House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of love and mercy, thank You for giving us another day.

While cases of coronavirus spike in so many States still, and in many places crowds gather still, we turn to You once again to listen to our pleas. Our differences provide much heat but little light.

As healthcare professionals labor to treat those who are ill, and spend their days seeking a treatment and vaccine, inspire them with Your wisdom and give them enlightenment that their labors might be met with success. May they be encouraged by all our citizens as we take responsibility for preventing the spread of this deadly disease.

Bless us with Your love, for more love is needed now. It is not the severity of strict justice that engenders love. It is the respect of one another and the honoring of those who give their lives in service to our communities. Regrettably, we know they labor alongside some who have forgotten or betrayed their mission.

Bring us together in these contentious times. Bless our Congress with wisdom and good will that far-reaching solutions might be found to address these times.

Bless us all this day and every day, and may all that we do be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER, Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, notwithstanding section 3 of House Resolution 981, further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 76, is postponed until the legislative day of June 26, 2020, and on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion.

There was no objection.

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, June 18, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 18, 2020, at 9:15 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 712.

That the Senate passed S. 3731.

That the Senate passed S. 4494. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting a notice to Congress of the anticipated use of Selected Reserve units that will be ordered to active duty under the authority of Title 10 U.S.C. 2690b, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2690b(d); Public Law 112-61, Sec. 516(a)(1); (125 Stat. 1396); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4495. A letter from the OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Indebtedness of Military Personnel [Docket ID: DOD-2020-OS-0039] (RIN: 0790-AK33) June 4, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4496. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2020-0002] received June 1, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4497. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2020-0005; Internal Agency Dock No.: FEMA-0029] received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4498. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule —
Suspension of Community Eligibility (Docket ID FEMA-2020-0005; Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8627) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4490. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Schedules of Controlled Substances: Revision of the Administrator’s interim final rule — Liquidity Coverage Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (EPA-R06-OAR-2019-0211; FRL-10008-61-Region 6) received May 22, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4491. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s interim final rule — Liquidity Coverage Requirements, emergency liquidity coverage treatment for Federal Emergency Facilities (RIN: May 3666-AF51) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4500. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s final rule — Real Estate Appraisals (RIN: 3066-AF48) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4501. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s final rule — Real Estate Appraisals (RIN: 3066-AF48) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4502. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s final rule — Liquidity Coverage Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (EPA-R04-OAR-2019-0217; FRL-10009-27-Region 4) received May 22, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4503. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Louisiana; Infrastructure for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (EPA-R06-OAR-2019-0211; FRL-10008-61-Region 6) received June 1, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4504. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Vermont; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2015 Ozone Standard (EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0857; FRL-10009-35-Region 6) received May 22, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4505. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Washington; Northwest Clean Air Agency (EPA-R00-OAR-2019-0101; FRL-10009-35-Region 10) received June 1, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4506. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Air Plan Approval; Oregon; West Coast Clean Air Agency (EPA-R00-OAR-2019-0096; FRL-10008-61-Region 10) received June 1, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
and Human Services, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4525. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting two notifications of a vacancy, a designation of acting official, nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

4526. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and a discontinuation of service in the position of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

4527. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Bureau of Investigation National Criminal History Check System (NCHCS); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4528. A letter from the Legal Yeeoman, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Security Zone; Potomac River, Montgomery County, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0448] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4529. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Anchorage Grounds; Lower Chesapeake Bay, Cape Charles, VA [Docket Number: USCG-2015-1118] (RIN: 1625-AA01) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4530. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notifications that the President has designated Jason Kearns as Chairman and Randolph J. Stayin as Vice Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission; pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1330(c)(1); June 17, 1930, ch. 497, Sec. 330(c)(1) (as amended by Public Law 95-106, Sec. 1); (91 Stat. 687); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4531. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Announcement of Vessel Manifest Confidentiality Online Application and Update of Mailing and Email Address of Submitter of Vessel Manifest Confidentiality Certifications (RIN: 1551-AB36) received May 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

4532. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order blocking property of certain persons associated with the International Criminal Court, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(b); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(b); (91 Stat. 1627) and 50 U.S.C. 1621(a); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 201(a)(2); (98 Stat. 1679); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Judiciary, and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, H.R. 4091. A bill to authorize the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E) Program, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1621(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Mr. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York: Committee on Oversight and Reform, H.R. 5803. A bill to provide for the admission of the State of DC into the Union; with an amendment (Rept. 116-433, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee on the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Rules, Armed Services, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5803 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. LOVE, Ms. KNELLEY, Mr. SANCHEZ, Ms. CAPETTY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. McEACHIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. FINKENAUER, Ms. WENTON, Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARDENAS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAUKOWSKY, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. BREA, Mr. TRONE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. TIEDEMANN, Mr. LEE of California, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. WATSON Coleman, Ms. WASHINGTON, Mr. COOPER, Ms. DEAN, Ms. ESCH, Mr. NORDROSS, Ms. SCALRONI, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. BRATY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KELMER, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. S. PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. BASS, Ms. MCBATH, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. SPAN伯CHE, Miss RICE of New York, Mrs. HARRIS, Mr. HERRON, Mr. WELSH of Alabama, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 7232. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish Juneteenth Independence Day as a Federal holiday, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CASTEN of Illinois:

H.R. 7235. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to recommend a minimum number of bomber aircraft; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DREW, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HELMER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RISCHENTHALER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. WILD, and Mr. LAMMEY):

H.R. 7239. A bill to authorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASTEN of Illinois:

H.R. 7240. A bill to update and expand the requirements for energy efficiency for federal ability to establish a Federal laboratory center for deep space and interplanetary research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 7236. A bill to allow the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Ad- mission. H.R. 7237. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish an Office of Advanced Clean Energy Technologies and manage a network of Regional Energy Innovation and Development Institutes to advance regional decarbonization strategies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. BROWN of Maryland (for himself and Mrs. HARTLEBERG):

H.R. 7238. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to recommend a minimum number of bomber aircraft; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DREW, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HELMER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RISCHENTHALER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. WILD, and Mr. LAMMEY):

H.R. 7239. A bill to authorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASTEN of Illinois:

H.R. 7240. A bill to update and expand the requirements for energy efficiency for federally assisted housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. CRAIG (for herself and Mr. MURTHA):

H.R. 7241. A bill to provide for supplemental loans under the Paycheck Protection Program; to the Committee on Small Business.
be high deductible, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):
H.R. 7248. A bill to authorize funds for Federal actions to secure, and effectively implement fifth generation (5G) wireless communications services.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself and Mr. CARABINO):
H.R. 7247. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide research to examine law enforcement policies and practices, including the causes, consequences, and mitigation of excessive use of force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. ENGEL:
H.R. 7246. A bill to reauthorize the United States-United Kingdom relationship with the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany, to prevent the weakening of the deterrence capacity of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on 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. EMMER:
H.R. 7245. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to carry out a pilot program to establish community outpost houses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FULCHER (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON):
H.R. 7244. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to develop an integrated energy systems research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. ROYDNEY DAvis of Illinois, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. BAREN, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BOST, Mr. WESHER of Texas, Mr. LMALMA, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. SPANO, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. PENCE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLOn of Puerto Rico, and Mr. WITTMAN):
H.R. 7243. A bill to establish a cause of action for Federal-Eraid-ways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. UPTON, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. HUZENGA, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. WALKER of Michigan, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BERGMAN, and Ms. TLAIB):
H.R. 7253. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to extend appropriations for the Lead Exposure Registry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. UPTON):
H.R. 7254. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for infection control support to skilled nursing facilities through contracts with quality improvement organizations; 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 Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI (for himself, Mr. KATKO, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):
H.R. 7255. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to health care providers to establish and expand programs for promoting mental wellness among their health care workers, including contractors, on the front lines of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK):
H.R. 7256. A bill to establish a process for admitting essential scientists and technical experts into the United States to promote and protect the National Security Innovation Base; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on 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. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mr. BLUM, Mr. ARGENTI, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. SPANO, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. PENCE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLOn of Puerto Rico, and Mr. WITTMAN):
H.R. 7259. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation and Infrastructure to report on the status of community transit services in American cities and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HASTINGS:
H.R. 7250. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the surface transportation block grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. JOHNSON of Louisiana (for herself and Mrs. LESKO):
H.R. 7251. A bill to provide for reductions in the Members’ Representational Allowance of Members of the House of Representatives who fail to appear to cast votes or record presence in the House at any time during which proxy voting is permitted in the House, to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:
H.R. 7252. A bill to provide for research to examine law enforcement policies and practices, including the causes, consequences, and mitigation of excessive use of force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mrs. ROBY:
H.R. 7255. A bill to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. TITYUS, and Mr. HUNSMAN):
H.R. 7256. A bill to reduce and eliminate threats posed by nuclear weapons to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):
H.R. 7257. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers to disclose services performed for State and local governments in connection with the issuance of bonds that may be used to pay for settlements or judgments in connection with police violence or civil rights abuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARDENAS, Ms. ESHOu, Mr. GALLIKO, and Mr. CREST):
H.R. 7258. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow qualified opportunity funds to invest in community development financial institutions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Mr. COLE):
H.R. 7259. A bill to repeal the eighth provision under Operation of Indian Programs of 1998 to restore Tribal sovereignty; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. HAAland, and Mr. KILMER):
H.R. 7260. A bill to make supplemental appropriations for health care, agriculture, the Interior, Homeland Security, Labor, and Commerce for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committees on Appropriations, 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. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. WILSON of California, Mr. SLOTKIN, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. RUPPERGER, Mr. RESCHTEHALER, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CARRBAJAL, and Mr. SUOZZI):
H.R. 7256. A bill to improve assistance provided by the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to small manufacturers in the defense industrial base; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself and Mr. TAKANO):
H.R. 7257. A bill to prohibit COVID-19 liability waiver enforceability for cohort gatherings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself and Ms. BUSTOS, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. ADAMS, and Mr. HARRIS, Jr.):
H.R. 7258. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, the Employee
outbreaks in the East Africa region and address future outbreaks in order to avert mass scale food insecurity and potential political destabilization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. MENG):
H. R. 7277. A bill to prohibit unconscionable pricing of critical supplies and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. FLISCHMANN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BRADY, Mr. TIMMONS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. FEIGER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. GRIFFINS, Mr. SENSKEENBRENNER, Mr. BUORESS, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. CHAROT, Mr. COMER, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. KELLER, Mr. HUZENGA, Mr. RONNEY of Illinois, Mr. FLORES, Mr. BUSCHON, Mr. GUTTENBERG of New Jersey, Mr. WALKER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. KENNY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BUSCHON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. BARD, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WITTEN, Mr. JUHFREYERMeyer, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GRANGER, Mr. COLE, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. WENSTROF, Mr. MACKE, Mr. DELAURA, Mr. McCARTHY, Mr. WOHRMANN, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. STIVER, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GIANNOUTSE, Mr. YOTO, Mr. WOODALL, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. BUCK, Mrs. RODIORS of Washington, Mr. BERNAL, Mr. EMMER, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. FOSTENBERG, Mr. NUNES, Mr. STEWARD, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. PALMER, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LON, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RODGERS of Ohio, Mr. PATRICK, Ms. HERRELLS, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. KATKO, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CROSHAW, Mr. CLINE, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WEAVER of Texas, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania).

H. R. 7278. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. WALDEN (for himself and Ms. KUSTER of New York):
H. R. 7283. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that certain contributions by governmental entities are treated as contributions to capital; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. MURPHY):
H. R. 7284. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. SCALON (for herself, Mr. SCHUR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. BRATTY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MCCOY, Mr. NUGUIE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. ESCH, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SPIER, Mr. ESCOBEDO, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. WILD, Mrs. FLITCHE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. CAS, Mr. CROW, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. AXNE, and Ms. SHALLA):
H. Res. 1009. A resolution recognizing the threats to press freedom in the United States in the wake of protests following the killing of George Floyd by an unarmed Black man by police in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. BECKETT, Mr. POLI, Mr. SCHWAB of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Connecticut, Mr. WELLS of Alabama, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JOHNSON of the United States to submit to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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. ROY:
H. R. 7270. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. KILMER):
H. R. 7273. A bill to provide for the issuance of a commemorative post stamp in honor of Mamie Till-Mobley, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SCHRIFTER (for herself and Mr. WINNER):
H. R. 7274. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. MITCHELL):
H. R. 7275. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a National Security Innovation Network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Ms. BASS):
H. R. 7276. A bill to establish an interagency working group to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to eradicate locust

outbreaks in the East Africa region and address future outbreaks in order to avert mass scale food insecurity and potential political destabilization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. MENG):
H. R. 7277. A bill to prohibit unconscionable pricing of critical supplies and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. FLISCHMANN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BRADY, Mr. TIMMONS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. FEIGER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. GRIFFINS, Mr. SENSKEENBRENNER, Mr. BUORESS, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. CHAROT, Mr. COMER, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. KELLER, Mr. HUZENGA, Mr. RONNEY of Illinois, Mr. FLORES, Mr. BUSCHON, Mr. GUTTENBERG of New Jersey, Mr. WALKER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. KENNY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BUSCHON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. BARD, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WITTEN, Mr. JUHFREYERMeyer, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GRANGER, Mr. COLE, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. WENSTROF, Mr. MACKE, Mr. DELAURA, Mr. McCARTHY, Mr. WOHRMANN, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. STIVER, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GIANNOUTSE, Mr. YOTO, Mr. WOODALL, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. BUCK, Mrs. RODIORS of Washington, Mr. BERNAL, Mr. EMMER, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. FOSTENBERG, Mr. NUNES, Mr. STEWARD, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. PALMER, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LON, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RODGERS of Ohio, Mr. PATRICK, Ms. HERRELLS, Mrs. MILLER, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. KATKO, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CROSHAW, Mr. CLINE, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WEAVER of Texas, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania).

H. R. 7278. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SCHRIFTER (for herself and Mr. WINNER):
H. R. 7274. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the community they serve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.
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 Mr. BROWN of Maryland: H.R. 7239. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. BUDD: H.R. 7219. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. CLAY, Mr. CÓOPER, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. POCAN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DEFazio, Miss RICK of New York, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H. Res. 1011. A resolution commemorating Juneteenth by calling for the implementation of safeguards to protect the integrity of United States elections and end voter suppression, to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. MEEKS):

H. Res. 1011. A resolution celebrating 140 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Romania, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

June 18, 2020
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8
Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish Uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of Counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

And Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than Two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenal, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings; And 

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H. R. 7276.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 7 of the Constitution.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish Uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of Counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

And Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than Two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenal, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings; And 

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:
H.R. 3711: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3762: Mr. MCMENARY and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3815: Ms. BEATTY, Mr. ENGEL, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 3925: Mr. LAMICE.
H.R. 3898: Mr. HARTZLER.
H.R. 3935: Mr. GRIPPI.
H.R. 4045: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCMENARY, and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 4104: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. COOK, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 4143: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 4189: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 4265: Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. CINSEROS, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 4932: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. EMMER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. GUELLS.
H.R. 5004: Ms. HAALAND, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. TALIB.
H.R. 5046: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 5053: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 5200: Mr. GALLEGEO.
H.R. 5322: Ms. KANNA.
H.R. 5326: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 5416: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5434: Mr. CABRERA and Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 5461: Ms. MILLER of Alabama.
H.R. 5531: Mrs. BUSTOS and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5602: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BRENDAN F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NORCROSS, Mrs. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KRATING, Ms. BLUNT ROCHERUSE, Ms. TRAHAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. MCMENARY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SIRE, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. VELA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 5829: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. GOYAN, and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 5895: Mrs. KIEHART.
H.R. 5998: Mr. STEUERE and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 6070: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 6076: Ms. JAYAPAL and Mr. VELA.
H.R. 6142: Mr. PARKER.
H.R. 6204: Mr. WALKER, Mr. BARR, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 6206: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6334: Ms. OMA, Mr. SCHRADER, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 6376: Ms. LOPRESTI.
H.R. 6423: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 6449: Ms. NORTON and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 6487: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 6492: Mrs. KIKPATRICK, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. POCON, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 6561: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 6582: Ms. KUSTRE of New Hampshire and Ms. JASON LEE.
H.R. 6679: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 6682: Mr. EVANS of Tennessee.
H.R. 6626: Ms. CINSEROS.
H.R. 6628: Mr. SERRANO and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 6655: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.
H.R. 6666: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 6670: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 6700: Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. VELA.
H.R. 6722: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. FINKENAUER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. POCON, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. MECKS, Mr. BONAMICI, Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. SKIN PATRICK MALCOLMSON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MURCIELLO-Powell, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. VELA, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. QUOLEY, Mr. NEWSOM, Mr. SCHUETZ, Mr. MERRICK, Mr. PRICE, Mr. EPSTEIN, Mr. DREW, Mr. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 6740: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BAHN, Mr. HARTZLER, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 6742: Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HOGGIN of Louisiana, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. MCCLINSTOCK, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 6753: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama and Mr. O’HALLEHAN.
H.R. 6756: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6778: Mr. RYAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6798: Mr. VELA and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 6828: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. WATERS, Ms. SCHUETZ, Mr. KIND, Mr. DRUTCH, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. TONEO, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. HOGGIN of New York, Mr. BEATTY, Mr. MCGRAW, and Mr. BLUNT ROCHERUSE.
H.R. 6841: Ms. VELA and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 6879: Mr. WATERS, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 6874: Mr. HOGGIN of Alabama.
H.R. 6876: Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6877: Mr. JAYAPAL, Ms. BARRAGAN, and Ms. BEATTY.
H.R. 6885: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 6904: Ms. SCALON.
H.R. 6909: Mr. DEAN.
H.R. 6912: Mr. NEGOUCE.
H.R. 6930: Mr. WESTERMAN and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 6934: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6965: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCALON, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 6958: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 6972: Mr. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 6977: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 7011: Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. AMATO, and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 7020: Mr. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 7022: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. REED, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. GUEST, Mr. RICE of Texas, and Mr. HOGGIN.
H.R. 7023: Mr. COSTA, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. AHERDHT.
H.R. 7024: Mr. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 7027: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 7061: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 7066: Mr. WATKINS and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 7071: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 7073: Mr. CINSEROS.
H.R. 7095: Ms. DEBENE, Ms. SUOZZI, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MCINTERN, Mr. SEGOVIA, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. SPINNER, Mr. DREZIO, Ms. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 7120: Mr. CINSEROS, Ms. ROSE of New York, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, and Mr. SCHRADER.

