna .....	.....	1,936.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,936.37

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Poland	Zloty		454.55						454.55
Turkey	Lira		488.48						488.48
United Kingdom	Pound		811.52						811.52
Brennen Britton:									
Czech Republic	Koruna		1,694.68						1,694.68
Poland	Zloty		454.55						454.55
Turkey	Lira		488.48						488.48
United Kingdom	Pound		405.76						405.76
Delegation Expenses: *									
Czech Republic	Koruna						908.40		908.40
Poland	Zloty						1,524.22		1,524.22
Turkey	Lira						2,609.54		2,609.54
United Kingdom	Pound						1,015.84		1,015.84
Total			6,734.39				6,058.00		12,792.39

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JERRY MORAN,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Janice Helwig:									
Austria	Euro		22,475.00		13,346.35				35,821.35
Kyle Parker:									
Austria	Euro		1,307.34		1,021.40				2,328.74
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling		586.99						586.99
Total			24,369.33		14,367.75				38,737.08

SENATOR ROGER F. WICKER,
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,
Apr. 23, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), DEMOCRATIC LEADER—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2019

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Gary Myrick:									
Belgium	Euro		480.67						480.67
Luxembourg	Euro		915.40						915.40
Delegation Expenses: *									
Belgium	Euro						913.72		913.72
Luxembourg	Euro						1,246.47		1,246.47
Total			1,396.07				2,160.19		3,556.26

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
Democratic Leader, Apr. 27, 2020.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), DEMOCRATIC LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2020

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Chris Homan:									
United States	Dollar				5,503.57				5,503.57
Tanzania	Dollar		218.54		250.00				468.54
Kenya	Shilling		675.10						675.10
Ghana	Cedi		327.00						327.00
The Gambia	Dalasi		206.01						206.01
Delegation Expenses: *									
Kenya	Shilling						2,811.39		2,811.39
The Gambia	Dalasi						2.34		2.34
Total			1,426.65		5,753.57		2,813.73		9,993.95

* Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
Democratic Leader, Apr. 27, 2020.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 6,
2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 11 a.m., Wednesday, May 6; 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 proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Evanina nomination; further, that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time expire at 2 p.m. in relation to the Evanina nomination; and finally, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 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 5:01 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at 11 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF AARON SHEPLEY

HON. SEAN CASTEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Aaron Shepley. The State of Illinois has lost one of its most capable and dedicated public servants with the tragic death of Crystal Lake's longtime Mayor. In his long service to the community, as both mayor and city council member, a founding member of the drumline group the Crystal Lake Strikers, and dedicated husband and father, Aaron led with quiet humility, approachability, and selflessness.

A resident of Crystal Lake since 1972, Aaron was passionate and unwavering in his advocacy for the city, and eager to work in a unifying and positive manner to assist its residents. In a time when politics more often divides us, Aaron was most professionally proud of the congenial relationships among his fellow council members and the work of the Crystal Lake city staff. He leaves a beautiful legacy of highly competent and unselfish public service that should inspire us all.

In addition to his civic work, Aaron was also a drummer dedicated to supporting aspiring musicians. After learning to play drums for his 40th birthday, Aaron and two friends started Strikers, a drum line for adult percussionists. In the decade since their founding, the Strikers have gained local and national notoriety, and created several educational programs to support the performing arts in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Aaron was the driving force behind the Strikers' Evening of Percussion fundraising event, and in the 11 years of awarding scholarships, the Strikers have provided over \$50,000 to local students.

Aaron Shepley was a class act, and I am grateful to have known and learned from him. I extend my deepest sympathy to Aaron's wife Regan and their daughters Chase and Madison, and the people of Crystal Lake, for this tremendous loss.

TRIBUTE TO ROMEO WATKINS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a faithful, civic-minded man and a dear friend, Romeo Watkins, the father of my long-time Chief of Staff Yelberton Watkins, transitioned from this life on April 30, 2020. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Romeo Watkins was a native of the Ridgewood community of Columbia, South Carolina. He was the third of eight children born to the late Deacon Leroy and Beatrice Harris Watkins. His was a close-knit family, with his ma-

ternal grandmother, Agnes Harris, living next door. She took Romeo and his siblings to her hometown of Bronson, Florida every summer, and played an important role in his upbringing. His maternal aunt, Mrs. Franklin Scott Harris, was very close to her nephew, and he spent many nights in her home across from the Governor's Mansion.

Romeo attended Ridgeway Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School in Columbia. At a young age, he learned the value of hard work. In the mid-1960s, he became a civilian employee at the Fort Jackson U.S. Army training base and continued to work there until his retirement in 1993.

