

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 Conversation 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

Jeremey 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. Waggoner, 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.