PETITIONS, ETC.
Under clause 2 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk’s desk and referred as follows:

105. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the County Legislature of Orange County, New York, relative to Resolution No.121 of 2020, requesting the United States Congressional leadership and the President of the United States to provide emergency funds to local governments due to the Covid-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Also, a petition of the Mayor and City Commission of Miami Beach, Florida, relative to Resolution No. 2020-31221, urging the
President and U.S. Congressional Leaders to support and enact U.S. House of Representatives Bill, H.R. 6467, titled “The Coronavirus Community Relief Act”, which would provide $250 billion in Covid-19 stabilization funds for counties and cities with a population under 500,000; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

107. Also, a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to requesting a constitutional amendment requiring that any bill or resolution offered in either House of Congress contain only one subject and that any subsequent changes to the wording of that bill or resolution be properly germane to only that one subject; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

108. Also, a petition of the Mayor and City Council of Akron, Ohio, relative to Resolution No. 108-2020, strongly urging the passage of the proposed “Interim Supplemental” Congressional bill which would provide $53.55 billion in emergency financial assistance to cities, like Akron, on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19, to ensure they are able to continue to provide direct public services and maintain safe, healthy, stable communities; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, and Small Business.

109. Also, a petition of the Governing Body of the Township of Lacey, New Jersey, relative to Resolution 2020-135, supporting the Security After Sandy Act and imploring federal legislators and the President to endorse the same; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, and Small Business.

110. Also, a petition of the County Council of Maui, Hawaii, relative to Resolution No. 20-23, urging the 116th United States Congress to support H.R. 763 (2020), The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs.
The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

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**PRAYER**

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our hearts are steadfast toward You. Lead us safely to the refuge of Your choosing, for You desire to give us a future and a hope.

Lord, provide us with grateful hearts to appreciate Your mercies that are new each day. Today, give our Senators the power to do Your will as they realize more fully that they are servants of Heaven and stewards of Your mysteries. Give them perspectives on their daily tasks and every decision they must make. Remind them that people usually don’t care how much You know until they know how much You care.

May faithfulness to You become the litmus test by which our lawmakers evaluate each action.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

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**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. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate for 1 minute in morning business.

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

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**IOWA GRADUATIONS**

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, once again, I am proud to come to tell you something about the history of Iowa, and I do this during a hectic time of the COVID-19 crisis. That crisis has had, for American educational systems, quite an impact. So, at this time, it is important to highlight some successes.

The 2018-2019 school year saw the highest 4-year graduation rate in Iowa’s history, and that percentage was at 91.6 percent. In 2017, Iowa had the highest graduation rate in the entire country, and with this achievement, we appear ready to do it again.

During my time representing Iowa in the U.S. Senate, I had been in many of our State’s classrooms and have seen firsthand the dedication of Iowa’s educators. I congratulate all of those involved with Iowa schools on their fantastic work and congratulate them for doing it at all times, even over the past few months, in particular, because of all the situations they have run into because of the virus pandemic.

I yield the floor.

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**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

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**ISSUES FACING AMERICA**

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, the Senate has been confronting issues of historic importance on the homefront.

Just since March, we sent historic resources to the healthcare fight against COVID-19 on an overwhelming bipartisan basis. We passed the largest rescue package in American history on a bipartisan basis. We just passed a generational bill for our public lands, also on a bipartisan basis.

Yesterday, the junior Senator from South Carolina introduced a major proposal to reform policing and promote racial justice. If our colleagues across the aisle can put politics aside and join us in a real discussion, then on this issue, too, we should be able to make law on a bipartisan basis.

The Senate has led and is leading the way toward serious solutions. At the same time, developments around the world continue to remind us that the safety and interests of the American people are also threatened beyond our shores. Just 2 weeks ago, I explained how the Chinese Communist Party has used the pandemic they helped worsen as a smokescreen for ratcheting up their oppression in Hong Kong and advancing their control and influence throughout the region. It hasn’t stopped.

At sea, they have stepped up their menacing of Japan near the Senkaku Islands. In the skies, Chinese jets have intruded into Taiwanese airspace four separate times in a matter of days. On land, for the sake of grabbing territory, the PLA appears to have instigated the worst violent clash between China and India since those nations went to war way back in 1962.

Needless to say, the rest of the world has watched with grave concern this violent exchange between two nuclear states. We are encouraging deescalation and hoping for peace. The world could not have received a clearer reminder that the PRC is dead set on brutalizing people within their own borders—challenging and remaking the international order anew in their image, to include literally redrawing world maps. Of course, this is not exactly breaking news to any of us who have been paying attention.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed legislation to give the administration new tools to directly punish the CCP for its egregious—egregious treatment of the Uighur people and the modern-day gulags it has constructed there in the Xinjiang Province. The President signed it into law yesterday.

Going back to the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act, which I wrote back in 1992, the Senate has maintained a keen interest in the freedom and autonomy of our friends in that city. Unfortunately, Beijing has continued to tighten its grip there as well.

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

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Printed on recycled paper.
More and more Hongkongers find themselves facing an agonizing decision: Can they remain in the city they love or must they flee elsewhere if they want their children to grow up free? As I have said often, every nation that loves its democracy and stability has a stake in ensuring that Beijing’s actions in Hong Kong carry consequences. I encourage the administration to use the tools Congress has given it and to work with like-minded nations to impose those costs, but punishing Iran cannot be our only priority. We also need to actively help the people of Hong Kong.

Led by Prime Minister Boris Johnson, the United Kingdom says they are preparing to offer visas to potentially millions of Hongkongers. In addition to funding democracy programming and supporting legal assistance, we must also consider ways to welcome Hongkongers and other Chinese dissidents to America.

Chinese-Americans have formed part of the backbone of our Nation for about two centuries. Against headwinds of racial prejudice, Chinese immigrants literally helped build modern America as we know it. Generations of Chinese Americans have enriched our society and fueled our economic prosperity. Not surprisingly, I am particularly partial to the Secretary of Transportation, whose parents fled Communist rule. She has served her country across four presidential administrations, including as the first Chinese American to ever serve in a President’s Cabinet.

If some of the same brave Hongkongers who have stood up for liberty waging our American flag and singing our American national anthem would like to come here and join us, we should welcome them warmly.

Of course, this Senate is not only acting with respect to China. Earlier this year, at my urging, the Senate enacted the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act, and this week, the administration is using these tools to impose painful new sanctions on the brutal regime of Bashar Assad.

With the help of Russian airpower, Iranian advisers, and manpower from Hezbollah terrorists, Assad has recaptured military control of most of the territory he had lost during 9 years of civil war, but he has effectively destroyed his own country in an effort to save his regime. Assad faces renewed protests across the country, inflicting within his regime and family, and a Syrian economy that is in free fall. Because of this Congress and this administration, the cashflow to these butchers is going to shrink, and this is the time that leaders and businessmen in Tehran, Beirut, Cairo, Moscow, and Beijing will have to pay to do business with the regime will pay.

These new steps will help us achieve our objective: creating leverage for diplomats and our partners on the ground to negotiate a political solution and finally end the war. To maintain this pressure, we should keep our limited physical presence in Syria. We should work to bring our NATO ally Turkey back onto the right side, and we should preserve the deterrence that President Trump has rebuilt against Iran, to keep checking their influence in Syria and throughout the Middle East.

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**NOMINATION OF JUSTIN REED WALKER**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on one final matter today, the Senate will confirm Judge Justin Walker of Kentucky to join the DC Circuit Court of Appeals.

Now, as I have noted in just the last several weeks, Judge Walker has given the Senate several new reasons to support his nomination to the second most important Federal bench.

In testimony before our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, he demonstrated an impressive grasp of legal precedent. At his current post as district judge for the Western District of Kentucky, he eloquently applied this understanding to uphold Americans’ religious liberty, and he earned the approval of the American Bar Association with a rating of “well-qualified.”

But, of course, Judge Walker’s credentials were already sterling. Long before this nominee began practicing and then applying the law, he was collecting plaudits for his excellence at studying it.

Judge Walker, as I mentioned before, graduated from Duke University summa cum laude, and Harvard Law School magna cum laude. Those credentials can easily lead someone to an elite law firm in a big city, but instead, it led Judge Walker to clerkships for then-Judge Brett Kavanaugh and then-Justice Anthony Kennedy.

He then went back home to the University of Louisville Law School. He quickly became a star faculty member, producing distinguished scholarship on a wide range of issues.

Once Judge Walker took his current seat on the bench for the Western District of Kentucky, he wasted no time building an equally strong reputation for the fairness and open-mindedness that Americans deserve from their judges.

In one letter to our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, 100 practicing lawyers from across Kentucky said:

“If Judge Walker is confirmed, we could give our clients an assessment of him for which any judge should strive: he is sharp, fair, and will follow the law.

In another letter, 16 different State attorneys general told us:

As someone from outside the Beltway with a commitment to the rule of law, we know that Judge Walker will listen to the arguments of advocates appearing before him, that he will weigh the facts against the law as it is written (and not as he wishes it to be), and that he will fairly decide those cases based upon controlling precedent.

These glowing assessments are not from elite corporate counsel or frequent flyers on the DC Circuit. These are from men and women across Kentucky and across America who have seen this man work and watched his career.

Republican Presidents have a proud tradition of looking beyond Washington to freshen up the DC Circuit with diverse perspectives from across America. President Nixon thought this crucial court could use the expertise of a Texan and a Minnesotan. President Reagan chose legal minds from Colorado and North Carolina. President Bush 41 chose a South Carolinian, and President Bush 43 a Californian.

So when the Senate confirms Judge Walker to this vacancy, we will not just be promoting a widely admired legal expert and proven judge to a role for which he is obviously qualified, we will also be adding to a time-honored tradition of finding men and women from all across the country to help ensure that this enormously consequential bench here in our Nation’s Capital is refreshed with talent from all parts of America.

My fellow Kentuckians and I are sorry to part with this son in the Bluegrass, but mostly we are proud because Judge Walker will be putting his legal brilliance and his exceptional judicial temperament to work not just for his home State but for our entire Nation and in even more consequential ways. I look forward to voting to confirm Judge Justin Walker, and I urge each of my colleagues to do the same.

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**MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3985**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3985) to improve and reform policing practices, accountability, and transparency.

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**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

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

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**CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Justin Reed Walker, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

DACA

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I cried tears of joy a few minutes ago when I heard the decision of the Supreme Court on DACA. These wonderful DACA kids and their families have a huge burden lifted off their shoulders. They don't have to worry about being deported. They can do their jobs, and I believe—I do believe this—someday, someday soon, they will be American citizens.

I have met so many of these beautiful children and their families. Now, many have grown up. They came to America as little kids, and all they want to be is Americans. They worked hard. I met some of them during the COVID crisis in New York, holding their lives to deal with the healthcare crisis we had. I have seen them enlist in the Armed Forces and go to college, some of our best colleges and law schools, and climb that American ladder that has been around for so many years and some people want to rip away.

So this is a wonderful, wonderful day for the DACA kids, for their families, and for the American Dream.

We have always believed in immigration in America. We have had some dark forces oppose it in recent years, but we believe in it. It is part of our soul. Every one of us cares about immigrants, and so many of us are descendants of immigrants. Wow, what a decision.

Let me say this: In these very difficult times, the Supreme Court provided a bright ray of sunshine this week with the decision on Monday preventing discrimination in employment against the LGBTQ community and now with this DACA decision. Frankly, to me, the Court's decision was surprising but welcome. It gives you some faith that the laws and rules and mores of this country can be upheld. Wow, the decision is amazing, I am so happy for these kids and their families. I feel for them, and I think all of America does. Again, I cannot—who would have thought the Supreme Court would have so many good decisions in one week? Who would have thought it? Wow.

Madam President, now let's get to some other very important issues as well.

Two weeks ago, House and Senate Democrats introduced a bill, the Justice in Policing Act, which makes key changes to the Nation’s police departments. The bill would bring comprehensive and enduring reforms—the most forceful set of changes to policing in decades.

The House Judiciary Committee approved the legislation yesterday, and it will pass the full House next week.

Here in the Senate, Republicans put forward their own proposal yesterday, led by the Senator from South Carolina, Tim Scott, and other Republican colleagues to this discussion. It is something they have resisted for so long. But merely writing the bill—any bill—is not good enough at this moment in American history. It is too low a bar.

To simply say "We will write any old bill, and that is good enough" isn't good enough for so many people, many of whom are marching in the streets to get real justice.

We don't need just any bill right now. We need a strong bill. We don't need some bipartisan talks. We need to save Black lives and bring long-overdue reforms to institutions that have resisted them. The harsh fact is that the legislation my Republican friends have put together is far too weak and will be ineffective at rooting out this problem.

The Republican bill does nothing to reform the legal standards that shield police from convictions for violating Americans’ constitutional rights. It does nothing to end qualified immunity, which shields even police who are guilty of violating civil rights from being sued for civil damages. The Republican bill does nothing to encourage independent investigations of police departments that have patterns and practices that violate the Constitution. The Republican bill does nothing to reform the use of force standard, nothing on racial profiling, nothing on limiting the transfer of military equipment to local police departments.

What the Republican bill does propose does not go far enough. Unlike the Justice in Policing Act, which bans no-knock warrants in Federal drug cases, the Republican bill requires data only on no-knock warrants. Breonna Taylor, a first responder in Louisville, KY, was asleep in her bed when she was killed by police who had a no-knock warrant. More data would not have saved Breonna Taylor's life.

Unlike the Justice in Policing Act, which bans choke holds and other tactics that have killed Black Americans, the Republican bill purports to ban choke holds only by withholding funding from departments that don't voluntarily ban them themselves—only those choke holds that restrict air flow but not those choke holds that resist blood to flow to the brain—and the ban only applies unless the "use of deadly force" is required. Who determines when the use of deadly force is required? It is usually the police themselves, and courts defer to their judgment.

I don't understand. If you want to ban choke holds and other brutal tactics that have killed Americans in police custody, why don't you just ban them?

I like my friend from South Carolina, Senator Scott. I know he is trying to do the right thing, but this is not just about doing any bill. This is not about finding the lowest common denominator between the two parties and then moving on. This is about bringing sure-needed change to police departments across the country, stopping the killings of Black Americans at the hands of police, and bringing accountability and transparency to police officers and departments that are guilty of misconduct.

Unfortunately, the Republican bill does not go nearly far enough on prevention. It doesn't go nearly far enough on transparency and hardly brings even one ounce of accountability, and that matters a great deal. We have to get this right.

If we pass a bill that is ineffective, the killings continue, and police departments resist change, and there is no accountability, the wound in our society will not close. It will widen.

This is not about making an effort and dipping our toes into the waters of reform. This is about solving a problem that is taking the lives of Black Americans.

Let me say that again because it is so important for my colleagues across the aisle to hear. There is no doubt about making an effort or dipping our toes into the waters of reform. This is about solving a problem that is taking the lives of Black Americans.