He began barbering as a 10-year old, practicing on his older brother Charles, and later owned and operated a barber shop on North Main Street in Columbia for over 40 years. Ever the entrepreneur, he was also a successful real estate agent. Known for his impeccable taste and style, he was always well dressed.

Those fortunate to know Mr. Watkins knew of his deep Christian faith. He was a life-long member of Ridgewood Baptist Church, joining as a child. A third-generation member, he served for many years on the Church History Committee and was regarded as a historian of the Ridgewood community. While he served in many capacities, his greatest joy at church was his long tenure as Leader of the Jubilee Choir, a role which his father held before him. He was well known throughout the city for his expert knowledge of shape-note singing of common meter hymns.

Mr. Watkins was also an avid golfer. It was on the golf course that we first met many years ago, and we bonded over our love of the sport. He learned to golf as a young caddy on Columbia's segregated golf courses, and he enjoyed playing in golf tournaments across Columbia and throughout the state. He was an annual attendee of my Rudolph Canzater Memorial Classic held each year in Santee, South Carolina, and he also served as a Commissioner of the Eau Claire Youth Baseball League.

Family was always at the center of his life. Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 58 years, Annette Caughman Watkins, and their four children: Quintus (Verdell) Young, Brigitte Watkins Long, Yelberton Romeo Watkins; and Vancito Ethridge Watkins; nine grandchildren: Quintus, Justin, Velicia, Gabrielle, Danielle, Autumn, Alexi, Tori, and Ashlyn; three great-grandchildren: Jamari, Raleigh, and Solomon; and a host of relatives, nieces, nephews, MeadowLake neighbors, and close friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Romeo Watkins. He was a man grounded in faith and family, and no one can leave a greater legacy.

CONGRATULATING DALLAS KRUEGER FOR HIS WIN AT CLASS 1A STATE FINALS FOR WRESTLING AT THE IHSA STATE TOURNAMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dallas Krueger, a senior from Rockridge High School, who won the Illinois High School Association's Class 1A State Finals Wrestling Tournament in the 138 pound weigh class.

At 138 pounds, Dallas pinned his opponent in four minutes and forty seconds to finish 47-0. As a former athlete, I appreciate the fortitude Dallas displayed to achieve his dream of being a state champion and commend him for his efforts and attitude. Dallas is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic, and I am proud to see him represent Taylor Ridge so well throughout the state with his talent and passion.

It is because of student leaders such as Dallas Krueger that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Dallas Krueger on his Class 1A State Finals title in Wrestling.

IN HONOR OF CHERISHED PUBLIC SERVANT, LETTER CARRIER MS. ANGELA SUMMERS—USPS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a cherished public servant of the United States Postal Service (USPS), Ms. Angela Summers.

Tragically, my congressional district, the 7th District of Indiana, recently lost Ms. Angela Summers, a Letter Carrier with the USPS, to gun violence while she was performing her duties on April 28, 2020. Angela joined the Postal Service almost two years ago, and she quickly became a prized employee. Her friends remember her as "fun-loving and bubbly." Her colleagues remember her as a public servant dedicated to customers. In turn her customers remember her not only as their Letter Carrier—but also as their friend, neighbor, and member of the community.

Postal workers are quite often the human face of government in our communities. They walk door-to-door in our neighborhoods, no matter the weather, earning the trust and confidence of our citizens, just as our neighbors earn our trust. Their deliveries not only mean that a highly anticipated package has arrived at your doorstep. Their work also serves as a subtle reminder that the government, composed of vast institutions, can still reach deep

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

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

into our communities to build trust on a human level and perform the work that must be done. The Postal Service—and its dedicated employees—are a testament to the work and value of government.

Each day, thousands of federal employees go out in our communities to work and live a life of service, sometimes facing very real, yet underappreciated risks to their lives. Their hard work and dedication often go unnoticed even though both are indispensable for our country, especially now during the current Covid-19 pandemic. I believe that we must recognize this great, indispensable work and commemorate the lives of America's public servants when the moment arises. And we must recognize those risks and the sacrifices made by our public servants to overcome them.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the life of Ms. Angela Summers, and recognizing the United States Postal Service and the hard work of Letter Carriers in Indianapolis and across the country. Without the service and sacrifice of people like Ms. Summers, the ability of government to carry out critical services would stall and fail. I hope my colleagues will join me and extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Ms. Summers, and to express our most sincere gratitude for her service.

AMERICA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP
DURING COVID-19

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, now, more than ever, America must remain a global leader. We cannot afford to ignore what is happening outside our borders.

As we have learned from the Ebola and Zika crises before, and now the new coronavirus pandemic; infectious disease respects no borders and it has no political ideology.

No matter how successful we are in combating COVID-19 here at home, we will never neutralize the pandemic's threat unless we also fight it abroad.

