

Jersey and New York; Hurricanes Rita and Katrina on the coast of Louisiana; also Mississippi and Alabama.

We are going to spend billions. We are going to spend billions, but we are going to spend those billions in the wrong way. We are going to spend those billions on the coast repairing damage that could have been prevented if we had spent millions now.

I draw attention to a flood wall, a levy, in Terrebonne Parish, LA, which was recently completed. So we had a high-water event where flooding came off the Gulf of Mexico. Ten thousand homes were not flooded because that flood protection had been erected. Ten thousand homes were not flooded.

All I am asking is for the authors of this bill to allow a few million to be spent where people live, where people work, where people help others earn their living, and they can still have their billions to spend on the places where we vacation.

I don't want to minimize the need to take care of our national parks. When someone speaks of a leaky roof, and if you fix it early, then fixing it early keeps the damage from getting greater—that makes sense. We should find a way to pay for it, but it makes sense that you would do that. How much more so when we are speaking about coastal resiliency?

I was told recently that the Army Corps of Engineers wants to build a \$3.5 billion floodgate in Miami to prevent Miami from flooding—\$3.5 billion. We are going to spend billions on the coast; it is just a question of whether we do it in reaction, or whether we do it in kind of “we have to fear the worst,” or whether we do it like in Terrebonne Parish—building a flood wall now so that 10,000 homes don't flood.

It is my disappointment that the authors of this legislation will not allow this bipartisan amendment to be added.

By the way, we have heard that Democrats are OK with the amendment, but for whatever reason, the authors will not allow it.

Let me show you one other thing, just to make the point. The Great American Outdoors Act actually has two pots of dollars, if you will. One is for deferred maintenance—again, 50 to 60 percent of that goes to seven States. But this shows where the Land and Water Conservation money goes.

These are the coastal States. This is where people live, and these States, on average, per capita, get \$7.53 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. These blue States in the interior—some of them populated, some of them not—on average get \$17.66 per capita. We are sending money to where people don't live to fix vacation spots, which are important, but it is not where we live, and we are not spending money where people do live, where their homes are, where their cities are, and where, if we don't enhance resiliency, we are going to spend billions when the hurricane hits. This is foolish public policy.

By the way, some of my fiscal conservative colleagues—and I consider myself a fiscal conservative—have weighed in against the Great American Outdoors Act, saying that we are not paying for it; we are pretending to pay for it. We are taking dollars that would otherwise go to the Treasury—otherwise go to the Treasury—and pretending like they are new dollars. That is actually true. But what we can also say is that if we add the amendment, the Coastal Act, which I worked on with Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE—he has been a great partner to work with—we actually would be paying for it. We would be paying for it by putting in the coastal resiliency that will prevent the future billions from having to be paid to pick up the pieces after a hurricane hits a populated area.

I will speak again on the floor tomorrow, but I just want to make the point that the Great American Outdoors Act spends billions where we vacation, fixing things that we don't wish to get worse. The Coastal Act does not take away from these billions—these billions that are spent on places where we vacation; these billions spent where people do not live—it just spends millions, a paltry few million trying to add resiliency to where we do live, to where we do work, to where we do create livelihoods not just for ourselves but for others, and that is a fiscally sound, fiscally conservative way to spend dollars. That would save Treasury money, and it would save lives and maybe give people a little extra money to spend in these parks we are spending billions to fix up.

Mr. President, I thank you, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged and the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of PN1704, with the exception of Aziz Younes; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

PN1704

Ordered. That the following nominations be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

The following-named Career Members of the Senior Foreign Service of the Depart-

ment of State for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Minister-Counselor:

Michael J. Adler, of Maryland
 Aruna S. G. Amirthanayagam, of New York
 Assiya Ashraf-Miller, of Virginia
 Amber Michele Baskette, of the District of Columbia
 Mark J. Biedlingmaier, of Virginia
 Joseph Bookbinder, of Virginia
 Scott Douglas Boswell, of the District of Columbia
 Matthew Gordon Boyse, of the District of Columbia
 Natalie E. Brown, of Virginia
 Mark Joseph Cassayre, of Virginia
 Carol-Anne Chang, of Virginia
 Karen K. W. Choe-Fichte, of Washington
 Eric Scott Cohan, of Florida
 Robin Lisa Dunnigan, of Virginia
 Jewell Elizabeth Evans, of Mississippi
 Steven H. Fagin, of the District of Columbia
 Eric A. Fichte, of Washington
 Karen A. Finer, of the District of Columbia
 Jonathan Fritz, of Virginia
 Joshua D. Glazeroff, of Virginia
 Richard Harris Glenn, of Virginia
 John T. Godfrey, of Virginia
 Jennifer Hall Godfrey, of Virginia
 Ralph A. Hamilton, of Texas
 Michael P. Hankey, of the District of Columbia
 Michael G. Heath, of Virginia
 Robert B. Hilton, of Michigan
 Colleen Anne Hoey, of Virginia
 Paul D. Horowitz, of Virginia
 Edgard Daniel Kagan, of Virginia
 Kristin M. Kane, of California
 Lisa S. Kenna, of Maryland
 George P. Kent, of Virginia
 Yuri Kim, of the District of Columbia
 Adam Duane Lamoreaux, of Virginia
 Kathleen G. Lively, of Virginia
 Theodore J. Lyng, of Virginia
 Meredith Clare McEvoy, of Virginia
 Alan D. Meltzer, of Virginia
 Manuel P. Micaller, of California
 Mitchell R. Moss, of Texas
 Virginia E. Murray, of Maryland
 Courtney Robin Nemroff, of New York
 Robert W. Ogburn, of Maryland
 Kevin M. O'Reilly, of Virginia
 Sandra Springer Oudkirk, of Virginia
 Matthew A. Palmer, of Virginia
 Woodward C. Price, of Virginia
 David Jeremy Ranz, of Maryland
 Joel Richard Reifman, of Florida
 David Dale Reimer, of Virginia
 Hugo F. Rodriguez, of Virginia
 Dominic A. Sabruno, of Virginia
 Micaela A. Schweitzer-Bluhm, of California
 Behzad Shahbazian, of Maryland
 Greg Alan Sherman, of Virginia
 Jefferson D. Smith, of Virginia
 James Broward Story, of Florida
 Ronald W. Stuart, of Virginia
 Gavin A. Sundwall, of the District of Columbia
 Tracy Jo Thomas, of Virginia
 Gregory Dean Thome, of Virginia
 Jennifer S. Tseng, of Colorado
 Heather Catherine Variava, of Virginia
 Steven Craig Walker, of Virginia
 Robert Patrick Waller, of Maryland
 Jan Liam Wasley, of the District of Columbia
 Matthew Alan Weiller, of Virginia
 Scott Weinhold, of Virginia
 Eric Paul Whitaker, of the District of Columbia
 Edward Anthony White, of Virginia
 Thomas Kavon Yazdgerdi, of Virginia
 Hugo Yue Yon, of Maryland
 Joseph Michael Young, of California

The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor:

Eliza F. Al-Laham, of Virginia
 Jeffrey J. Anderson, of the District of Columbia
 Sumera Ashruf, of Maryland
 Natalie A. Baker, of Texas
 Stephen B. Banks, of the District of Columbia
 Sarah M. Beran, of the District of Columbia
 David M. Birdsey, of Maryland
 Daniel R. Bischof, of Maryland
 Stephanie L. Bowers, of Virginia
 John Daniel Boyll, of Texas
 Clinton S. Brown, of New York
 Ravi S. Candadai, of Texas
 Angela M. Cervetti, of Virginia
 Jeremy A. Cornforth, of Connecticut
 Kevin T. Covert, of Maryland
 Sara M. Craig, of Virginia
 Mark W. Cullinane, of Virginia
 Richard R. Custin, of the District of Columbia
 Martin A. Dale, of Virginia
 Timmy T. Davis, of the District of Columbia
 Nathaniel P. Dean, of the District of Columbia
 Isabella Detwiler, of Maryland
 Matthew Steven Dolbow, of the District of Columbia
 Karen L. Enstrom, of the District of Columbia
 Susan K. Falatko, of Virginia
 Cheryl L. Fernandes, of Virginia
 Vernelle T. Fitzpatrick, of Virginia
 Kathryn L. Flachsbart, of Virginia
 Aaron P. Forsberg, of Maryland
 Natasha S. Franceschi, of the District of Columbia
 David J. Gainer, of Virginia
 Susan P. Garro, of the District of Columbia
 Jeffrey G. Giauque, of Virginia
 Nikolas E. Granger, of Washington
 Robert J. Greenan, of the District of Columbia
 Ragini Gupta, of Maryland
 Timothy Michael Hanway, of Maryland
 Joshua M. Harris, of Virginia
 Leslie M. Hayden, of Florida
 James Denver Herren, of Virginia
 Irvin Hicks, of Maryland
 John J. Hill, of Virginia
 Patricia L. Hoffman, of Virginia
 Neil W. Hop, of Washington
 Jayne A. Howell, of the District of Columbia
 Matthew C. Hurley, of Virginia
 Belinda Jackson Farrier, of Virginia
 Rahima Kandahari, of Virginia
 Jon C. Karber, of Virginia
 Matthew E. Keene, of Virginia
 Thomas A. Kelsey, of Maryland
 Daniel B. King, of Delaware
 Robert T. Koepcke, of Virginia
 Rachna S. Korhonen, of New Jersey
 Judy H. Kuo, of Maryland
 Deborah Y. Larson, of Virginia
 Joann M. Lockard, of Virginia
 Peter W. Lord, of Florida
 Margaret R. MacCallum, of Virginia
 Denise M. Marsh, of Virginia
 Charles Kent May, of California
 Graham D. Mayer, of Virginia
 Erin Cathleen McConaha, of New York
 Kara C. McDonald, of Virginia
 Joseph B. Mellott, of Florida
 David Jose Mico, of Virginia
 Jenifer Heather Moore, of the District of Columbia
 David Muniz, of Virginia
 Matthew Murray, of Maryland
 Shane I. Myers, of Virginia
 Margaret H. Nardi, of Virginia
 Rebecca Hoisington Neff, of Virginia