If the bill would not have prevented the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Michael Brown, or Eric Garner, if it will not stop future deaths of Black Americans at the hands of the very people who are meant to protect and serve, then it does not represent the change we need now.

As drafted, the Republican bill does not rise to the moment. The Democratic bill, the Justice in Policing Act, does.

NOMINATION OF JUSTIN REED WALKER

Madam President, of course, while Democrats are glad that Leader McConnell felt the pressure and heeded our call to put policing reform on the floor next week, it will not be before the Republican leader asks us to confirm two more hard rightwing judges to the Federal bench.

Today, the Senate will vote on Justin Walker, a 38-year-old with less than a title.
year's worth of experience as a district court judge, to sit on the second highest court in the country for the rest of his life. The temerity of doing that—he was on the court for just a few months, but he is friends with Leader McConnell, so he gets rushed to this very high court at the age of 51. Having the necessary experience and maturity of judgment.

The Republican Senate approved his nomination to the district court on October 24 last year, after the ABA rated him “not qualified.” Now, 8 months later, Senate Republicans are questioning Mr. Wilson, a former intern of his, a promotion to the DC Circuit.

Even in his extremely limited time as a jurist, Walker made news by calling the Supreme Court’s decision to uphold our healthcare law “catastrophic” and “an indefensible decision.”

I would like Leader McConnell to go home to Kentucky and tell the citizens of Kentucky why he nominated someone who wants to repeal our healthcare law when the COVID crisis is straining people there as it is everywhere else. In the middle of a national healthcare crisis, the Republican Senate majority is poised to confirm a judge who opposes our country’s healthcare law.

They yield now to do this nomination now. There is no stumping number of vacancies on the DC Circuit. We are in the middle of a global pandemic and a national conversation about racial justice and police reform. This is about the Republican leader and his relentless pursuit of a rightwing judiciary.

Usually my friends on the other side of the aisle vote in lockstep on these judges, so it is an indication of Mr. Walker’s caliber, or lack thereof, that at least one Senate Republican has announced opposition to his nomination.

After Mr. Walker—again, before we move to policing reform—Leader McConnell will put forward the nomination of Mr. Cory Wilson to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Even by the very low standards of Trump’s nominees to the Federal bench, Mr. Wilson is appalling. He called our Nation’s healthcare law “illegitimate” and “perverse” and advocated the repeal of Roe v. Wade. Worse still, Mr. Wilson strongly supported restrictive voting measures, including voter ID laws and is opposed, in this day and age, to minority voting rights.

There will be a massive split screen in the Senate this week. As we prepare to debate legislation to reduce racial bias and discrimination in law enforcement, Senate Republicans will push a judge who has a history of fighting against minority voting rights. The hypocrisy is glaring. It is amazing to me—the temerity sometimes that the majority leader shows in talking about trying to bring racial justice and putting on the bench someone who has fought against racial justice in terms of voting throughout his career. Again, the hypocrisy is glaring.

China

Madam President, now on China, my colleagues know how long I have pressed administrations of both parties to be tougher on China’s rapacious economic policies. For a time, I even praised our current President for talking about going after China’s trade abuses, but, as on so many other issues, President Trump talks a big game and then completely fails.

After a few months of negotiation, President Trump announced his phase one trade deal with China, which lifted tariffs on Chinese imports in exchange for a few billion dollars in agricultural purchases. It was clear at the time that President Trump sold out.

I argued strenuously with the Trade Representative, Mr. Lighthizer, about the phase one deal. And now, as excerpts of Mr. Bolton’s book hits the press, we see why President Trump caved to China so completely.

The President’s former National Security Advisor wrote that President then, even the farmers who our major demands on China because he wanted agricultural purchases from States that would aid his reelection. Mr. Bolton alleges that the President wanted the support of farmers in key States, that his national interest for his personal political interest. Does it sound familiar, my Senate Republican colleagues? Does it sound familiar?

Ironically, of course, American farmers aren’t even getting the benefit because President Xi has reneged on purchasing American soybeans and wheat. When President Trump was so craven as to bring this up, it was a signal to the President. You care, Xi: You can’t. And the President will not do anything—will not do anything. And that is what happened, so no one won. American manufacturing and American jobs lost out in a weak-kneed deal with China, and neither were suppos to get benefit, of course, for Trump’s political interests, didn’t get any benefit.

While I would have preferred Mr. Bolton to have told these stories under oath at the trial, they are quite illuminating nonetheless. It seems he should have titled his book, “The Real Heart of the Deal.”

President Trump’s failure to secure an end to China’s predatory intellectual property theft is now explained. President Trump’s ridiculous praise of how Xi handled the coronavirus is now explained. President Trump’s silence on human rights abuses and the protests in Hong Kong is now explained.

Even more revolting, Mr. Bolton alleges that the President approved of President Xi’s plan to place up to 1 million Uighurs into concentration camps—possibly the largest internment of religious or ethnic groups since World War II.

China is America’s competitor to this generation and the next, and this President’s insecurity, weakness, vanity, and obsession with insecurity is a threat—real threat—to our economic security and our national security. President Trump cannot be trusted to deal with China policy any longer.

DACA

Madam President, before I yield the floor, I spoke earlier about the DACA decision and how I thought, first, of those wonderful kids and their families and the burden that is off their shoulders. But after a few minutes, I dialed my dear friend Senator Durbin. He has waged this fight since, I believe—2002?

Mr. Durbin, 2000.

Mr. Schumer, 2000.

He has been passionate and unrelenting in fighting for the DACA kids and their families. He talks about it in our caucus every week. He did just this past week.

Now, while our work is still not done, we must all work so that these kids can eventually become American citizens. At least they are free—free at last—and, in good part, that is because of the work of the senior Senator from Illinois, who met them, got to know them and love them, and took his amazing legislative acumen to help them.

I believe, in part, that the decision across the street occurred because of Senator Durbin’s effective and unrelenting passionate advocacy for the DACA kids.

I would like Leader McConnell to go home to Kentucky and tell the citizens of Kentucky why he nominated someone who wants to repeal our healthcare law when the COVID crisis is straining people there as it is everywhere else. In the middle of a national healthcare crisis, the Republican Senate majority is poised to confirm a judge who opposes our country’s healthcare law.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. Durbin. Madam President, I want to thank my friend and colleague from both the House and the Senate, Senator Chuck Schumer, the Democratic leader, for his kind words. He has been such a valuable ally in this battle.

As leader on the Senate side, Chuck, I just can’t thank you enough.

Mr. Schumer. Dick, the thanks goes to you. The thanks goes to you.

Mr. Durbin. Time and again, we did things here that were difficult politically—to fight for the young people.

I just want to thank all of the Senators on both sides of the aisle who were a part of moving this issue forward. They did it at great political risk.

I can remember, as sure as I am standing here, watching one of my Democratic Senate colleagues walk down and vote for the Dream Act, return to her desk in the corner, put her head down and sobbed, realizing that she had probably cost her own reelection.

Now, while our work is still not done, we must all work so that these kids can eventually become American citizens. At least they are free—free at last—and, in good part, that is because of the work of the senior Senator from Illinois, who met them, got to know them and love them, and took his amazing legislative acumen to help them.

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I can remember, as sure as I am standing here, watching one of my Democratic Senate colleagues walk down and vote for the Dream Act, return to her desk in the corner, put her head down and sobbed, realizing that she had probably cost her own reelection with that vote. Over and over again, people stood up for these young people.

This morning, minutes ago, the Supreme Court brought a smile and a sigh of relief to more than 700,000 young people in the United States of America. This morning, the Supreme Court ruled that the September 2017 rescission of the DACA Program by the Trump administration was to be stricken as arbitrary and capricious.

So what does it mean? It means, for these 700,000 DACA-protected individuals, that they can continue to live, to
work, and to study in America without fear of deportation for the moment.

DACA, of course, is a program created by President Obama in 2012. It was a program that was, frankly, our answer to the failure to enact the DREAM Act. It was law of the land, it was law of the land. The President used his Executive authority to create the DACA Program, and here is what it said, just basically mirroring the standards of the DREAM Act, which I introduced 20 years ago: If you were brought to America as a child, if you have a high school or college degree, or if you have a job or work permit, you should have the chance to live here without fear of deportation. The DREAM Act said you should have a chance to become a citizen of the United States, which is, of course, our ultimate goal.

But the DACA Program opened up eligibility, and almost 800,000 came forward and applied. They had to pay a filing fee of $500 or $600, go through a criminal background check, but for many of these young people, it was a turning point in their lives. At that point, finally—finally—there was a chance they could stay in the country they called home, the United States of America.

They seized that opportunity and did remarkable things. They enlisted in our military. They went to schools and colleges to pursue an education. They took up jobs as teachers. They finished medical school. They did things that were unimaginable for DACA.

Of course, when the administration changed and a new President came in, there was a real question as to whether he would continue the DACA Program.

The very first time I ever spoke to President Donald Trump was the day of his inauguration, within an hour or two after he was sworn, at a luncheon. What I said to him then—my first words were these: Mr. President, I hope you are going to help those young people, those Dreamers, those protected by DACA.

He looked at me, and he said: Senator, don’t worry. We will take care of those kids.

Well, sadly, that didn’t happen.

In September of 2017, there was a decision made by this administration to eliminate the DACA Program, and at that point, were it not for a court challenge and a protective order by the court where the people might have been subject to deportation. But many, many, myself included, believed that the process used by President Trump was flawed, and, if challenged, it would fail in court. It took from September 2017 until today, just minutes ago, when the Supreme Court ruled that the administration’s approach to eliminating DACA was wrong and would be struck down.

I want to say for a moment who these young people are, because many people don’t know them. They don’t wear badges or uniforms to claim that they are DACA-protected, but this is who they are. Of the 700,000, 200,000 of them are essential employees. You may see them every day in many, many callings across America as we face this national health emergency.

Over 40,000 of them are healthcare workers. So if you are a patient at a hospital, or a clinic, or a doctor fighting COVID-19 and your doctor or nurse just walked in the room with a big smile, it is because the Supreme Court said to that healthcare worker or to that healthcare hero: You can stay in America. We need you.

Of course, that could change. I want to raise this issue because it is an important one. The Trump administration can decide that they are going to reinitiate this effort to rescind DACA and try to do it right this time by the Supreme Court standards. That would be a terrible tragedy if he made that decision, not just for those 700,000 but for their families as well.

The front page story on the Chicago Tribune this morning is about just such a family, both husband and wife protected by DACA, working in America, trying to buy a little home in Aurora, IL. She works in a cancer clinic. He has a job as well. They have two beautiful little kids. They are both DACA-protected because of the Supreme Court decision, they have another day in America. They have a sigh of relief this morning, but what about next week? What will the Trump administration do to them next week? I call on the President and those around him, begging him to give these DACA protectees the rest of this year until next year at least before anything is considered. Let’s protect them now through the election, and let the next President, whoever he may be, make a decision.

I hope before that happens we will do our part in the U.S. Senate, the second part of what we can and should be doing, calling on the President not to rescind DACA again, not to put these young people and their families through this all over again but, secondly, that we do our job in the Senate.

I listened to Senator McConnell earlier, talking about bipartisanship and talking about our legislative accomplishments. He is correct that the laws bill we passed yesterday was historic. I am glad we did it. The coronavirus relief bill we passed is historic. I am happy we did it on a bipartisan basis, and I sincerely hope, when it comes to Justice in Policing, we can do the same—a bipartisan effort to enact good law.

Let me add to the list, which unfortunately doesn’t include a lot of legislation, something that is now critically important. The House of Representatives, months ago, passed the Dream and Promise Act, which would take care of the DACA issue once and for all. We could enact that law and say to young people: Now you have your chance to stay and earn your path to citizenship in America. That is what we ought to be saying.

Everyone knows that our immigration laws are a mess. They are hard to explain and impossible to defend. We have a chance to do something about them on a bipartisan basis, and I am calling on Senator McConnell and all the leaders on either side of the aisle: Let’s work together and do something that will have a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Let’s bring this bill to the floor of the Senate this year so that once and for all we can deal with the problem we have been looking at for 20 years. Let’s approach it in so many different ways.

In the meantime, for today—at least for today and, I hope, for long beyond that—we will be celebrating a Supreme Court decision that gives a new lease on life to 700,000 young people who have one goal in mind: to be part of America’s future. They were educated in our schools. They stood in those classrooms and pledged allegiance to the same flag we pledge allegiance to every day. They have their families. They have their hopes and a future, and they are making a good living with life in the American. Thanks to the Supreme Court, they have some more time, but now it is up to the President and up to us to give this promise once and for all, to do the right thing for them and for the future of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. (Mr. Scott of Florida). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

DACA

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, this morning we received news that the Supreme Court has ruled in regard to our Dreamers, our Deferred Action Childhood Arrival children, who came to America knowing no other country, and now the Court has said that President Obama did have the authority to establish the DACA Program and that President Trump does not have a basis in law for ending it.

Hundreds of thousands of Dreamers now have full legal authority to continue their lives in America—the country they know and where they have pursued their dreams, and we must celebrate that today.

EQUALITY ACT

Mr. President, I come to the floor on another issue of freedom. President Johnson said:

Freedom is a right to share, share fully and equally, in American society. . . . It is the right to be treated in every part of our national life as a person equal in dignity and promise to all others.

It was 1966 when Senator Ted Kennedy brought the issue of ending discrimination in employment to the floor of the Senate. In that year, not so
long ago, virtually everything was sim-
ple majority in the Senate, as designed 
by our Founders, as written in the Con-
stitution. The vote failed 49 to 50 be-
cause Senator David Pryor was at the 
hospital attending to his son, the fu-
ture Senator Mark Pryor, who had can-
cer. And when the Senate 
neared took a big stride forward in end-
ning discrimination in employment in 
America against our LGBTQ commu-

Then, in November 2013, I brought to 
the floor the same bill, ENDA, ending 
discrimination in employment. This 
Senate voted in a bipartisan majority 
to end that discrimination. In fact, the 
vote was 2 to 1—45 to 32. Yet that 
bright moment here in the Senate, 
where we stood for the vision of free-
dom, was not acted on by the House, 
and the bill did not make it to the Presi-
dent’s desk.

Now we stand here today, in 2020, and 
the Supreme Court on Monday in 
Bostock v. Clayton County, in a 6 to 3 
decision, has proceeded to act to end 
discrimination in employment. In writ-
ing the opinion, Justice Gorsuch said: 
‘‘In an order referring to the 1964 
Civil Rights Act—“Congress outlawed 
discrimination in the workplace on the 
basis of race, color, religion, sex, or na-
tional origin.’’

He wrote: ‘‘Today, we must decide 
whether an employer can fire someone 
simply for being homosexual or 
transgender.’’

Everyone looked to the next para-
graph and what would the answer be? 
Gorsuch wrote this:

The answer is clear. An employer who fires 
an individual for being homosexual or 
transgender fires that person for traits or ac-
tions it would not have questioned in mem-
bers of a different sex. Sex plays a necessary 
and undisguisable role in that decision, ex-
actly what Title VII forbids.

Well, let the bells of freedom ring 
here in this Chamber and across Amer-
ica. On Monday of this last week, the 
day before the Supreme Court decision, 
discrimination in employment against 
gay, lesbian, and bisexual Americans 
was still legal in 29 States—a majority 
of States in our country—and, on Mon-
day, that discrimination ended. It is 
now illegal in all 50 States of America, 
in all territories of America to dis-
 criminate on the basis of who you are 
or whom you love.

The Court took a long, powerful 
stride forward on a vision carved above 
the doors of the Supreme Court: 
“Equal Justice Under Law.” No longer 
can a mental health counselor named 
Gary Bostock be fired from his job at 
child welfare services department for 
playing gay—football league. No longer 
can a skydiving instructor 
named Donald Zarda be fired because he 
is gay. No longer can a police officer 
in southern Oregon named Laura Elena 
Calvo—with a sterling 16-year record of 
promotions, commendations for pulling 
people from burning cars, delivering 
babies on the side of the road, saving 
lives and more—be fired because she 
was a transgender woman.

Employment discrimination ends in 
America. Let us savor that victory for 
freedom. Let us celebrate that victory 
for equality and opportunity. It is a 
long, powerful stride forward on the 
march for freedom. But a long stride 
forward in a march, however signific-
ant, is not enough, is incomplete, 
ought because, as wonderful as that vic-
tory on Monday was, as wonderful it is 
to have discrimination end in employ-
ment across the land, we still have a 
long way to go before LGBTQ Ameri-
cans are part of our national life as people 
equal in dignity and promise to all others.