As Congress continues to address the urgent domestic health and economic crisis, we also must maintain our nation's commitment to providing emergency resources to confront COVID-19 around the world. Such assistance must address both the immediate health crisis and the long-term effects of this pandemic.

Furthermore, the spread of the novel coronavirus has the potential to undo decades of American investments in democracy, health, education, agriculture, and security around the world. Only a robust, comprehensive response from the United States can ensure these investments are not lost and can prevent the exacerbation of second-order intractable social, economic, and political crises in communities ravaged by COVID-19.

As chairman of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP), a bipartisan congressional commission that works to strengthen parliaments in emerging democracies, I have seen first-hand the success of U.S. development assistance programming on the ground. We cannot and should not abandon these

hard-fought development gains or withdraw our leadership and leave our partners in the lurch at this critical time. HDP is organizing virtual round tables with our parliamentary colleagues, starting with Tunisia and Kosovo, to keep up the dialogue and show support.

Combating COVID-19 requires a bold, complex, and comprehensive response that must include coordination with and support for allies, partners, and developing countries, as well as multilateral international institutions, such as the World Health Organization (WHO).

The WHO is at the forefront of conducting vaccine research, distributing resources, and sharing best practices with governments around the world. Whatever criticisms we may have, this is not the time to cut funding to the very organization that may have the largest global impact on combating COVID-19.

The United States has a proud history of global leadership that is rooted in our country's founding purpose and in our strategic interests.

We must build on that legacy and join with our partners at home and abroad to respond to this pandemic. The stakes could hardly be higher.

RECOGNIZING THE YUMA COUNTY
FARM BUREAU'S CENTENNIAL

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, the Yuma County Farm Bureau is celebrating its centennial this year. An article in the Yuma Morning Sun dated January 8, 1920 notified farmers of the upper valley of a meeting at the courthouse to form and organize a farm bureau. The article goes on to say, "It seems that at last the farmers have come to the conclusion that united they stand and divided they fall." A century later, Yuma County Farm Bureau members remain united in their efforts to protect and promote farming and agriculture locally and beyond.

From its beginnings, the Farm Bureau has existed to give members the tools needed for success. That can mean financial expertise, communication skills, advocacy opportunities, training and opportunities to network with and learn from fellow farmers. It all comes together to help farmers stay strong and prosperous.

Yuma County Farm Bureau leaders work with elected officials and government agencies at the county, state, and national level to advocate on behalf of its members to address issues ranging from food safety, air quality, and water. These efforts help ensure agriculture remains a strong and viable industry. In Yuma County, agriculture is the single largest private sector contributor to Yuma County's gross domestic product.

Yuma County Farm Bureau members are also members of the Arizona Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation. This means that the Farm Bureau today is county, state, and national in its scope and influence and provides members with a voice at all levels.

I look forward to Yuma County Farm Bureau's continued work and success as a voice for farmers ensuring a prosperous future for farming.

RECOGNIZING SARAH MCWHIRTER
FOR BEING NAMED "DEPUTY OF
THE YEAR" FOR HER HEROIC
ACTIONS TO SAVE A CITIZEN OF
ROCKFORD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Sarah McWhirter for being named "Deputy of the Year" by the Illinois Sheriff's Association for her heroic actions during an incident in 2018.

Deputy McWhirter is a four-year veteran of the Winnebago County Sheriffs Police and currently serves in the Sheriffs Crime Scene Unit. In August of 2018, Deputy McWhirter went above and beyond the call of duty to save both herself and a citizen from an armed robbery. The robber approached her car and got several shots off, but she pulled her weapon, defended herself, and saved the citizen. I want to thank Deputy McWhirter for her courageous actions during a life-threatening incident and for saving another person's life. Deputy McWhirter is a hero and I commend her actions to protect and save innocent lives.

It is because of leaders such as Deputy McWhirter that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Deputy Sarah McWhirter for being named "Deputy of the Year" by the Illinois Sheriff's Association and recognize her for her heroic actions at a citizen's time of need.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SHELLY
KNAPP

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Shelly Knapp for her years of service to our nation. Her spouse, Colonel Lewis Knapp, is retiring on July 1, 2020 after 26 years of service and Mrs. Knapp's extraordinary service to the Army, Army Reserve, Army Families, Veterans and her community total over 4,500 hours of volunteer service.

From 2015 to 2020 Mrs. Knapp served as the Senior Volunteer Advisor for the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Instructor/Facilitator, and Army Reserve Minuteman ROTC Scholarship Program Coordinator for the 63d Readiness Division, a two-star level Army Reserve Command located in Mountain View, California. She also volunteered in multiple capacities at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Palo Alto, California. In these capacities she volunteered over 1,500 hours as documented in the Army's Volunteer Management Information System.