Jeremy M. Neitzke, of Virginia
 Rohit S. Nepal, of Maryland
 George A. Noll, of Maryland
 John D. Nylin, of Virginia
 Erika A. Olson, of Washington
 Paul Evans Poletes, of Virginia
 Mustafa M. Popal, of the District of Columbia
 Elizabeth Caruso Power, of Virginia
 Gautam A. Rana, of the District of Columbia
 Judith Ravin, of Virginia
 Jason P. Rebholz, of the District of Columbia
 Anneliese L. Reinemeyer, of Virginia
 Wendy Crook Ryde, of Virginia
 Mark A. Schapiro, of New York
 John Paul Schutte, of Virginia
 Alice Fugate Seddon, of Texas
 Marc L. Shaw, of Florida
 Andrew K. Sherr, of Colorado
 Alison Shorter-Lawrence, of Virginia
 Brian A. Shott, of Virginia
 Lonnie Reece Smyth, of Texas
 Vincent D. Spera, of Virginia
 Terry Steers-Gonzalez, of Alabama
 Mark E. Stroh, of Pennsylvania
 Michael A. Sullivan, of Tennessee
 Sherry Z. Sykes, of Florida
 Sarah Olivia Takats, of Virginia
 Victoria J. Taylor, of the District of Columbia
 Elia E. Tello, of North Dakota
 Nicole Dawn Theriot, of the District of Columbia
 Robert W. Thomas, of the District of Columbia
 Elizabeth K. Trudeau, of New Hampshire
 Scott C. Walker, of Virginia
 Paul S. Watzlavick, of Virginia
 Richard Tsutomu Yoneoka, of Virginia
 Earl J. Zimmerman, of Virginia

The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, and a Consular Officer and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:

Mark R. Brandt, of Virginia
 Steven Robert Brda, of Florida
 Kelly S. Briden, of Florida
 Bart L. Brown, of Virginia
 Mark J. Davis, of Virginia
 Otto Frederick Dickman, of Utah
 William B. Gannon, of Massachusetts
 Ralph A. Gaspard, of Virginia
 Christopher J. Gillis, of Florida
 Misty S. Knotts, of Virginia
 Charles J. Lilly, of the District of Columbia
 Michael R. Lombardo, of Virginia
 James G. Martin, of Florida
 Shane C. Pierce, of Virginia
 Michael J. Regal, of Virginia
 Thomas E. Richardson, of Virginia
 Michael Stuart Ross, of Maryland
 Tanya S. Sears, of North Carolina
 Sean A. Sirker, of Virginia
 Elaine S. Tiang-Chu, of Virginia
 Mark Vanelli, of Massachusetts
 Kevin L. Wagganer, of Missouri
 Ivan M. Watson, of Virginia
 Ivan A. Wray, of the District of Columbia

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

TRIBUTE TO DR. BRIAN MONAHAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, under normal circumstances, thousands of visitors, staff, and members file through the United States Capitol and Senate and House offices every day. As we slowly begin to reopen our economy, businesses, and other public places, all eyes on Capitol Hill turn to the guidance and counsel of Dr. Brian Monahan, the attending physician of the U.S. Congress and Supreme Court. Since 2009, when he joined us in the Capitol, Dr. Monahan has been a trusted voice of reason and an exceptional healthcare provider to me and hundreds of other lawmakers.

Dr. Monahan is an accomplished physician and rear admiral of the U.S. Navy. He began his career as a public servant after college, when he joined the Navy as a member of the Health Professions Scholarship Program. In 1989, while working as a resident at the National Naval Medical Center, Dr. Monahan discovered a connection between cardiac arrhythmias and the antihistamine, Seldane, a discovery that led to the removal of the drug from the market. Dr. Monahan has spent years working in the attending physician's office, as a staff physician and later as the assistant attending physician. Dr. Monahan has also served as the chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of Health Services and has taught at the university as a professor of pathology and medicine focusing on cancer, oncology, and hematology. Dr. Monahan's many achievements, medical expertise, and decades of public service make him an asset to the Capitol and an invaluable colleague.

Dr. Monahan has played a particularly important role lately, as both the Senate and the House of Representatives work to strike a balance between limiting exposure to a pandemic and continuing to work for the American people. Dr. Monahan has provided remarkable guidance to House and Senate leaders on how to safely conduct business and operate in the Capitol. Moving forward, as we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic's economic and public health consequences, I am grateful to have Dr. Monahan to guide us along the way.

Dr. Monahan is an accomplished photographer, and I have had the privilege of seeing many of his photographs and being with him in different parts of the world when he has taken some. All make one seeing them wish they were there. The reality but especially the artistry of his photographs are wonderful. Visits to his office are healthy and healing in so many ways.

Dr. Monahan was recently profiled in The New York Times, and I ask unanimous consent that the article, "Doctor to Congress and Supreme Court Toils to Sidestep Politics amid Pandemic," be printed in the RECORD.