The protections on Monday involve 
employment, but those protections do 
not extend to the titles of the 1964 Civil 
Rights Act that address other issues— 
issues of education, issues of public ac-
commodations—and they don’t extend 
to credit, financial transactions, trans-
actions covered by the CREDIT Act. 
They don’t extend to jury service. They 
don’t extend to the funding of pro-
grams, meaning it is legal for States to 
discriminate or cities to discriminate 
or counties to discriminate on the basis 
of Federal law against participa-
tion in Federal programs. It is unbe-
lievable that we still in that frame, 
but that is where we are. That is where 
we are right now, with discrimination 
edited in employment but not ended in 
all of these other categories.

There are a couple of possible paths 
forward. People hoping that contin-
ues on the same premise on which the 
Supreme Court acted on title VII of 
the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and that 
means litigation in each of these cate-
gories, case after case, slowly making 
its way through the courts, slowly 
approaching the very premise at the heart 
of the Supreme Court’s decision in em-
ployment to all of the other key areas 
of discrimination that is still suffered 
across this land.

Let us put the Equality Act on the 
floor of the Senate. Let us debate it, 
and let us pass it to act on the premise 
that Senator Ted Kennedy expressed: 
“The promise of America will never be 
fulfilled as long as justice is denied to 
even one among us.”

Let us put the Equality Act on the 
floor of the Senate and debate it and 
pass it to fulfill the promise of free-
dom, the promise of freedom that 
President Johnson so well expressed in 
November of last year—of freedom as 
part of our national life as a person equal 
in dignity and promise to all others.”

We have the power to ring the bells of 
freedom here in this Chamber. Let 
us not miss this opportunity.

I am so pleased to be here with my 
colleagues who have fought for this vi-
sion of freedom and equality and oppor-
tunity—my colleague TAMMY BALDWIN 
from Wisconsin and my colleague CORY 
Booker from New Jersey, who have 
been champions in leading this fight— 
a fight envisioned now by a tremendous 
number of Senators endorsing and co-
sponsoring the Equality Act. Let us 
put that act on the floor.

I yield to my colleague from Wis-
consin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise 
today to recognize an enormous step 
forward for our country, which hap-
pened earlier this week, on Monday. 
Once again, on a morning during Pride 
Month, our Nation came closer to real-
iz ing the promise of equality for les-
bians, gays, bisexual, transgender, and 
the queer community.

The Supreme Court has made it clear 
that workplace discrimination against 
LGBTQ people is now illegal across 
our Nation’s civil rights laws prohibit it. 
While this is a joyous day and a joyous 
week, I want to take a moment to ac-
knowledge the untold number who 
have suffered in this country for years 
without recourse. I want to recognize 
those brave LGBTQ people who re-
ceived pink slips, were passed over for 
promotions, suffered harassment and 
bullying in break rooms, or never got 
that initial interview—all simply be-
cause of who they are or whom they love.

I particularly want to thank the 
plaintiffs who brought these cases: Ger-
ald Bostock, Aimee Stephens, and Don-
ald Zarda, as well as the families and 
friends and lawyers who supported 
them. Sadly, Aimee and Donald did not 
live to see this transformative moment 
for our country and our community, 
but we will remember them and honor 
the efforts that they and so many oth-
ers have made to get us here. We will 
commit ourselves to continuing to 
push forward for full equality for them.

On Monday, the Supreme Court 
affirmed what many Federal courts, the 
Equal Employment Opportunity Com-
mission, and so many of us have recog-
nized for years—that title VII of the 
Civil Rights Act of 1964 is properly un-
derstood to prohibit discrimination 
based on sexual orientation and gender 
identity.

As Justice Gorsuch wrote for the ma-
jority:

Today, we must decide whether an em-
ployer can fire someone simply for being 
homosexual or transgender. The answer is
More than a year ago, a bipartisan majority of the House of Representatives passed the Equality Act. Unfortunately, like so many other pieces of legislation that would improve the lives of the American people, it has been ignored by the Senate majority leader and placed in his legislative graveyard.

The Equality Act cannot be ignored any longer by the Senate, and LGBTQ people should not have to wait any longer to enjoy the full protections of our Nation’s rights law, such as those governing public accommodations and Federal civil rights law, such as those governing legal arguments that the Supreme Court ruled that what happened to Aimee was illegal. It was illegal, perpetually and other- wise discriminate against employees simply because of who they are or whom they love. Period.

Sadly, Aimee didn’t get to celebrate the landmark victory, and we all wish she were here right now to be able to join and lead the celebration. She died last month at age 59. She will go down in history as someone who took a stand for equality, for basic fairness, and made our Nation a better place. So many people have joined her in this fight, getting to this victory.

It is now time to further honor her courage and the courage of so many others by passing the Equality Act, and we can do it today. That is the good news from the floor today, we can do that together. What a great way to end this week; this month of June, this Pride Month. What a great way this would be.

The Equality Act is pretty simple. It provides people against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in all aspects of their lives. Unfortunately, this legislation, as my colleagues have said, which has already passed the House, has been sitting on MITCH MCCONNELL’s desk gathering dust for nearly 400 days—400 days since the House of Representatives took action. It is time to shake off that dust and get this thing done for Aimee and for everyone who has fought alongside her and continues to fight today to make our Nation a more equitable place.

Now, our Republican colleagues, how- ever, are more interested in pushing through extremist judges who have no interest in an LGBTQ Great Story. Later today and next week, we will be voting on two judicial nominations—Justin Walker and Cory Wilson. It is, frankly, insulting that these two nominations are even coming to the floor—insulting to the American people that they are coming to the floor.

Justin Walker’s nomination is op- posed by 275 outside groups, including the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and the National Center for Transgender Equality. As for Cory Wilson, he supports H.B. 1523, the so-called Protecting Freedom of Conscience from Government Discrimination Act, and that would give broad permission for people and busi- nesses to deny services to people based on sexual orientation and gender ident- ity.

Both of these nominees—both of them would overturn the Affordable Care Act, which has made lifesaving differences for so many members of the LGBTQ community and Americans all across our country.

Justin Walker wants the courts to throw out the entire Affordable Care
Act, including protections for people with preexisting conditions. He called the Supreme Court decision upholding the ACA “indefensible and catastrophic.”

Millions of people get their health care through the Affordable Care Act. Everyone who has an insurance policy is able to do that and get covered, even if they have a preexisting condition, because of the Affordable Care Act.

Cory, in his preface used even more colorful language. He called the law “illegitimate and perverse.” Providing people healthcare he thinks is perverse, and this is somebody the Republicans are going to put on the court.

He even opposed expanding Medicaid coverage in Mississippi, a change that would literally save lives in the middle of a pandemic.

We know what we need to do because Aimee showed us. We need to pass the Equality Act now—today. We can do that. Wouldn’t that be wonderful, on a bipartisan basis, to pass this today?

We need to vote no on two judicial nominees who are far out of step with the basic American ideals of equality and freedom.

Aimee Stevens was courageous. Four hundred days is way too long for millions of Americans to wait for the U.S. Senate to step up and do its job. It is time for all of us to truly stand up for equality for LGBTQ Americans and set the foundation that we believe in equality for all Americans.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleagues from Oregon, Senator Wyden, for his remarks; Senator Merkley, for his leadership on the bill; and Senator Baldwin from Wisconsin, for her extraordinary leadership and service to our country.

It is a great privilege to be here today. My friend Cory Booker from New Jersey has been fighting for these issues for his whole career. Who knows, as I know, that anyone who studied the history of our democracy knows it has been hard-won progress. This struggle has always been a battle of our highest ideals and our worst instincts as a country.

It has been true since our founding, when the same people who wrote that “all men are created equal” also perpetuated human slavery and denied equality to so many others. In fact, I don’t think it is too much to say that our history is a story of our struggle with that contradiction between the promise of equality and the reality of inequality in America—between our highest ideals and our worst instincts. We struggle with that today.

Since he took office, over and over, President Trump has called on our worst instincts in almost everything he has done, including his attacks on access to healthcare, housing, and education for LGBTQ Americans.

Just last week, he went out of his way to strip transgender Americans of their access to care. Just as our country was moving forward, President Trump was depriving hard-won rights, dragging us backward again, in Colorado, on the very same day, our State legislature passed a law to make it harder to wage violence against LGBTQ people in my State.

And listen to this: The vote was 63 to 1 in the Colorado House. It was 35 to 0 in the Colorado Senate.

Notwithstanding President Trump’s anti-civil rights, anti-civil liberties, anti-LGBTQ record in Colorado, a vibrant State—Republican and Democratic elected officials, in their legislative season, are fighting for our highest ideals and rejecting our worst instincts.

In fact, my State passed our version of the Equality Act over a decade ago. It is why we banned conversion therapy and passed Jude’s Law, which makes it easier for transgender Americans to change their name and government documents. It is why we have elected our State’s first openly gay Governor, Jared Polis, and our first transgender State legislator, Brianna Titone. It is why we were one of the first States in
America, I say to my college from New Jersey, to pass real accountability for police brutality with a bill led by Leslie Herod—Colorado’s first LGBTQ State legislator of color. This week, we passed that bill 52 to 13 in the House and 39 to 1 in the Senate. It contains many of the same reforms that Senator Booker and Senator Harris are leading on here.

So I am here to tell you that there are more and more in Colorado and in the country who understand what equality means in Colorado and how to resolve some of these contradictions in the year 2020, and, this week, even the U.S. Supreme Court seems to understand it.

Just in the last week, a Republican-appointed Justice rejected Donald Trump’s arguments and wrote for a majority of the Court, affirming equality for LGBTQ Americans. Then, this morning, the Court overturned President Trump’s malicious attack on Dreamers. We want to defend the rules of law and, for the moment, protecting three-quarters of a million people who know no other country but the United States of America.

Now is time for the Senate to do our work finally, and pass the Equality Act. The House passed the Equality Act 13 months ago, and we have not acted in our typical fashion. That is another 13 months when LGBTQ Americans could get married on a Sunday and be fired on Monday, another 13 months when our neighbors could be denied housing, denied healthcare or be turned out of a store because of who they are.

Americans understand that no good comes from hoarding freedoms and equality. When we take the opposite view, we act against our traditions. As a nation, we will never flourish if we choose to depend on a permanent underclass that is deprived of some or all of the rights and freedoms others enjoy. Free people do not remain free by denying freedom to others. We should vote on the Equality Act and pass it today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I join my colleagues today, in the middle of Pride Month, to celebrate the Supreme Court’s landmark decision this week in Bostock v. Clayton County, allowing protections for LGBTQ rights and protecting people from discrimination in the workplace, and to urge all of our colleagues to secure and extend those protections by passing the Equality Act.

Something else big happened in the Supreme Court, and that was today, with the Supreme Court’s decision on DACA, on Dreamers—allowing them to stay in this country and asking the administration to open up the application process for citizenship. That is relevant because it is about civil rights, but it is also relevant because the Supreme Court—this conservative Court—has had to step in because this body has not been doing what it should have been: passing the Equality Act and passing comprehensive immigration reform. So let us remember that as we celebrate the decision in the Bostock case and as we move toward equality.

I want to thank Senator Baldwin, and Booker for their leadership on this important bill and for bringing us together today.

Over the last few decades, we have made progress for LGBTQ rights. We have come a long way for what is right, and we have worked hard to make this a country in which people can safely, proudly, and legally love whom they love. It was not long ago when a person could be arrested for being gay and when don’t ask, don’t tell was the law of the land—when I came to the U.S. Senate—and when States were permitted to deny LGBTQ couples the right to get married under the Defense of Marriage Act.

This week, our country took an important step forward with the Supreme Court’s decision that recognizes that the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits employers from firing employees because of sex, protects LGBTQ people in the workplace.

We can celebrate today that justice was delivered for Aimee Stephens, who was fired when she informed her employer that she was transgender, and for Donald Zarda and Gerald Bostock, who were fired when their employers learned they were gay.

But, of course, this is more than about three people. As Mr. Bostock said, “This fight became about so much more than me.” Their courage to stand up in the face of injustice will forever change this country for millions of LGBTQ people and their families, and it makes this country a more just nation.

Although the Court’s decision is a landmark victory, we still have miles to go because it is not right when the Commander in Chief tells brave transgender Americans who want to serve and protect our country in our military that they are not welcome; it is not right when this administration is trying to take away the hard-won rights of LGBTQ people in healthcare and education; and it is not right that you can drive across the United States on a cross-country trip and find that those laws and protections could be different at every rest stop.

That is why I was proud to cosponsor, on the day it was introduced, the bipartisan Equality Act with my colleagues who are here today, and it is why I am calling on my colleagues across the aisle to pass this bill.

This bill, which already passed the House by a vote of 236 to 173, will go a long way in protecting LGBTQ Americans from discrimination. The Equality Act would build on the Supreme Court’s decision on non-discrimination protections consistent and explicit. It would amend laws like the Civil Rights Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, and Federal employment laws to ensure that all Americans, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, have equal access to housing, education, and federally funded programs. It would not just extend these protections, for nearly two-thirds of LGBTQ Americans report experiencing discrimination in their personal lives. These problems are compounded by race and income, especially for trans women of color. Yet it has been over 1 year since this bill passed the House.

In 2000, when I was the county attorney in our largest county in Minnesota, I was invited to the White House to introduce President Bill Clinton at an event to urge the passage of hate crimes legislation. We had had an African-American young man who had been shot by a guy who had said that he had wanted to go out and kill someone on Martin Luther King Day. That was in St. Paul. We had had a man who had gotten beaten with a board by the foreman at his workplace for his simply speaking Spanish. I had taken on a number of these crimes, so I had been invited by the President to urge Congress to pass the Matthew Shepard hate crimes legislation, which covered a wide range of hate crimes.

During that event at the White House—my first time ever there—I got to meet the investigators in the Matthew Shepard case. They were these two burly cops from Wyoming, and they talked about the fact that until that investigation—I think Senator Baldwin is nodding her head and has probably met them as well—they really hadn’t thought about what Matthew Shepard’s life was like or the lives of other LGBTQ people. Then, as they started to investigate what had happened—and we all remember how he was left hanging on a fence post, and they were the people who thought he was a scarecrow—these investigators, these police officers, got to know the family and the case. They got to know his mom, and they got to know his friends. During the course of their investigation, as they began to understand what life was like for Matthew Shepard, their own lives were changed.

I think this is happening right now around this country after the murder of George Floyd in my State, and I think this has been true it comes to our LGBTQ community. That is why, on that day way back, we were in the White House to introduce that bill. Nearly 10 years after that event at the White House, during my first year as a U.S. Senator, I got to be one of the people who brought the needle to finally pass that hate crimes bill.

So I say to my colleagues who are fighting for justice, who are fighting for justice in policing, who are fighting for justice in our LGBTQ community, who are fighting for justice for our immigrants, the change will happen, but we can’t wait 10 years for this change to happen. The people of this country
are demanding that it happen now. We need to come together and finally pass the Equality Act and do all of these other good things that are right here, that are right on our desks. We should do them immediately—not next year—and move it forward.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues who are here and for all of the work that has been done around the Equality Act, not just here in the Senate but also in the House of Representatives.

I want to make this very clear. You look at history, and you see that the fundamental equality of all Americans has been denied for so many generations—for women who fought for equality under the law and the right to vote; for African Americans, who fought for equality under the law. We have seen from our founding they have struggled to make real the promise of this Nation—a promise of an ideal that we are all equal under the law.

Our Founders—these imperfect geniuses—enshrined these ideals. This Nation was not founded in perfection but the very founders themselves referred to Native Americans as savages. They talked about women as not being equal citizens. They denied African Americans full and equal citizenship. Yet these aspirations and documents were so profound that every generation of Americans has called to our founding ideals to overcome the inequality that has been inherent in our country.

Susan B. Anthony called to the founding documents for her equality and the equality of women. Martin Luther King, on The Mall, called to that vision—to that promiseary—note—that it was time. Yet here we are, in the year 2020, still calling for the full equality of all American citizens when it comes to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans.

I think back to my own family—to my grandparents and great-grandmother—who talked about the excuses that were used to deny them equality. There were religious excuses. I am a big believer in religious freedom, but people sought to deny Blacks and Whites from marrying. In fact, when Loving v. Virginia passed, the majority of Americans were still against interracial marriage in this country. Somehow, people were using religion as a shield from establishing the fundamental ideals of this country. We overcame that.

These types of reasons were given for the dehumanizing treatment of Native Americans, and these kinds of excuses were used to justify the segregation of African Americans. In every generation, we fought and we struggled and we came together—multiracial, multiethnic, diverse coalitions—to overcome this.

This week, I was so grateful to see the decision of the Supreme Court, but it was of mixed feelings about it. Why would it take an action of the Supreme Court to justify what already is—equal humanity? equal dignity? Why would it take so long for a country to say: “In this Nation, a majority of States cannot discriminate against you. You cannot be fired just because of who you are”? I hear the echoes of my own ancestry growing up in a country in which children were told and saw clearly before their eyes that was bigoted and biased; that they were not equal citizens, and even though, when we stand up in our grade schools, we have to say those words “liberty and justice for all,” what does it mean to a child who is denied those things?