In her SVA capacity Shelly Knapp advised the 63d RD Commanding General on all Family Program activities. She trained and mentored Family Readiness Group leaders across the command, scheduling and conducting Family Readiness training, organizing and assisting with Family Days for the 63d RD Headquarters and subordinate units. This represents 390 hours volunteered.

Shelly Knapp served as a YRRP Instructor/Facilitator and Army Family Advisory Panel Member where she trained and facilitated courses and seminars, and mentored Army Reserve Soldiers and family members at numerous YRRP events that occurred before, during and after mobilization. This service represents 429 volunteer hours.

Shelly Knapp stepped up to coordinate the 63d RD's Army Reserve Minuteman ROTC Scholarship efforts for deserving USAR Soldiers and high school recipients on behalf of the 63d RD CG. Five candidates were awarded four-year or three-year Army ROTC scholarships. This service represents 236 volunteer hours.

While at the 63d Readiness Division, Mrs. Knapp was selected by Army Reserve Family Programs to attend and obtain certification as a Department of Defense Master Trainer—one of the select few chosen in the Army Reserve. This represents 296 volunteer hours.

Mrs. Knapp is currently employed as a Budget Analyst at the Veterans Administration Palo Alto Cooperative Studies Medical Research Program in Mountain View, California.

During her time at the VA she volunteered as an artist/vocalist in the VA Palo Alto Arts Session Band, performing at ten VA-sponsored events and recording an original song, 'America Begins', by a fellow VA Arts Band Veteran that won the Bay Area VA Creative Arts Competition. She also volunteers as a Wellness Ambassador and Employee Engagement Committee Leader where she has led efforts for a Wellness Fair attended by over 100 VA employees from multiple Bay Area VA campuses. She also displayed many of her own paintings and drawings for the Women Veteran in Arts Program. This represents 203 volunteer hours.

During the five year period from 2015 to 2020 while Mrs. Knapp was associated with the 63d RD, she volunteered over 1,500 hours while maintaining full-time employment at the VA. She also graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Golden Gate University during this period, completing 65 credit hours in 22 months—a long-time goal accomplished after attending five universities previously due to 20-plus military relocations and multiple deployments during her spouse's military career.

In 2014, prior to her family's final military assignment to the 63d RD, Mrs. Knapp served in a part-time paid position as Program Administrator for Texas A&M University's 4-H 'Operation Military Kids' program where she managed a federal grant that directly assisted Guard and Reserve Families of all service branches at two military installations in Texas. Her efforts included coordinating community partner efforts at family readiness events, organizing multiple volunteer opportunities for military families, conducting cooking classes for military children and families, and briefing community officials on the challenges military families face.

In previous roles as FRG Leader, Co-Leader and Treasurer over a period of 20 years, she accumulated over 3,000 volunteer hours and was instrumental in standing up Family Readiness Groups, training new volunteers, organizing and executing small and large-scale events and managing non-appropriated funds, demonstrating her adeptness at mentoring new volunteers and FRGs and re-energizing dormant ones. She has opened her

home for years to military families for Thanksgiving and she and her family have long been active in Army and Army Reserve Family Programs, including her daughter Katie serving two terms on the National Army Reserve Teen Panel. Her volunteer service to Soldiers and Army Reserve Families culminated in 2012 with her FRG being awarded the DoD Family Readiness Group of the Year—Army Reserve while she served as Co-Leader of the 79th Theater Sustainment Command FRG.

Mrs. Knapp's unmatched energy, excellent communication skills and devotion to serve and assist Army Soldiers, Families and Veterans has contributed greatly to individual, unit and family morale and readiness in every formation and location she has served over 26 years, including assignments in five states and three overseas locations. Her service in the Marines for four years on active duty (1989 to 93) laid the foundation for her volunteer service.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring and thanking Shelly Knapp, a force for good in military families, for her extraordinary service to our country. She has set the 'gold standard' with her thousands of volunteer hours, touched thousands of lives and strengthened our country immeasurably with her devotion to service.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BONITA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of Bonita Elementary School in Crows Landing, California. This campus and its educators have continued to provide amazing opportunities to students here in the Central Valley and should be applauded for the valuable work they have provided to our community over that past 150 years.

Bonita Elementary School is one of six traditional schools in the Newman Crows Landing Unified School District. While it is the oldest campus in the district, it is also the smallest of four elementary schools creating a tight knit community where parents and teachers can work together to provide a quality education for their students. The continued achievements of this campus should be credited to the teachers, administrators, and staff who are dedicated to ensuring the academic success of every student and to provide a safe and comprehensive educational experience.

I am honored to recognize the hard work and dedication of everyone who has contributed to the success of Bonita Elementary School over the past 150 years. I know we can look forward to more success for this campus and their students for years to come.