I see us in a country now in which we are raising children who are in danger. LGBTQ kids are almost five times as likely as their straight peers to attempt suicide. LGBTQ kids—about 30 percent—admit to missing school because they are afraid. This is in America in 2020. Black trans women are dying at unacceptable, unconscionable rates. I say dying. They are being murdered. There have been 15 transgender or gender nonconforming people killed this year. Just last week alone, two transgender women were killed—Dominique Fells and Riah Milton.

We have work to do in this country to establish the fundamental ideals that shaped the founding of this country that we will all be equal under the law, the fundamental ideals from the founding of this country that we are a nation of liberty and justice for all.

Here we are at the crossroads of history, forcing our fellow Americans to come and ask for what is fundamental, their equality, their rights. The Equality Act is too late already. It is too late to do what the founders themselves were so fond of—found this Nation. We are too late already to save the lives of children who have been forced to live in a nation that doesn’t recognize their equal dignity. We are too late already to protect the shame of people who have been fired just because they are gay, who have been denied accommodation just because they are gay—the humiliation of which, I dare say, so many in this body know from their families’ stories.

So we rise today to ask for what is overdue, to ask for us to establish in law what is true in the spirit of this Nation, and to echo the words of our ancestors, great suffragettes, great civil rights leaders, great Native Americans, who have all come to this Capitol to say: This is who we are—equal citizens under the law.

To my colleagues who are with me today, I tell you that, no matter what happens with this unanimous consent, justice will come to this country. No matter who stands against this Equality Act, they stand on the wrong side of history, on the arc of the moral universe, but it bends toward justice. Well, I will, therefore, ask that we bring this bill about equality to the floor, that we go forward in the great tradition of this Chamber and this Senate to debate issues that involve the opportunity for every individual to thrive in our Nation. Time and again, we have held those debates before. We held them in 2013 on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

Now, I understand some colleagues have come to the floor to object to this Senate’s entertaining such an important debate. They have come to the floor to obstruct the opportunity of this Chamber and this Senate to debate issues that involve the opportunity of every individual to thrive in our Nation. Time and again, we have held those debates before. We held them in 2013 on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

I see us in a country now in which we are raising children who are in danger. In America in 2020. Black transgender Americans are being murdered. There have been 15 transgender or gender nonconforming people killed this year. Just last week alone, two transgender women were killed—Dominique Fells and Riah Milton.

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To my colleagues who are with me today, I tell you that, no matter what happens with this unanimous consent, justice will come to this country. No matter who stands against this Equality Act, they stand on the wrong side of history, on the arc of the moral universe, but it bends toward justice. We have made some steps in the right direction of justice, but we are still in the foothills. We have a mountain to climb, but I know we will make it to the mountaintop. I know that this Nation will fulfill its promise to all of its people and, indeed, become the promised land.
There is a single thread that runs through the Supreme Court’s decision in the Bostock case earlier this week and all the way through the legislation now under discussion on the Senate floor, and that principle deals with nondiscrimination. It is a principle that, in my view, demands that people shouldn’t be treated differently on the basis of factors, characteristics, and traits that have nothing to do with their job. I think most Americans can agree with that, and I think most Americans also believe that an individual shouldn’t face such discrimination in the workplace based on his or her sexual orientation.

The important thing that we have to remember is that much of where the law is found and much of what we can perceive from a position of justice and equality and fairness relates to where the exceptions are found. I have got two principal concerns with this legislation that are also shared by the Bostock ruling. The first relates to exceptions related to religious employers.

Neither the Bostock decision nor the Equality Act takes the care to ensure that religious employers will be treated fairly under this approach. We need to be mindful of the need of a religious employer to maintain its doctrine and its teachings, not only in the hiring of its ministers but also in the hiring of other people who worked toward moving forward that religious institution’s teachings in the way they live their lives, in their beliefs, and in their willingness to teach those things to others. This legislation doesn’t do that. I think any legislation that we move forward on this needs to have it.

Secondly, neither this legislation nor the Bostock decision takes into account some significant distinctions between sexual orientation on the one hand and gender identity on the other.

In the case of gender identity, the law needs to take into account certain questions regarding what impact the law might have on girls and women’s restrooms and locker rooms, girls and women’s athletics, and single-sex safe places for people who are, for example, the victims of domestic or sexual abuse. This law, like the Bostock decision, doesn’t operate with a lot of precision and sort of takes a meat cleaver to the issue without taking into account exceptions for religious entities and distinctions between sexual orientation and gender identity. On that basis, I have concerns.

Knowing that I have some colleagues who want to speak to this issue, I decline to object at this moment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, I reserve the right to object. I would just like to observe that it was just over 20 years ago that this Chamber and the analog Chamber across the way in the House of Representatives passed almost unanimously a statute called the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. It was sponsored in the House by then-Representative SCHUMER, and it was sponsored in this Chamber by Senator Edward Kennedy, and signed by President Bill Clinton into law, who, upon its signing, referred to religious liberty as our first freedom. It was his words—and he later pointed to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act as one of his proudest accomplishments as President of the United States. Its co-sponsors in this body included Senators FEINSTEIN and MURRAY and LEAHY. It was bipartisan, my point, to put it mildly.

Yet, today, this short time on the legislation that is offered on this floor now, that has not gone through the normal process of committee referral, debate on the floor but would be passed now, without any further discussion, guts key provisions of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. This is coming on the heels of a Supreme Court decision just 2 days ago that rewrites entire American law and in its 33 pages has nearly nothing to say about religious liberty or religious believers in this country. In fact, the only thing that the opinion does say of any consequence is this:

How [the courts’] . . . doctrines protecting religious liberty interact with Title VII [as rewritten by the court] are questions for future cases.

Now, I respect, very much, my colleagues across the aisle and their passion for this issue and their sincerity in this cause. I would only ask that the rights of well-meaning, sincere religious believers not be steamrolled and overlooked and shifted to the side as part of this process. We should be able to come together and stand together in the effort to see all people be given their constitutional rights and have their constitutional rights protected.

The effects of this bill is forcing taxpayers to pay for abortions, forcing doctors to perform abortions against their will, and forcing faith-based hospitals and clinics to perform abortions. H.R. 5, this bill here, would supersede existing restrictions on abortion, including funding, including health and safety standards, and other regulations that the States have passed.

It would force faith-based adoption agencies, some of which have been helping birth mothers find a safe and loving home and for more than 100 years—it would force them out of business. It would coerce those who don’t want to speak or who hold different beliefs into adopting this set of practices and principles and beliefs at work—these doctors, these nurses, and these faith-based agencies. I submit to you that this is not the way to find consensus in America. This shunting aside of the constitutional rights of sincere, well-meaning people of faith is not the way to proceed. This gutting of the Religious Freedom Act, and I say that because H.R. 5 explicitly carves out of the Religious Freedom Act, it explicitly carves out of its safe-ty provisions all of those requirements I just mentioned. It rolls back the liberties afforded to people of faith—all faiths, by the way. One of the beauties of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is that it covers people of all faiths, any faith, and this bill would roll those protections back. It would do it without the chance for debate. It would do it outside of our normal procedures.

For those reasons, I express these reservations. Again, I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their work on this issue, their passion for this cause, and their sincerity in what they believe. I hope that we might find a better way to work forward together, but I do not object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I agree reserving the right to object. No persons should be discriminated against in America. No one. It is a basic constitutional principle. We are all equal under the law, all of us. We have different ideas about music and food. We have different ideas about beauty. We have different ideas about occupation. We have different skin colors. We are the tapestry that we talk about, and we are working to make a more perfect Union. I absolutely believe that no person should be discriminated against in America.

The Equality Act doesn’t just make everything equal, though. It has a great title. Who can oppose equality? No one. It is a basic principle of American values. We don’t oppose equality, but we do oppose when, through legislation, you take the rights of one and dismiss the rights of others and say: Your rights don’t count, only this group counts, and only this person counts. We, in America, have tried to work together, in all of our differences, for over two centuries, to learn better how to hear the rights of another one, to accommodate, and to find those spots where the rights of two individuals collide and to allow and to harmonize each other. The Equality Act does not do that. I wish it did. It changes things dramatically.

Let me just give you a few examples. It reaches into high school sports and says for male and female sports, that individuals’ sexual orientation and gender identity can move between those. There is no standard for testosterone. There is no standard for moving through transition. There is no standard at all set on it. It opens it up for any male—biological male—to step into female sports on the high school level or in the college level or in the pro-athlete level and be able to move from sport to sport. That grossly dis-advantages girls in sports, but their rights are denied.

We have already seen this in several States where State record holders for track, for instance, someone who was a biological male competing in girls’ sports or women’s athletics denying the other girls who were competing in that from opportunities for scholarships to college,
to be able to move on to other athletics. Their rights were ignored because these rights were prioritized.

In adoptions, we need more adoption areas. We need more foster care in America, not less. The Equality Act says that a faith-based adoption agency that only places children in a home where there is a mom and dad there, then you either have to change your faith or close. You have no other option. The Equality Act says to that institution: I would rather have fewer adoption agencies in America than have you open.

That is not protecting the rights of all Americans. That is not learning how to accommodate together. Why can’t we have adoption agencies that do adoptions in LGBT homes and some that do adoptions that don’t? Why can’t we have both? Why can’t we accommodate both? The Equality Act does not allow that.

The Equality Act treats every job in America exactly the same and says that an individual who is qualified for that job should be able to take that job, regardless of any issue. Let me give you a first example of that.

If you have an individual going through the process of a job for which you have some little experience that is for all of us—this Equality Act would say: When your alarm goes off and you have to get the full-body pat-down, a transgender individual could be your TSA person giving you the full-body pat-down. They would be required to not prohibit that.

Now, for some people, they would be like: I don’t care. It is a pat-down. I don’t care. For other people, it would be like—there is a reason why TSA has done pat-downs of a man for a man and a woman for a woman because there are many people uncomfortable with someone of an opposite gender who does that to them. They just are. Maybe you call them prudes, but we have to accommodate together. The Equality Act does not. It ignores their rights and says that you no longer have the right to disagree with this, and you have to just accept it.

It also dramatically changes hiring in America in a way that is unexplored. There is a reason we send bills through committee, not just bring them to the floor and demand that they pass on the same day they land on the floor without going through committee. There is a reason we do that because this bill changes hiring in America in a way that has not been tested for everyone.

This adds a new feature to title VII, where it says, in title VII, that you can’t discriminate based on race, on sex—that has been redefined, obviously, by the courts—on religion, all these things. It clarifies. You can’t discriminate based on that. But it adds a new phrase on this. “Perception or belief” is the new phrase.

That would be applied in courts. If I go to an interview in a job and I am not hired, I can sue that employer because I perceived they were thinking I was gay and so they didn’t hire me, or—because it applies to all of it—I could, actually, because this does expand this significantly, if I go in to get a job and I am not hired, I could sue them for not hiring me because I perceived that it was because I was a Christian and they didn’t hire me. I perceived that it was because I was White that they didn’t hire me. I don’t have to prove anything. It is based simply on my perception or belief. That is an untested expansion.

Now, the “perception or belief” is lifted right out of our hate crime statutes, but hate crime statutes, on their face, are all about the motive for it, and you are trying to read into a crime the motive for that crime. Now we are trying to literally read someone else’s mind in a hiring situation and to say that I perceived it, so if you don’t hire me, I can sue you.

Why are we doing this? That opens up litigation all over the country on every area, not just on this issue of LGBT rights—on every hiring because it is very expansive. We probably should slow down and look at that before we open that floodgate in America, but this does not.

Today is about demanding that it passes. Interestingly enough, as some of my colleagues have mentioned, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is wiped away in this and ignored. Interestingly enough, the Supreme Court stated just this week that on this issue Congress should apply the RFRA. Let me read what Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor, and Kagan wrote this week, along with Roberts and Gorsuch. They said this:

Separately, the employers fear that complying with Title VII’s requirements in cases like ours may require some employers to violate their religious convictions. We are also deeply concerned with preserving the promise of religious liberty enshrined in our Constitution; that guarantee lies at the heart of our pluralistic society.

They go on to speak of we will have a case dealing with the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The Equality Act, instead, says: No, never mind, Supreme Court. I know that you are concerned about religious freedoms—Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor, Kagan, Gorsuch, Roberts—but never mind. Congress is not concerned with religious liberty like you are.

Come on, let’s do this together. We don’t want anyone to be discriminated against—anyone. We can do this in a way that accommodates everyone, and then we can actually work toward agreement.

To say it in the words of J.K. Rowling this past week where she wrote: “All I’m asking—all I want—is for similar empathy, similar understanding, to be extended to the many millions of women whose sole crime is wanting their concerns to be heard with a term ‘gender and abuse.’”

Let’s work together to get equality. This bill does not do it in this form; therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, I am disappointed that my colleagues have come to the floor to stand in the well of the Senate and debate a bill that the esteemed Chamber, over issues of freedom, issues of opportunity, and issues of equality that affect millions of LGBTQ Americans.

What did we hear in their conversation? My colleague from Utah says there is no chance for debate. Has my colleague forgotten that bringing a bill to the floor brings it to debate? Is that such a lost art in the Senate that my colleague thinks debating a bill on the floor somehow squelches debate? It is a mystery to me how one can make the argument that bringing a bill to the floor kills debate.

My colleague from Oklahoma laments there is no committee action. Well, my colleague may remind that for 400 days this party has controlled whether or not there is committee action on this bill; that it is the majority that decides whether a committee addresses the issues before it. Is it 400 days of inaction in committee that prevented us from having the conversation here as a committee of the whole? Isn’t that what we are asking for—a committee of the whole to debate these key issues?

My colleagues have also referred to how somehow this bill affects religious rights, and I am taken back through the history of the conversation and dialogue about equality and opportunity in America, how every time we seek to end discrimination, someone says: But wait—religious rights.

Remember that this was the argument against Black and Brown Americans having equality here in the United States of America because their religion said they are not equal and they shouldn’t be let in the door and I should have the right to not let them in the door.

I should have the right to discriminate. Isn’t that the conversation we heard around the opportunity for women in America to play a full role in our society, that people had a religious foundation for discriminating between men and women? Well, I tell you that this Nation, although imperfect, was founded on a vision that everyone is equal and has a full chance to participate.

We have worked over hundreds of years to get toward the goal that every child can thrive in America, no matter their gender, no matter the color of their skin, no matter if they are identified as gay, lesbian, or bisexual, no matter if they are transgender. That is the conversation we should be having here.

I feel the injury of a Senate that is not a Senate, where people tremble in their seats over the idea of having a debate. What has happened to this esteemed body that that should be the case?
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So let us not rest. For those colleagues across the aisle who have said that the Supreme Court should not have acted this week, that it should be the legislature that acts, and yet come to the floor and don’t argue—to argue that we should, in fact, act, isn’t that obstruction of the legislative process?

I would encourage my colleagues who say that there are important issues to be considered to go to their leadership and say “Let’s get the committee that has the Equality Act to start doing its job: Hold the hearings; hold the conversation” because to fail to argue that it should be done in committee while you lament on the floor that the committee hasn’t acted is certainly an argument with no integrity. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I rise to use this moment to discuss the Confederate statues in our hallowed Halls of Congress. I would like to make a live UC request, but preceding that request, I want to make just a few very brief remarks.

The National Statuary Hall, where these Confederate statues are in the Capitol, is intended to honor the highest ideals of our Nation. It is intended to honor the spirit of our country and those who exhibited this spirit with heroism with courage, and with distinction.

It is a rare honor that every State gets to pick two people, out of the entire history of the country, who so exemplify the values, the spirit, and the honor of America. There are only 100 statues—just 100 statues—two from every State.

Between 1901 and 1931, 12—12—Confederate statues were placed in the National Statuary Hall, that hallowed hall. The vast majority of that same period, from 1901 through 1929, after a vicious period of voter suppression and violence against African American voters and a stripping de facto of their rights, and often de jure, not a single African American served in either of the Congress. In fact, the exact same year the first Confederate statue was placed in the Capitol, 1901, was also the year that the last African American person would serve in Congress for almost 30 years—almost 70 from the South.

This is a period that we don’t teach enough about in our country. It is a period of untold violence of domestic terrorism, of the rise of the Klan and other White supremacist organizations in which, from the late 1890s to about 1950, literally thousands of Americans—about 4,400 well-documented cases—were lynched in this country.