EMERGENCY EDUCATIONAL CONNECTIONS ACT, H.R. 6563

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise in the midst of a global health emergency that has re-calibrated each of our lives, including for over 55 million students across the country who are now forced into remote learning. To help combat the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), over 124,000 public and private schools have closed across the country—many for the remainder of the academic year. These actions have laid bare to the American people the critical role internet access plays in our society.

Before the pandemic struck, there were nearly 12 million students who were part of the so-called "homework gap"—meaning they lacked internet access at home to complete their homework. This is a problem because as many as 7 in 10 teachers assign homework that requires internet access. To keep up with their connected peers, homework gap students had to travel to a library or other public places to use its free Wi-Fi—or risk not completing their homework and falling further behind academically.

Fast forward to now, with millions of people sheltering at home, students are participating in remote learning that includes class meetings, explanations of new content, virtual field trips, homework, and learning exercises. As such, for those students without internet, this gap seems more like a chasm. Students without internet service will fall further behind as students with internet service at home can continue advancing in their studies. Whether they live in urban centers, suburbs, or exurbs, or small communities in rural America, all students require internet connectivity to succeed during this pandemic.

That is why I introduced the Emergency Educational Connections Act, H.R. 6563 which would provide \$2 billion to the FCC's E-Rate program to ensure students can continue their studies from the safety and comfort of their homes. Through this program, the FCC can distribute funds to schools and libraries, including Tribal schools and libraries, relatively quickly. We do not have to reinvent any processes to help students.

Madam Speaker, it is imperative that the Emergency Educational Connections Act, H.R. 6563 be included in the next coronavirus relief package to ensure no child loses out on an education because they lack internet access at home. I urge all my colleagues to support it and see it signed into law. We must finally see an end to the digital divide.

RECOGNIZING BLAUM BROS. DISTILLERY FOR CHANGING THEIR PRODUCTION TO HAND SANITIZER DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Matt and Mike Blaum for transforming

their liquor distillery during the COVID-19 pandemic to make hand sanitizer, to be distributed at no cost to the community. These Hometown Heroes are being recognized for utilizing their business to contribute to those in need during these trying times.

Blaum Bros. Distillery was founded in 2013 by Matt and Mike with the hope of distilling beverages they could enjoy together. Since March 2020, they have pivoted their purpose to make hand sanitizer and even have a button on their website for hand sanitizer requests. I commend them for taking action during a pandemic, when supplies are in short supply. I thank them for their kindness and generosity to the Moline community.

It is because of leaders such as Matt and Mike Blaum that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize the Blaum Brothers and their Distillery for their kindness and generosity.

ONGOING PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY IN EUROPE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I wish to provide an update to my colleagues on the continuing activities of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—the OSCE PA—during these challenging times.

Not surprisingly, the pandemic challenges the OSCE PA to find new ways to conduct its work. International relations require engagement on both a bilateral level and on multilateral levels as well. It is likely that all gatherings of the OSCE PA this year will be online, through video conferences.

For example, last week the OSCE PA held a webinar on economic security and the COVID-19 pandemic. I participated in the event and spoke specifically on energy security needs, pointing to the continuation of Russia's predatory natural gas supply practices which seek to exert geopolitical influence. Europe needs a diversified supply for its energy sources. Too much reliance on Russia for energy can lead to market distortions and encourage corrupt practices, while alternative sources increase security and benefit the average consumer.

Last week a video session was held of those parliamentarians who comprise the leadership of the OSCE PA, which includes Senator ROGER WICKER of Mississippi and myself. Guest speakers included the Prime Minister of Albania, Edi Rama, as well as the EU Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarcic of Slovenia. As Chairman of the First Committee, I made clear that the committee will not waver from its crucial role in defending Helsinki Principles where they are most threatened. In this regard, I noted the public statement I made last week, jointly with my fellow committee officers from the parliaments of Romania and Lithuania, on the third anniversary of the tragic death of Joseph Stone, an American working on the OSCE Monitoring Mission in Ukraine.

Senator BEN CARDIN of Maryland spoke at this leadership session as the Assembly's

Special Representative on anti-Semitism, racism and intolerance. He noted that disadvantaged immigrant and minority communities are made even more vulnerable by the pandemic, and that parliamentarians have an important role in responding to this problem during states of emergency. Our colleague from New Jersey, Mr. CHRIS SMITH, also spoke in his capacity as the Special Representative of the OSCE PA on Human Trafficking Issues. He stressed how current circumstances make those vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation, including children, even more vulnerable. Coronavirus and its butterfly effect have also rendered non-government organizations less effective in their mission to help trafficking victims by operating shelters, care and counseling.