We cannot separate the Confederate statues from this history and legacy of White supremacy in this country. Indeed, in the vast history of our Nation, those Confederate statues represent 4 years—roughly 4 years—of the Confederacy. The entire history of our country hails as heroes people who took up arms against their own Nation, people who sought to keep and sustain that vile institution of slavery, who led us into the bloodiest war of our country’s history, who lost battle after battle until the country. These relics of that 4-plus year period, giving this sacred space to these traders upon our Nation, is not just an assault to the ideals of America as a whole, but they are a painful, insulting, difficult symbol of injury being compounded to so many American citizens who understand the very desire to put people who represented 4-plus years of treason, the very desire to put them there in an era of vast terrorism, was yet another attempt at the suppression of some of our citizens in this country.

The continued presence of these statues in the halls is an affront to African Americans and the ideals of our Nation. When we proclaim this not just to the Arlington Cemetery, but as a whole, but as we seek to be a more beloved nation, a kinder nation, a nation of equal respect and equal dignity, it is an assault on all of those ideals.

I would like to ask unanimous consent that I yield to the Democratic leader, CHUCK SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, let me thank my dear friend, the Senator from New Jersey.

Our caucus and the American people are lucky to have him as such a champion, not only for this proposal but for his work in recent years on legislation related to police reform, racial justice, and so many other issues.

In a moment, my friend will ask to pass a bill that will do something very simple and, indeed, long overdue. It will remove the statues here in the Capitol. Connecticut would rename this country apart by war in order to strengthen, perpetuate, and extend the vile institution of slavery.

There is a movement in America right now that demands we confront the poison of racism in our country. We must do this in many ways, both substantive and symbolic. This bill is just one of many steps we must take to acknowledge the painful history of America’s original sin—slavery—and to clarify for all that the men who defended it shall hold no place of honor in our Nation’s history books.

States and localities are removing Confederate statues in their public parks and municipal buildings. NASCAR has banned the Confederate flag at its events. We will soon debate renaming military installations after Confederate generals. Why should the Capitol, of all places—a symbol of the Union, a place where every American is expected to have representation—continue to venerate such ignoble figures?

Opponents of the bill will say that removing these statues is akin to forgetting or trying to erase history. No, it is not. Remembering history is a lot different than celebrating it.

We teach history in our schools and universities and museums. No doubt, the Civil War will continue to merit study, but statues and memorials are symbols of honor, and we need not revere those who represent such a dishonorable cause.

Leader MC CONNELL has ducked this issue and has said that the States should continue to decide who to send to the Capitol. Candidly, I don’t think that would be too imposing to ask our States not to send statues of people who actively fought against this country. You know, there is a reason that Connecticut doesn’t send a statue of Benedict Arnold to the Capitol.

We have a lot of work to do to unwind centuries of racial injustice embedded in our laws and in our institutions. One of the simplest things we could do is to haul out the statues of a few old racists who represent the very vile institution of slavery.

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these statues could be placed in the Capitol. It took until about 2000 until there were 100 statues from the States. States are limited to two from each State. With 50 States, there were 100 statues by 2000.

At that point, the Congress passed another law providing a way that the States, for the first time, could take a statue out. Even in 2000, there was no suggestion then or before then that Congress would decide whether the statue that the State wanted to put in could be replaced.

As a matter of fact, the Presiding Officer's State, Nebraska, just recently replaced Williams Jennings Bryan with Harry Truman. The legislature had to agree what statue would go out, what statue would come in, and Congress would then accept that statue if it met the standards.

Another way we can do away with that program. We could do a lot of things. But we have entered into that agreement.

The forts, as an example—and, again, the minority leader mentioned the forts. The forts are named totally by the Congress. I expressed my belief this week and last week that it would be absolutely inappropriate, in my view, to review the names that the forts have been named after, including the forts that are named after Confederate military leaders. It would just change those names. We can do that all on our own. We haven’t told North Carolina that a fort has to be named after General Bragg. We haven’t told Texas that a fort has to be named after Confederate General Hood. We can change those.

I am very open to looking at that and likely doing that. I just think, for my friend from New Jersey, that this is a more complicated arrangement than activity on the floor today would suggest.

I would also point out that in 2000, since Congress said that you can replace statues with another statue—you have to take a statue out to put a statue in, but you can replace statues, eight of those statues have already been replaced, and eight more are in the process of being replaced. I think four or five of the statues that have been replaced or would be replaced were in the standard of the Confederate statues.

I am encouraged that States are looking at their history, and they are looking at who has come since they put those statues in. Arkansas replaced Uriah Milton Rose, a Confederate statue, with Daisy Gatson Bates, a civil rights leader. Florida replaced Edmund Kirby-Smith with Mary McLeod Bethune, an educator, a Presidential advisor, and civil rights leader. Arkansas is in the process of replacing one of those statues. I think that today's action would violate our agreement with the States.

I frankly thank my friend from New Jersey for encouraging the Governors, encouraging the speakers of the house to do what they have every right—and the Congress, in fact, in 2000, gave them the right—to do.

The minority leader was the chairman of the committee that determines all of this just a handful of years ago and took no actions to do what the Senate is talking about doing today.

So with that in mind, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, if I could just respond—I know how busy my colleague is. He has a well-earned reputation on both sides of this body for his sincerity, for his decency, and for his honor. I take to heart his words that this is often not a good forum in which to try to push a piece of legislation that might have controversy on both sides. I understand his sincere concerns with that.

I guess he also understands the sincerity with which I bring this up: the hurt and the pain that these statues represent in a place where millions of Americans come to the Capitol and see this as their body.

I say to the Senator, because there are complications in this and there are issues we would have to work through as a Senate, I guess the one last appeal to your more senior status and maybe your friendship is this: Will you join me, at least, on a letter to the appropriate committee, asking them to at least have a hearing on this issue so that we could have a full vetting of all of the complexities and have a real discussion on something that is a pressing concern? I note that you know it is a pressing concern because some States are already taking action.

You see this action being taken across various parts of our country. You see this issue being pushed into the national consciousness. You see Republicans and Democrats, from Nikki Haley to my dear friend, the former mayor of New Orleans, Mayor Landrieu—I think it would be just and right that, perhaps, you and I, in a show of bipartisan concern and sincere awareness of the complexity of this issue, could just join—the two of us—in a letter asking the committee to take up this issue in due time so that we can have an appropriate discussion from all perspectives on this issue.

Mr. BLUNT. If I could have the chance to respond here.

Mr. BOOKER. Of course.

Mr. BLUNT. This bill was just assigned to our committee. This is a discussion that, I guess appropriately, we might have had before I was asked to come to the floor to assert the rights of the committee, to have the opportunity to think about that. I don’t know that I want to negotiate that right here. But as I said, and my friend heard just a moment ago. I would like to be free from the process of replacing statues and I would like to hear from the States that are thinking about replacing statues if this is a problem in the process of, under the current structure, solving itself.

I am encouraged that States are looking at who has come since they put those statues in. eight more are in the process of being replaced. I think that today’s action would violate our agreement with the States. I frankly thank my friend from New Jersey for encouraging the Governors, encouraging the speakers of the house to do what they have every right—and the Congress, in fact, in 2000, gave them the right—to do.

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So with that in mind, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. BOOKER. Thank you, sir.

If I may, I will make a personal appeal for a hearing on these matters. I hope that we can do that in due time. I know the pace at which the Senate often works, but I am grateful for this open dialogue and I know you had to adjust your schedule so I am grateful for your time and generosity.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.
Obama’s authority has held these individuals hostage, leaving them wondering if they might ultimately be deported to a country they have no memory of and forced to leave their families, their jobs, and the opportunities they have had hard to build here in the United States behind.

Make no mistake about it, today the Supreme Court ruled that the Department of Homeland Security didn’t follow the proper procedures to rescind the DACA program and thus allowed the program to continue for now, but this is just a temporary measure. DACA recipients must have a permanent legislative solution. They deserve nothing less. These young men and women have done nothing wrong. They came to the United States as children, and in America, we don’t hold children responsible for the mistakes of their parents, in this case, the mistake of not going through the legal immigration process. So these kids—young people. I mean, innocent. They were brought here and have done nothing wrong.

Texas is home to more than 100,000 DACA recipients who are a vital part of our communities. They have grown up with our kids, attended the same churches, shopped at the same stores, and defend the same freedoms in our bellies. Many of these young people are in their 30s now with careers, families, plans, hopes and dreams of their own.

So the uncertainty about their status and what will happen to them is no less terrifying for them than it would be for any of us. It is simply unfair for these young people who, again, through no fault of their own, find themselves in this situation to rely solely on an executive memorandum instead of a law passed by Congress. I believed that when President Obama rejected our request to work with Congress and come up with a permanent solution, and I believe it now.

I believe the Supreme Court has thrust upon us a unique moment and an opportunity. We need to take action and pass legislation that will unequivocally allow these young men and women to stay in the only home in the only country they have ever known.

In the past, I have supported a number of bills that would have allowed these individuals to remain in the United States without the fear of a court decision hanging in the balance, but each time, partisan disagreements have prevented us from turning anything into law. When it comes to immigration laws, Congress, on a bipartisan basis, never fails to fail.

Well, I hope we can all agree, given this opportunity, that it is not time for politics as usual, but it is time to provide some certainty, some compassion, some support for these young men and women. After years of being yanked around from courtroom to courtroom, these young men and women deserve that. They deserve to know that, when they apply to college, grow up with their families, live their lives, and do all the things everybody else wants to do, that they can do so without a dark cloud hanging over their plans. But, as usual, in order to come up with any solution, it is going to take buy-in from the Senate, House, and White House.

I have been having conversations for years about this topic, but most recently, I have been having conversations about the most efficient and effective way to protect these young people in the long-term, and I am willing to work with the American or the Democrat, who is interested in solving the problem—not grandstanding, not posturing, not acting like you care when you really don’t, elevating politics over a solution. I am not interested in that. If anyone is interested in solving the problem and providing support for these young people, I am all in.

Over the years, I have engaged with the Texas Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, LULAC, Catholic bishops, and a number of civil and religious organizations that share my commitment to providing certainty for these young people. I hope we can come together and help them. These folks want nothing more than to continue to be part of the American dream. I hope we can deliver.

I am so proud of the Texas Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, LULAC, Catholic bishops, and a number of civil and religious organizations that share my commitment to providing certainty for these young people. I hope we can come together and help them. These folks want nothing more than to continue to be part of the American dream. I hope we can deliver.

JUNETEENTH
Madam President, on another matter. One of the most defining days in our Nation’s history was when President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, finally freeing all slaves in Confederate territory, but slaves in Texas wouldn’t learn this life-altering news for 2½ years.

I know it is hard for us to understand. Now, we can tweet and communicate instantaneously, but it took 2½ years for slaves in the South to learn that they were free. That day came on a day we now celebrate as Juneteenth.

That was the day that Major General Gordon Granger of the Union army arrived in Galveston, TX, and shared the news to formerly enslaved people that they were now free. These free men and women set out to spread this news, with many traveling toward the north, many traveling toward the south, and many traveling toward the west. And many more enslaved people joined them, with many traveling toward the north, many traveling toward the south, and many traveling toward the west. And many more enslaved people joined them, with many traveling toward the north, many traveling toward the south, and many traveling toward the west.

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JUSTICE ACT
In the context of police reforms, our friend Senator Tim Scott from South Carolina has introduced a bill which I have cosponsored, as have many other Members of the Senate. It is called the JUSTICE Act, and it will reform our police departments to provide much-needed transparency and accountability. It takes aim at a number of these changes have the potential to create real and lasting change in America’s police departments and begin to repair the broken relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Beyond the merits of the bill itself, there is another quality worth noting, and that is it includes a number of
measure that have bipartisan support. In other words, there is a lot of overlap between what Democrats want to do and what Republicans want to do. We have to just learn how to take yes for an answer.

We will want to get 100 percent of what we want, but as a practical matter, you need to follow the 80/20 rule sometimes. That is, if you can get 80 percent of what you want, that Republic- 

ics and Democrats can agree on, then you need to grab it. That is what we need to do for a lot of differences, but focus on the commonality, on the overlap.

By the way, when I first got to the Senate, Teddy Kennedy was one of the great liberal lions here. I asked one of my conservative colleagues, the senior Senator from Wyoming who worked very productively with him, how they did it, one of the most liberal Members of the Senate, one of the most conserv- 

ative Members of the Senate, Senator Enzi, from Wyoming, said: It is easy. It is the 80/20 rule.

That is how they were so productive. That is how they got so much done. They didn't focus on what separated them; they focused on what they shared. And that is what we need to do particularly now at this time to demonstrate to America that we hear you, we understand the reason for the protests. We understand the reason for concern, and we share your anguish and concern over what lost lives are lost.

Madam President, as we prepare to debate the JUSTICE Act on the floor next week, finding that common ground is more important than ever, but I am worried that the same old par- 

tisan dysfunction which hijacks so much of what we want, but as a practical matter, you need to follow the 80/20 rule sometimes. That is, if you can get 80 percent of what you want, that Republican
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tisan dysfunction which hijacks so much of what we want, but as a practical matter, you need to follow the 80/20 rule sometimes. That is, if you can get 80 percent of what you want, that Republican
has their backs. In 2009, I shined a light on a sudden departure of the Amtrak IG, who signed a gag order in exchange for significant payout.

When the Obama administration blocked a broad swath of the IG community from testifying, I initiated oversight needed for oversight. I worked across the aisle to introduce and finally pass the Inspector General Empowerment Act in 2016. In short, I have gone to the mat my whole career to ensure inspectors general do and are able to accomplish their work with support, independence, and integrity. And because this work is so critical to Congress and our oversight role and to the public, I have worked hard to ensure that any effort to remove an IG is for a darn good reason. That is what Congress required in the IG Reform Act of 2008, a law that then-President Obama not only voted for but he cosponsored.

That law recognizes two things. First, it is the President's constitutional prerogative to manage the executive branch personnel. The President can fire an IG. Second, it is Congress's interest in support, independence, and maintain public trust. IGs should not be removed for blatant political reasons. This requires that Presidents tell Congress and the people their reasons for removal of an IG.

The IG Reform Act codified those principles by requiring the President to submit to Congress a notice of intent to remove an IG 30 days in advance and to explain why. The executive branch, under President Obama, has sought to ignore the law and keep Congress in the dark. Both Presidents provided Congress then with paltry excuses of “lost confidence.”

In July 2009, less than a year after Congress passed the IG Reform Act, then-President Obama removed the inspector general for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Gerald Walpin, from his post and placed him on administrative leave. White House informed Congress merely that President Obama had lost confidence in Mr. Walpin.

My colleagues and I made it very clear that a vague reference to “loss of confidence” was insufficient and did not satisfy the requirements of the very law that President Obama voted for and cosponsored when he was a Senator. This began a bout of negotiations that resulted in the hold of President Obama's nominees and, eventually, a bicameral congressional investigation.

In that case, I pushed for compliance with the statute, held up nominees to obtain information, and disagreed with the same rections for Mr. Walpin's removal. Mr. Walpin was never reinstated. In Mr. Walpin's case, a Federal court found later that despite a clear congressional record to the contrary, the law doesn’t require more than what President Obama gave us in any other greater detail beyond its “minimal statutory mandate” to justify the removal of Mr. Walpin.

Fast forward to the last several months when the current President followed the court’s incorrect ruling and the Obama precedent by removing two Senate-confirmed IGs, placing them on administrative leave and telling Congress only, as Obama once did before, that he had lost confidence.

In response, I did exactly what I had done before in the Obama administration. I, and several colleagues, wrote asking for a better explanation. When we finally got a response from the White House, the Committee were left without substantive explanation for the IG’s removal. So, as before, I notified the majority leader of my intent to object to the two administrative nominees until the White House coughed up some form of rationale for the removal. I finally got those reasons this week. I don’t agree with all of them, and I am working to better understand others, but because the President has finally fulfilled the law, both Congress and the public can look to see for themselves what happened.

This, of course, was the intent of the law all along.

We took a long road to get here, and we could have avoided all this hullabaloo if both Presidents Obama and Trump had just followed the statutory notice requirements in the first place, but we are here.

These situations have convinced me that the executive branch, regardless of what party is in charge, just doesn’t get it. From one administration to the next, Democrat or Republican, it makes no difference to me. This isn’t about politics. This is about the separation of powers, checks and balances, public trust. It is clear that Congress can’t rely on any White House to get it right.

We need to change the law. We need to be clearer, and we need to better safeguard the independence of these IGs. That is why I have been developing bipartisan reforms to sharpen the independent authority and recruitment of those hired and confirmed to serve as inspectors general.

We are not going to enact a clearly unconstitutional law that infringes on the President’s authority to manage personnel and that would surely result in lengthy court battles. But we are going to clarify once and for all that the law’s notice requirement means that Presidents have to give clear, substantive reasons for removing an IG and that they can’t put an IG on administrative leave without a good reason.

To fully safeguard statutorily required IG independence, we are also going to make sure that the President cannot place political appointees with clear conflicts of interest into acting IG roles. We can’t have individuals with political day jobs simultaneously in charge of confidential, independent IG matters, including substantive and sensitive audits, investigative work, and whistleblower information.

Today, I have introduced that legislation with my colleagues Senators Peters, Collins, Feinstein, Lankford, Carper, Romney, Tester, Portman, and Hassan. I want to thank Ranking Member Peters for working with me on this. His input has been invaluable in crafting this bipartisan legislation, and his staff has been diligent in furthering these efforts.

Whether you have been following the important work of inspectors general for many years or you just tuned in for the last few, we welcome your support. I hope that support continues well past the current administration. If we don’t update the law, we can only expect future administrations to continue to do what has been done lately, not giving Congress good reasons.

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

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Hon. Charles E. Grassley,
Chairman, Committee on Finance,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Chairman Grassley:
I write to follow up on our recent conversation regarding the removal of the Inspectors General of the Department of State and of the Intelligence Community. As a further clarification, we are providing the additional information you requested.

With respect to the State Department Inspector General, please see the attached letter sent to you today from the Department’s Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs.

The letter includes important information about the concerns of the Secretary of State and the Under Secretary for Management with the Inspector General’s performance. As to the removal of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, the President lost confidence in him and has spoken publicly about this loss of confidence, including on the day after the President notified Congress of his decision.

As you have stated, the President has the constitutional authority to remove inspectors general. As a matter of accommodation and presidential prerogative, the President complied fully with the statutory notification provision of the Inspector General Act. That said, is my previous letter a consensus? I think the President appreciates and respects your long-standing support for the role that inspectors general play. We look forward to the Senate’s swift confirmation of all of the President’s outstanding inspector general nominees.

Sincerely,
Pat A. Cipollone,
Counsel to the President.

The following excerpt from an official White House transcript entitled “Remarks by President Trump, Vice President Pence, and members of the Coronavirus Task Force in the Briefing.” This briefing was held on April 4, 2020 in the James S. Brady Press Room of the White House at 4:15 p.m. EDT. The full transcript can be found at: https://www.grassley.senate.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04-09%20White%20House%20Counsel%20to%20%20Grassley%20-%20%201C%2020C%20and%2020%20State%20IG.pdf

THE PRESIDENT: Think of it: We’re paying people not to go to work. How about that? How does that play? Q: I understand that. THE PRESIDENT: Think of it: We’re paying people not to go to work. How about that? How does that play?
great. But we’re paying people. We have to get back to work. That’s what I’m saying.

Go ahead, please.

Q: Mr. President, this is off topic. It’s about Senate Majority Leader McConnell.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought he did a terrible job. Absolutely terrible. He took a whistleblower report, which turned out to be a fake. It was totally wrong. It was about my conversation with the President of Ukraine. He took a fake report and he brought it to Congress, with an emergency. Okay? Not a big Trump fan, that, I can tell you.

Instead of saying—and we offered this to him: “No, no, we will take the conversation.” Right? “And why was the whistleblower allowed to be—do this?” Why was he allowed to—call it fraudulent or incorrect transcript. So you did not—I don’t know him; I didn’t think I ever met him. I don’t think I never even came in to see him. How can you do that without seeing the person? Never came in to see me. Never requested to see me. He took this terrible, inaccurate whistleblower report—right—and he brought it to Congress.

We offered to him see my exact conversation. It was all about the conversation, by the way. That was the whole thing, was about the conversation. Right? And then after I gave the—this, I’ve said, “Wow.” Because as I’ve said it many times and it drives you people crazy, it was a perfect conversation.

So instead of going and saying, “Gee, this is a terrible thing he said about the President’s conversation”—well, it was a fraud. I didn’t say that. And, by the way, you have the whistleblower. Where’s the informer? Right?

And here’s another question: Remember before I did the—before I gave the transcript—other words, before I revealed the real conversation—where’s the second whistleblower? Remember the second whistleblower?—Wait, wait, wait, wait. There was going to be a question. And after I gave the conversation, he just went away. He me—raciously went away.

Q: Where’s the informer? Because there was going to be this informant. Maybe Schiff was the informant. You ever think of that? He’s a corrupt guy. He’s a corrupt politician.

So, listen, I say this: Where’s the informant? Remember, the informer was coming forward. But I gave—because, see, I did one thing that surprised everybody. This gentleman, this guy—told me, “Boy, that was a shocker.” I revealed the conversation. I got approval from Ukraine because I didn’t want to do it without their approval. And they said, “No, did nothing wrong.”

By the way, President of Ukraine, Foreign Minister said, “He did nothing wrong.” And over that, with 196 to nothing vote by the Republicans—not one dissenting Republican vote—dishonest Democrats impeached a President of the United States. That man is a disgrace to this country.

All right, let’s go. Next. Please. He’s a total disgrace.

Q: Mr. President, did you run by your decision to dismiss the Inspector General by Senator McConnell?

THE PRESIDENT: Okay, we’ll get off this because people want to talk about what we call—what I call “false accounts.” Right? No, no, we will take the conversation. That’s my decision. I have the absolute right. Even the fake news last night said, “He has the right to do it.” Of course he has. But ask him, “Why didn’t you go and see the actual conversation?” There was no rush. He said, “Oh we’d have to rush it.” He even admitted it was politically biased. He actually said that. The report could have been—you know who the whistleblower is, and so do you and so does everybody in this room, and so do I. Everybody knows. But they give this whistleblower a status that he doesn’t deserve. He’s a fake whistleblower. And, frankly, somebody ought to sue his ass off.

Q: I just want to ask you about the all right, it’s enough with the whistleblower.

Go ahead, please.

Q: Mr. President, in 3 weeks, America will celebrate Independence Day. For 244 years, Americans have fought, marched, voted, petitioned, legislated, published, protested, and died to defend and build our blessings of freedom. The American experiment has plenty of battle scars and growing pains handed down from one generation to the next.

The first half of 2020 shows us there are still plenty of historical wounds to heal and challenges to overcome.

In the interest of public health, stay-at-home orders limited individual freedoms that many Americans take for granted, including the right to earn a living or to worship with fellow believers.

Just as the economy began to reopen, the shadows of racial injustice darkened America’s doorstep. All people are created equal, but not all people are treated equally.

The unconscionable suffocation of George Floyd at the knee of a police officer in Minneapolis struck a chord of unity to end racism in America. Hundreds of thousands of people have gathered to exercise their First Amendment rights. They march to protect racial injustice and police brutality.

Unfortunately, some exploited the peaceful protests to riot, loot, vandalize, and burn. These criminal acts were not protected by the Constitution. It is obvious they weren’t protected. They were antithetical to the laws of the land protecting life, liberty, and domestic tranquility.

All of this led one of my colleagues, the junior Senator from Arkansas, to submit an essay to the New York Times. In his opinion piece, he advocated why he thought the President ought to use his authority to deploy Active-Duty military forces to uphold law and public order, as had been done by Presidents in past instances of civil unrest.

The Times op-ed pages accepted his column and published it online under the headline: “Bring in the Troops.”

Within hours, the newsroom was in a frenzy. The leftwing rallied their troops to stop the press. The New York Times, as we know, prizes itself as the “paper of record.”

Since 185, it has served as an influential platform to gather and report the news and to hold government accountable. Policemen keep the public peace. Journalists are the policeman of...
our political system to keep the political system honest and open and transparent.

The New York Times opinion pages ostensibly provide a space for the free exchange of ideas and thought-filled conversation on matters of the day. I have long counted journalists as the constables of the fourth estate. They serve a very vital role in bolstering our system of checks and balances. They have a responsibility to set the tone for open dialogue.

Last week, the New York Times flunked this standard. The Gray Lady ghosted Senator COTTON’s opinion piece after a meltdown in its ivory tower and then when the ivory tower workforce hyperventilated.

It is certainly reasonable to disagree on the merits and to debate if recent events rise to the level of past riots that justified invoking the Insurrection Act. I certainly think we should be hesitant to deploy our military forces domestically, even in difficult situations.

But the overheated reaction by alleged journalists even to have this debate raises the question, Do they consider themselves neutral reporters or active advocates for a certain world view?

Even a casual reader is able to read between the lines and know that the New York Times subscribes to a left-leaning ideology, but the mutiny in their newsroom seems to cross the line from journalism with a left-leaning bias to political activism and ideological formality.

Sadly, last week the New York Times lowered the bar of journalistic integrity. It snubbed a voice of dissent and rebuked the free exchange of ideas.

The First Amendment protects five fundamental freedoms that sets America apart as the leader of the free world: freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government.

The Constitution does so because the expression of diverse opinions is necessary to preserve liberty.

Within 4 days of publishing Senator COTTON’s commentary, the New York Times caved to an ideological revolt in the newsroom.

Under mob rule, the casualty among its ranks was none other than the editorial page editor. He was forced out of his job for having the audacity to publish an opinion of a U.S. Senator.

At first, the publisher made a feeble effort to stand on principle, defending, in his words, “openness and a range of opinions.” Within a few days, the publisher threw James Bennet under the bus.

It is a sad day for journalism, a sad day for the free press. These actions damage the wall dividing the newsroom and the opinion desk. They solidified their silo of leftwing thought. Canceling dissenting views is a very slippery slope. Sooner or later, it mutes the exchange of ideas in a free society.

As a student of history, I know that freedom has often been threatened by those who are convinced their views were on the right side of history.

I offer a bit of wisdom without malice to the New York Times: Don’t back down from the First Amendment. Swapping your free press for party-line propaganda and punishing dissent is not a good look for the people of North Korea, China, and Iran.

On Independence Day 2020, I encourage members of the media and all Americans to step out of your comfort zones and seek to understand other viewpoints.

Before we can expand America’s promise, end racism, and beat the virus, we must come together as Americans. No matter one’s race, political creed, wealth, celebrity, remember, we are bound together by self-evident truths “that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

I want even a leftwing newspaper to be a responsible policeman for our political system.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today, I rise to ask unanimous consent to pass S. Res. 623, which is a resolution commemorating Otto Fredrick Warmbier and condemning the North Korean regime for their continued human rights abuses.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I want to thank my friend Senator PORTMAN and the rest of my colleagues who have been steadfast in their memory and remembrance of Otto Warmbier, a young Ohioan, as Rob said, whose life was cut short by the North Korean regime’s awful human rights abuses.

I take this moment to recognize—I never knew Otto, but I have gotten to know his parents and his family, and I especially thank Cindy and Fred for their advocacy in memory of their son and turning their grief into something so positive for the country and for the world.

Last year, we worked together on sanctions legislation to send a clear bipartisan signal that the United States is serious about maintaining strong economic and diplomatic pressure on North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons and to stop its human rights abuses.

Those abuses took the life of Otto Warmbier. We must continue to shine a
light on what the regime does to its own people and to others.
I thank Senator PORTMAN for his leadership on this.
Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 623.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
The clerk will report the resolution by title.
The legislative clerk read as follows:
A resolution (S. Res. 623) commemorating Otto Frederick Warmbier and condemning the North Korean regime for their continued human rights abuses.
There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PORTMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?
Without objection, it is so ordered.
The resolution (S. Res. 623) was agreed to.
The preamble was agreed to.
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the Record of June 16, 2020, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

DACA

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, today’s decision from the U.S. Supreme Court in Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California is disgraceful.

Judging is not a game. It is not supposed to be a game. But, sadly, over recent years, more and more Chief Justice Roberts has been playing games with the Court to achieve the policy outcomes he desires.

This case concerned President Obama’s Executive amnesty—amnesty that President Obama decreed directly contrary to Federal law. He did so with no legal authority. He did so in open defiance of Federal statutes. Of course, he was celebrated in the press for doing so.

Obama’s Executive amnesty was illegal the day it was issued and not one single Justice of the nine Supreme Court Justices disputed that—not a one.

Chief Justice Roberts wrote the majority opinion, joined by the four liberal Justices on the Court. This is becoming a pattern.

The majority assumes that DACA—Obama’s Executive amnesty—is illegal, and then bizarrely holds that the Trump administration can’t stop implementing a policy that is illegal.

Think about that for a second.

In fact, it is even worse. The majority explicitly concede, of course, the administration can stop an illegal policy. “All parties agree”—that is a quote—“all parties agree that DHS may rescind DACA.”

OK. Easy. Everyone agrees. DHS can rescind DACA. Right?

Not so fast. A clever little twist. The majority says: Do you know what? The agency’s legal explanation wasn’t detailed enough. Yes, you have the authority to do it. Everyone agrees.

There being no objection, you don’t have the authority to do it, but we are checking your homework and, you know, the memo you wrote explaining it just didn’t have all the detail we need. Just a touch more, so start over. What is interesting is that exactly the sleight of hand that Chief Justice Roberts did almost exactly one year ago today in another case where the Chief joined with the four liberals from the Court and struck down another one of the Trump administration’s policies.

In that case a year ago, the Commerce Department, which is charged by the Constitution with conducting a census every 10 years—the Commerce Department was asked to ask a common-sense question in the course of the census:

Are you a citizen of the United States? Is that a question that has been asked in nearly every census since 1820. It ain’t that complicated, asking someone in the course of a census: Are you a citizen?

But in today’s politically fraught world, the Democratic Party has decided they are the party of illegal immigration, as is the press. And so what did? John Roberts, little twist of hand.

He wrote an opinion saying: Of course, the Commerce Department has the authority in the census to ask if you are a citizen. Of course. We have done it since 1820.

For those who are math impaired, that is 200 years ago.

Steadily since then, every 10 years, over and over and over again, but no, no, no—John Roberts, little twist of hand.

Do you know what? The Commerce Department didn’t explain their reasoning just clearly enough. We looked at their memo announcing it, announcing that they were making a policy decision that they have unquestioned legal authority to do, that the Bill Clinton administration had asked that question, and John Roberts and the four liberals are going to strike it down because they say it wasn’t explained clearly enough.

This is a charade. Last year, they pretended it was just about the agency could go back and do it again. They knew full well there wasn’t time to do it again; that they had to start the census process from the result they wanted. They didn’t like, as a policy matter, asking this. There was no legal reason, no legal authority to strike it down, so they played a little game: Go back and start over. Of course, now we are doing the census without asking that question.

That is the same game here today in DACA. They don’t like the policy so they say; Just go back and do it over. Just give a little more explanation. Just start over. Everyone knows the game they are playing. They are hoping that in November, in the election, there is a different result in the election. Holding that the Trump administration that comes in that decides amnesty is a good thing, and so this sleight of hand is all about playing policy.

Chief Justice Roberts today held that it was illegal for the Trump administration to stop breaking the law. That is bizarre. The reasoning is because the Obama administration violated Federal immigration laws, for now—wink, wink, let’s pretend, because that is what they are doing, is pretending—Trump has to continue violating the law and behaving illegally.

Chief Justice Roberts knows exactly what he is doing. We saw earlier this week a decision rewriting title VII of our civil rights laws. Now, rewriting title VII, the prohibition on sex discrimination, on discrimination against women or against men, rewriting it to add “sexual orientation or gender identity.”

Now, as a policy matter, there are a lot of people who support that. Indeed, legislation to do that has passed the House of Representatives twice. It has passed this body once. But the Court just rewrote it. The Court just engaged in legislation, plain and simple, as Justice Alito powerfully wrote in dissent.

By the way, Chief Justice Roberts, again in the majority, assigned that majority. This is gamesmanship. Chief Justice Roberts knows exactly what he is doing. The fact that elites in Washington don’t see a problem with illegal immigration doesn’t answer the reality for millions of working men and women who do, and these kinds of games ultimately make a mockery of the rule of law. They make a mockery of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

It is the same legerdemain we saw Chief Justice Roberts do several years ago upholdning Obamacare where, again, just with a little flip of the wrist, he changed a penalty into a tax. That is not clever; that is lawless.

This decision today was lawless; it was gamesmanship; and it was contrary to the judicial oath that each of the nine Justices has taken.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we are in the midst of one of the greatest public health crises in our Nation’s history. Over 2 million Americans have been infected by the COVID-19 virus. Over 115,000 Americans have died.

Sadly, infections are still soaring upward in many States. And what is the response of the Republican majority in the U.S. Senate to this public health crisis? This week, the majority leader, Senator McConnell has scheduled a hearing for his family friend and former intern, Justin Walker, to be a judge on the DC Circuit, the second highest court in the land.
Colleagues, let’s be honest. You cannot say with a straight face that Justin Walker, a 38-year-old with no practical courtroom experience and a few months’ time on the district court bench, is the best person for the job of DC Circuit Judge. He is not, and we know it. So why is he getting this nomination? I believe there are two main reasons: because Justin Walker is a protege of Senator McConnell and because he is an outspoken critic of the Affordable Care Act.