To conclude Madam Speaker, I want to stress that, while we may need to focus our efforts on fighting this pandemic at home, we need to work with our partners abroad to eliminate a virus that knows no borders and from which we ultimately can never fully isolate ourselves. Working with our partners and allies across the globe is the interest of our constituents here at home. I also want to stress that the pandemic has not resolved earlier challenges but in many cases made them worse. We need the capacity to address a wide range of ongoing issues, and the OSCE PA is a valued venue for doing that on a multilateral level.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the importance of these continued discussions with our European allies and friends.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION MONTH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor every teacher, administrator, employee and contractor in all San Mateo County school districts who together prepare our children to grow into educated and contributing members of our society. May is National Teacher Appreciation Month, but they deserve our gratitude and admiration every day. They rise to the occasion even under the most challenging and unprecedented conditions they are facing in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Working in education is more than a job, it's a passion. The dedication to guide and nurture our future generations is based on selflessness and wanting to create a better world. The impact an educator has on children is profound. The philosopher Plato once said: "The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life"—wise and true words.

Who doesn't have memories of a teacher whose words and actions will stay with them for the rest of their lives? My middle school teacher at South San Francisco's Parkway, Mr. Jex, called me "chief" when he appointed me editor in chief of the school newspaper. Mr. Jex gave me confidence and a purpose. He helped determine the direction of my life . . . like all teachers do.

Educators spend countless hours and their own money to prepare students for the future.

They buy pencils, crayons, paper, snacks, toothbrushes, whatever it is the child is lacking. In the United States, we don't pay them anywhere near their value. They deserve more compensation and more recognition for the tireless and essential work they do, but it's not in the nature of teachers to give up and walk away, not even in the face of COVID-19.

The outbreak of the contagious novel coronavirus forced school and health officers to close schools on March 16th to prevent the spread of the disease. It did not shutter education, though. San Mateo County teachers, administrators, kitchen workers and custodians rose to the occasion. They created distance learning, providing students with Chromebooks and hotspots to connect in virtual classrooms. They designed innovative curricula to ensure engaging learning opportunities. Understanding the dependence of many students on breakfast and lunch, they continued to prepare and distribute meals. Striving to prevent the achievement gap from deepening, they provided additional support, tutoring and counseling for students and their families.

Facing unprecedented challenges, everyone from superintendents to principals to teachers to administrators to custodians came together and contributed. Now, everyone continues to adjust to the new reality. Schools will remain closed for the remainder of the academic year.

Madam Speaker, let us rise to acknowledge the remarkable resilience of our educators and to redouble our efforts as Members of Congress and as members of society to support them. They have our children's backs, so we must have theirs. To invoke Plato again, he said: "No man should bring children into the world who is unwilling to persevere to the end of their nature and education."

THANKING THE PEORIA MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE FOR 80 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEORIA COMMUNITY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Peoria Medical Society Alliance (PMSA) for its 80 years of service to the Peoria community. The PMSA is a not-for-profit organization that works with the Peoria Medical Society to promote the health, the education, and the quality of life for the people of the Peoria community.

Partnered with the Peoria Medical Society, the PMSA has several committees dedicated to important causes in the community. For example, in their Adopt-A-School program they adopted Whittier Grade School to tutor kindergartners and first graders. They also host game nights and parties for senior homes, such as Heddington Oaks. PMSA even provides scholarships for students attending college in health-related fields. I commend the PMSA for its contributions to the local Peoria community and I thank them for their kindness and generosity.

It is because of leaders such as the PMSA that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize the Peoria Medical Society Alliance for its great work in the Peoria community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ECO-TOURISM VESSEL EQUITY AND RELIEF ACT OF 2020

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Eco-tourism Vessel Equity and Relief Act of 2020." This is a bill to address and correct a regulatory mismatch of the manner in which a small passenger vessel that operates in Southeast Alaska is measured. Specifically, the M/V *Liseron* (United States official number 971339), a converted minesweeper that conducts overnight passenger cruises in the eco-tourism trade in Southeast Alaska, should be classified as the same regulatory tonnage for licensing its crew as is used for its safety inspection category, and the other vessels in the same trade.

By way of background, the motor vessel *Liseron* was built in a U.S. shipyard in Tacoma, WA, in the early 1950's as one of a class of seven minesweepers under the auspices of the U.S. Navy for the French but was subsequently reacquired by the Navy in 1955. It was constructed to navigate shallow waters of bays, coastlines, and inlets having a shallow draft, which is why it makes for the perfect vessel to operate in Southeast Alaska. Specifically, the M/V *Liseron* is 145 feet long and 28 feet wide with a draft of 8.5 feet. Later delisted by the Navy, The Boat Company in Port Orchard, WA, acquired and restored the vessel in the late 1980's. After an extensive 16-month restoration in a U.S. shipyard facility in Tarpon Springs, FL, where the vessel was gutted and refitted, this vessel was placed into service in the early 1990's as an eco-tourism vessel in Southeast Alaska. The vessel's operations have a significant economic impact in both Washington State and Alaska. The vessel is homeported in Kitsap County, Washington State, where it undergoes needed maintenance and repair locally in Pacific Northwest shipyards, and where the vessel re-provisions for the next season's sailing in Alaska. Its operations during the cruising season in Southeast Alaska bring significant job opportunities and needed economic activity in local businesses by the company and its customers. The vessel enables tourists from around the world to come and enjoy the unparalleled scenic and natural beauty that Alaska has to offer.

Operationally, the M/V *Liseron* has ten staterooms and is limited to 20 passengers. More critically, the vessel is currently inspected by the Coast Guard as a small passenger vessel in the 100 gross regulatory tonnage category. Notwithstanding that, the vessel has a larger tonnage entered on its certificate of inspection. This larger tonnage is due to the arcane nature of the U.S. vessel admeasurement laws, rules that govern the volumetric size of vessels. Larger competitor vessels can be 238 feet in length and carry 100 passengers, i.e., nearly 100 feet longer and 5 times the number of passengers, yet they are considered to be in the smaller 100 GT small passenger vessel category for both licensing and inspection purposes.

Needless to say, the M/V *Liseron* has an equity disparity as the vessel must compete with similar or larger vessels in the eco-tour-

ism trade. While the vessel is inspected and regulated for all safety purposes in a lower tonnage category, due to the higher tonnage rating entered on its certificate of inspection, the M/V *Liseron* must source crew from seafarers with deep water credentials (i.e., 500 GT) rather than for the shallower and protected waters of Southeast Alaska. The inequity is underscored by the fact that the M/V *Liseron* physically can fit within the volumetric profile of its competitors. That is, it is smaller, but the rules say it should be assigned a measurement of being larger. Further, the vessel carries far fewer passengers than its competitors. This seems to be a regulatory mismatch and creates the inequitable situation where a physically larger vessel that carries five times the number of passengers is determined to be smaller for crew licensing.

And this mismatch results in the M/V *Liseron* to have its master and chief mate with a license in a much higher tonnage category. The legislation I introduce today corrects this inequity and regulatory anomaly. This legislation prohibits the M/V *Liseron* from undergoing any alteration of its size. Consequently, there is no reason why the smaller M/V *Liseron* that carries far fewer passengers must have a crew licensed in a larger tonnage category.

To add to the inequity, a higher turnover for the master and first mate occurs because these mariners with the larger 500 GT licenses, which are more appropriate for deep water oceangoing vessels, leave whenever a deep-water position is available. This is understandable from their point of view. These 500 GT qualified crew get a larger tonnage license to work on larger seagoing vessels, not a smaller vessel operating in the shallow waters of bays, coastlines, and inlets in Southeast Alaska. This makes attracting 500 GT qualified crew that much more difficult. While the rest of the crew is stable, these two positions require that new hires undergo qualifying each time these positions turn over for these inland waters. If the master and first mate can hold 100 GT licenses it will result in less turnover and more appropriately experienced personnel that will contribute to even safer and consistent operation of the vessel. No alteration of the vessel itself is proposed nor will the crew size be reduced. Only two positions are affected by this legislation.

Another aspect of the vessel's operations is the economic impact of the cancellations due to the COVID-19. The operation of the eco-tourism trade in Southeast Alaska is seasonal. As a result, the M/V *Liseron* has lost an entire season of revenue due to cancellations. Continuing an artificial barrier such as having to hire crew in a mismatched licensing category will only add to the vessel's difficulties to recover from this economic loss when they are able to resume operations.

The tragic fire that occurred on board the dive vessel *Conception* on September 2, 2019, has brought additional scrutiny to small passenger vessels with overnight accommodations. Almost immediately after that fire an official marine investigation was commenced. I understand that in addition a criminal investigation is being conducted and will take a long time to complete. All of this is appropriate and should be done to get at the root of what went wrong on that vessel. As part of the safety concerns, the Coast Guard initiated a special Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) to review the safety of all small pas-

senger vessels with overnight accommodations. On October 8, 2019, the M/V *Liseron* was fully inspected by the Coast Guard as a vessel with overnight accommodations as part of this special inspection campaign. I understand that the CIC program included a job aid worksheet used by the Coast Guard inspectors to evaluate crew operations and procedures when inspecting the M/V *Liseron* and other overnight accommodation small passenger vessels. As a result of this special inspection, I understand that the Coast Guard confirmed that the vessel passed for every aspect of its certificate of inspection without exception and for crew performance. For passenger safety, the vessel has early warning and fire detection alarm systems, ready evacuation routes from each passenger cabin onto the main deck, and approved life rafts and vests. Having passed this rigorous and special inspection, the M/V *Liseron* is free of any of the issues on the *Conception*. The change brought about by this legislation will not create a vessel construction or safety issue.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me to enact this statutory provision permitting the Coast Guard to treat this vessel as less than 100 gross tons for the purpose of applying the operational regulatory measurement under section 14305 of title 46, United States Code, provided that nothing is done to change the size of the vessel. By adjusting the tonnage rating for licensing the M/V *Liseron*'s crew to be consistent with its safety inspection category, the M/V *Liseron* would be able to hire and retain more appropriate experienced crew familiar with Southeast Alaskan waterways and small passenger vessel operations, and be regulated the same as other similar or larger vessels with which the M/V *Liseron* must compete.

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS
FOR MISSING AND MURDERED
INDIGENOUS WOMEN

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize May 5, 2020 as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Today, we recognize our nation's devastating history of colonization and the disproportionate effects for Native women. The coronavirus pandemic has exposed health care inequalities in our country, especially the health care available to Native communities. But we must be equally concerned about the number of Native women and girls that face incredible violence in this country every day. In the United States, Native women face tragically high rates of violence, sexual assault, and murder. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, homicide is the third leading cause of death among Native women. These rates are ten times higher than the national average and far too often, families are left without answers.

I am a cosponsor of Savanna's Act, which will recognize Native women and make sure that their invisibility to law enforcement ends. The bill would create and improve procedures, communication, and cooperation among federal, state, tribal, and local agencies that may

share jurisdiction over crimes against Native women. We cannot allow the experiences of Native communities continue to slip through bureaucracy. Today, I am calling on House Leadership to quickly bring this bill to the floor.

I am thankful for the work of the City of Portland to shine a light on this issue by passing a resolution later this week calling attention to this urgent crisis. We need to all work together to demand action.

We must strive to better understand the institutional racism and systemic inequalities that Native communities face. I will keep fighting for justice for those who are missing or murdered, and I remain committed to taking action to prevent these crimes in the future.

CONGRATULATING THE EASTLAND
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKET-
BALL TEAM ON THEIR WIN AT
CLASS 1A IHSA STATE FINALS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eastland High School Girls Basketball Team, who won the Illinois High School Association's Class 1A State Finals Girls Basketball Tournament.

Despite being down by ten at half-time, the team ramped up their defense and came back to beat their opponent 62–57 in the state championship. Eastland finished the season

34–3, with the 34 wins being the most in program history. As a former athlete, I appreciate the fortitude the team displayed to achieve their dream of being a state champions and commend them for their efforts and attitude. This team is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic, and I am proud to see them represent Lanark so well throughout the state with his talent and passion.

It is because of student leaders such as the Eastland High School Girls Basketball Team that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the Eastland High School Girls Basketball Team on their Class 1A State Finals title in Basketball.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2225–S2252

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3599–3614, and S. Res. 557–559. **Page S2241**

Evanina Nomination—Cloture: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.

Pages S2226–32, S2232–39

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, May 6, 2020; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination, all post-cloture time expire at 2 p.m., on Wednesday, May 6, 2020. **Page S2252**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2239–40**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S2240**

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Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2241–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2242–43**

Additional Statements: **Page S2239**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2243**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 5:01 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks

of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2252.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Brian D. Miller, of Virginia, to be Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery, Department of the Treasury, and Dana T. Wade, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of John L. Ratcliffe, of Texas, to be Director of National Intelligence, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cornyn, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 38 public bills, H.R. 6696–6733; 1 private bill, H.R. 6734; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 87–88; H. Con. Res. 99; and H.Res. 950–953 were introduced.

Pages H1976–79

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1980**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Oath of Office—Seventh Congressional District of Maryland: Representative-elect Kweisi Mfume presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned

copy of a letter received from Ms. Linda H. Lamone, Administrator, Maryland State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held April 28, 2020, the Honorable Kweisi Mfume was elected Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional District, State of Maryland. **Page H1975**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlemen from Maryland, the whole number of the House is 430. **Page H1976**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense spectrum policy and the impact of the Federal Communications Commission's Ligado decision on national security, 3 p.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the state of the aviation industry, focusing on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider a substitute amendment to an original bill entitled, "America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020", and a substitute amendment to an original bill entitled, "Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020", 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine COVID-19, focusing on how new information should drive policy, 2 p.m., WEBEX.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Justin Reed Walker, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "COVID-19 Response", 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Wednesday, May 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of William R. Evanina, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 12 noon.

If cloture is invoked on the Evanina nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, May 8

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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