Justin Walker has made clear that he is willing to toe the Republican party line of hostility to Obamacare. Before he was confirmed as a district judge last October in a party-line vote, he called the NFIB case that upheld the ACA’s constitutionality an “indefensible decision.” And in March, while he was a sitting judge, he cracked jokes about his opposition to the ACA at his ceremonial investiture.

These comments apparently put him on the fast-track for a promotion to the DC Circuit. I find it astonishing that Senate Republicans have rubberstamped so many nominees who have written articles or spoken publicly about their hostility to the ACA, nominees like John Bush, Christopher雷, Grasz, James Ho, David Porter, Neomi Rao, Mark Norris, Michael Truncale, and Sarah Pitlyk, not to mention Chad Readler, who filed the brief for the Trump Justice Department in the Texas v. U.S. case that called for striking down the entire ACA. The Republican administration are trying to strike down the entire ACA. That would strip away health insurance and preexisting condition protections for millions of Americans. Even in the middle of a pandemic, the Republican Party is not stopping its attack on the Affordable Care Act.

They failed to overturn the ACA in Congress, of course. But clearly, Republicans are determined to attack it through the courts, no matter how many Americans might lose their coverage and protections. Make no mistake, the nominations of Justin Walker and Cory Wilson are part of the Republican assault on the Affordable Care Act. And the American people are watching.

I oppose these nominees.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to the nomination of Justin Walker to the DC Circuit. There are four main reasons for my opposition, and I would like to address each.

First, Judge Walker does not have the experience we would expect of a nominee to the DC Circuit, which is considered the second most powerful court in the Nation. Judge Walker was confirmed to the Western District of Kentucky on October 19, 2017, but he has just six months of experience as a sitting Federal district court judge.

Moreover, as Judge Walker disclosed in the questionnaire he submitted to the Judiciary Committee, in those 7 months he has presided over no bench or jury trials. Although appellate judges don’t preside over jury selection, sentencing, or decisions on the admissibility of evidence, they are regularly called upon to examine the decisions of district court judges on these and other matters.

In light of that, Judge Walker’s lack of trial experience should alone be a bar to his elevation to the circuit. Second, serious concerns about Judge Walker’s views on Executive power and agency independence. Questions around these issues frequently come before the DC Circuit, and so Judge Walker’s views are highly relevant to his nomination.

Judge Walker has argued against the independence of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, going so far as to claim that the FBI Director should be an “agent” of the President. These views are troubling in the abstract, but they are even more troubling now, with an administration that too often views the Department of Justice as a political arm of the Presidency.

Judge Walker has also argued that Federal agencies have too much power when it comes to protecting the environment, consumers, and the workplace. This is an especially troubling viewpoint at a time when we need agencies like the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, commonly known as OSHA, to protect the health and safety of American workers who have continued working during the COVID-19 pandemic or will be returning to their jobs.

Judge Walker’s views on the ability of federal agencies to protect Americans are particularly relevant to the DC Circuit, which hears critical cases surrounding workplace and environmental safeguards.

Third, Judge Walker has been an ardent opponent of the Affordable Care Act.

He has called the Supreme Court’s decision upholding the ACA “indefensible” and “catastrophic.” He praised then-Judge Brett Kavanaugh for providing a “roadmap” by which the Court could strike down the ACA.

I simply cannot support a nominee who would put at risk the healthcare of tens of millions of Americans, including those with preexisting conditions who might well lose coverage without the ACA’s protections.

Finally, I have concerns that Judge Walker does not have the temperament required of a Federal judge.

In March of this year, when he was formally sworn in to the Western District of Kentucky, Judge Walker made a number of overtly political remarks. He mocked the American Bar Association, stating that “although we celebrate today, we cannot take for granted tomorrow or we will lose our courts and our country to critics who call us terrifying and who describe us as despicable.”

He said “in Brett Kavanaugh’s America, we will not surrender while you wage war on our work or our cause or our hope or our dream.”

These remarks raise questions as to whether Judge Walker can remain impartial and set aside political leanings.

For all of these reasons, I will vote against Judge Walker’s nomination, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. Thank you.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All post cloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Walker nomination?

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. TRITTON. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Sullivan).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Manchin), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Markey), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. Murray), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. Sinema) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?
The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 42, as follows:

[ Rolle Call Vote No. 123 Ex. ]

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.


Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. M CCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that with respect to the Walker nomination, 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 717.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion is agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read nomination of Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. I send a cloture motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 42, as follows:

[ Rolle Call Vote No. 123 Ex. ]

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.


Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion is agreed to.

Mr. President, over the weekend we celebrated Flag Day, when we honor our country’s flag as a symbol of unity. It is also a symbol of all of the struggles we have gone through as a nation and the struggles ahead of us.

Harry Truman, whose desk—one of his desks used on the Senate floor—is right here in front of me, once said that Flag Day is also a chance for us to consider what we want the flag to stand for. So I think it is appropriate that we are considering the best way to make sure that the flag stands for all we want it to stand for—and for all of us.

Senator TIM SCOTT has introduced the JUSTICE ACT, which would bring us closer to that idea. I was glad to be a cosponsor of the bill. I think this bill has the potential to make a real difference in how we deal with the important and difficult issue of police reform and making sure that our communities are both safe and secure.

You know, you can be safe in the sense that you are not in danger, but you know, you can be safe in the sense that you are not in danger, but people also need to feel secure, meaning they have confidence that they will remain safe and that they will be treated fairly while they are safe.

We need to be sure that all of the people of our country believe that justice can be blind and that it can be dispensed without fear or favor.

Policing, by its very nature, is mostly a local function. There are around 18,000 police departments across the country. Most of the reforms can be made at the local level or the State level.

There are different ways that police systems are structured around the country. There are different levels of law enforcement and how they relate to each other, and I don’t think we are going to do anything effectively in the Congress to impact that, but I think there are some things we can do both in Congress and the administration. I think Senator SCOTT has done a really good job finding what many of those things are and how to make them happen with bipartisan support.

There is a lot in this bill that simply increases transparency and accountability: more reporting so that the Justice Department has an idea of where problems seem to arise more frequently and maybe shouldn’t; an area of reporting so that a troublesome officer has all of those troubles reported if they have had problems with issues of fairness or constitutional protection; and if that officer is applying at another law enforcement agency, that information should be readily available.

There are two important ways to give people a sense of security. We do that by recognizing that the majority of police in this country are not a problem, but they do do a hard job, and they do it in an incredible way. It is a job that we have to have. It has to be conscientiously, professionally, and courageously done, and law enforcement officers all over America do it. They get up and do a hard job every day. They run to danger when others run away. It is a hard job.

Frankly, I think the hardest job in America might be the spouse of a law enforcement officer. Law enforcement officers generally have a sense—that there are occasions when this isn’t the case—but generally have a sense of whether they are in imminent danger or not. The person who cares about them, the person who loves them, wonders all day: What, at this exact moment, is that individual facing, and are they safe?

The problem in policing is there are very few officers and maybe even fewer numbers of police departments where there is a systemic problem. I think if there is a systemic problem in a department, it is hard for that department to solve that problem. Some of Senator SCOTT’s legislation helps create the tools they might need to get that done or the tools that we might need, as outside helpers, to say: Here is a department that somebody needs to look at.

His legislation can assure us that for the small group of people in law enforcement who are conducting themselves in the way that everybody else in law enforcement does, there is transparency and there is reporting. Things can’t be just swept under the rug, and an officer can’t go from one department to another without the new department knowing exactly what they are getting.

This legislation sets up more funding to make sure that body cameras are widely available and have to be used if notified that there are problems. I think there has been a lot of evidence since 2014 when we had the beginning of the modern body-camera movement, that if you have those cameras on your body and you
have them turned on, the escalation of violence, for whatever reason, happens much less frequently. The police officer knows that camera is on, and the person they are dealing with knows that camera is on, and it seems to make a difference.

Reporting when there are deaths or serious injuries due to the use of force—and those are investigated, I believe, in every department in America, but there is no reason they shouldn’t also be reported to see if there is a pattern that involves either an individual or a pattern that involves a department that needs to be looked at.

Sharing records, as I said before, is critically important so that one bad officer doesn’t get passed from one department to another.

There are things in the realm of training where this legislation helps officers get training on tactics to deescalate a situation when it gets out of control. Officers want this kind of training. They want the kind of training that makes it easier for them to understand that if they are in a situation where mental health is the problem or opioid addiction is the problem, or drug addiction is the problem, are they dealing with real criminals here or are they dealing with somebody who has gotten themselves in a situation in which they need to figure out how to get them in a different and better place.

While we need to move quickly to take up this legislation, I think there are some areas where the administration can act and is acting, based on announcements that were made this week and things that weren’t announced this week.

I talked to Attorney General Barr a couple of weeks ago as these incidents began to become more clear in the sense of problems that could be within entire police departments and encouraged the departments to do more of the pattern and practice reviews that were part of what the Justice Department used for about a decade. They were in place until November of 2018. I think they need to be back in place.

We know from past usage that they don’t have to be used on any situation or every situation, but they can be used. We have seen them used in my State in Ferguson, MO, in surrounding St. Louis County, which had a much bigger problem, and asked for a voluntary review, and the city of St. Louis, which has a big police department but not as big as St. Louis County in 2014 and 2017. Whether that review was voluntary or even if it involved a consent decree, I think that the case can be made that things happened in those three departments that might not have happened otherwise.

The Attorney General and I both agreed that if you don’t have a tool in the toolbox, you can’t use it. It is important to see when you need to do it. We have seen that every tool in the toolbox, even if it is a tool that you have previously taken out and said: Well, maybe we don’t need that any longer. If you don’t need it, you don’t have to use it. But you are certainly not going to be able to use it if you don’t have it.

President Trump took some additional steps that I was supportive of. We talked about this just last week when the Presiding Officer and I were at our leadership stakeout: officers with better tools to deal with mental health, homelessness, addiction issues.

Missouri is one of the eight Excellence in Mental Health States. This is legislation—bipartisan legislation—that I have worked on for several years with Senator Stabenow from Michigan. It allows law enforcement to connect people with the help they need and wind up having them someplace more appropriate than either jail or court.

In fact, the Department of Health and Human Services, in monitoring this program, says that it has led to a 60-percent decrease in jail time. Part of that is, by the way, that it isn’t wind up going to jail because it makes it more possible for people in many of the departments in my State and in others to have a constant contact with that mental health professional. Maybe it is just having a team working with them, where they can get that 24/7 connection with a healthcare professional. It certainly benefits from the training that many Missouri officers have had now in crisis intervention.

In Kansas City, St. Louis County, in St. Louis city, in Springfield, I have ridden with officers and talked to officers and watched how this happens, and that builds confidence. Senator Scott’s bill builds the same kind of confidence.

I have heard some of our friends on the other side say: Well, I am for 80 percent of what is in that bill. No, they don’t even say that. They say: I am for 80 percent of the bill. Now, what is the difference? Being for 80 percent of the bill means that there are things in it you don’t want, but they also say more frequently: No, that bill has 80 percent of what I want in it already.

Well, let me remind our friends how you make a law. Under the Constitution, the House passes a bill, and maybe you like that better. The Senate passes a bill, and maybe the Senate has 80 percent of what you would like to see in the final bill in Senate bill, and then you go to conference. It was taught in every civil school book that every Member of the Senate studied, and we don’t do it much anymore.

You can’t get to conference unless there is a Senate product. No matter how much you like the House bill if you are a Member of the Senate, you don’t get to weigh in on the House bill unless you have a Senate bill that allows you to go to that conference.

This would be the perfect time when Members of the Senate say—and you and I should be alert to this early this week and the next few days when they say “80 percent of what I want is in that bill or 85 percent of what I want is in that bill,” particularly, if they—usually, they are not saying ‘There is nothing in the bill I don’t want; it just doesn’t have everything I do want.’ Well, if 80 percent of what you want is in the bill and the House passes another bill that takes that bill out that, maybe you come out of that conference with 90 percent of what you want. If a solution that gets you 90 percent of what you want or 80 percent of what you want is the alternative to zero percent of what you want, if you want to be a legislator, you have to figure out that that is a better path for you to take than the zero-percent path.

It would be tragic next week if the result of the House deliberation and, this month, if the result of the Senate deliberation is that there is no further discussion because everybody has decided that if it wasn’t everything they wanted, they didn’t want to have the process that we used to call—and the Constitution calls and civic books call—the legislative process.

There are not the first struggles we have faced together as a nation. We have come a long way. We still have a long way to go.

Remember, the Constitution doesn’t even promise a perfect Union. It promises a more perfect Union. You get to a more perfect Union one step at a time, not all at once. My guess is, we will always be on the journey toward a more perfect Union.

Senator Scott has given us an opportunity to take some of the important steps that journey and make the Union more perfect than it is right now.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Scott of Florida). The Senator from Alaska.

AMERICAN ENERGY INNOVATION ACT

Ms. MURkowski. Mr. President, on Tuesday, just a few days ago, I convened a hearing of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and we were focused on the impacts of COVID–19 and how this pandemic has impacted our Nation’s energy industry. We had a lot of discussions about the impact of COVID on the Nation, on our economy, and I think it is probably fair to say that every facet of our society has been impacted, but it is certainly clear to me as a Senator for the State of Alaska and as chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee that the energy sector has suffered perhaps uniquely and I think acutely.
It is a pretty wide-ranging bill. It covers everything from energy efficiency to renewables. We have a strong focus on carbon capture. The big anchor piece is energy storage. Advanced nuclear plays a key role and also vehicle technologies. We focused on minimizing the key energy security vulnerabilities, and it is an aspect of secure supply chains, grid and cyber security, workforce modernization. Really, it is all areas that will work to help our economy, boost our international competitiveness, and protect public health and the global environment.

At the hearing on Tuesday, one of our witnesses described this energy bill, our American Energy Innovation Act, as “foundational.” I really think it is foundational.

Where are we with this foundational energy bill that has been the work of such a good, strong collaborative committee process? It was clearly timely for the Senate to be considering this in the pandemic—and it is even more critical, more timely that we consider it now.

When we had an opportunity to bring this to the floor earlier, there was a desire and an interest in making sure that we focus on the clean and renewable energy sector. We do that within that bill.

It has been interesting because in the past several weeks, we have heard calls from Members of this body to prioritize a robust clean energy recovery plan. There was a letter from 24 Members of the Senate who urged Senate leadership to “prioritize a robust clean energy recovery plan.” In their letter, they call for investments in renewable energy, energy storage, energy efficiency, clean vehicles, clean and efficient infrastructure, clean fuels, and workforce development. That sounds pretty much like what we included within our American Energy Innovation Act.

I sent many of them just a quick letter detailing how our bill really does accomplish just that, including the specifics that focus on each of these priorities, and encourage them to help us pass it.

As you may recall, we had the American Energy Innovation Act on the Senate floor at the end of February just before the pandemic took hold. Again, I mentioned the collaborative effort and the building of that bill. We spent a lot of time in the Energy Committee working through a lot of the issues that had some conflict and to reduce that conflict so we could get a good, strong bipartisan product. As a consequence, we have a bill that contains the priorities for more than 70 Senators. It is supported by more than 200 organizations. We incorporated 18 amendments on the floor working through that process.

The Senate ultimately denied cloture on March 18. This was just before the shelter in place and the work from home orders began. We hit a wall there. The unfortunate reality is we hit that wall. We were derailed with this important legislative effort not because of an impasse that we had with the contents of our bill, but it was an unrelated dispute from another committee. It was not something that, as chairman, I could have anticipated. There was no notice provided. And, it is not an issue for our bill. In fairness, we didn’t have any power as the Energy and Natural Resources Committee to work it out for this other committee.

It was hamstrung by it. Now, what happened then was a year of good, strong committee work by the Energy Committee is now being held hostage in a fight in another committee. I have been patient with this, but I would remind colleagues that we are not getting any more extra legislative days being added. The clock is ticking there. This is a matter that, again, when this came before us while we were on this floor trying to work out the last of the amendments, this was a matter that the last time we were promised a resolution at that time. We will have this fixed in a month. Well, it has been over 3 months now since this became an issue. Again, we have lost valuable time.

The staff of the Energy Committee is holding back a strong, bipartisan bill that would allow us to modernize our Nation’s energy policies for the first time in more than a dozen years.

In a week where I have certainly been reminded about the importance of energy and, again, heard good, strong support for our energy bill, I would tell my colleagues that we need to redouble our efforts on this to advance this bill. We need to unlock this energy bill, which is a good bill that is ready to go, from the complications that have been created within another committee.

I like to pride myself on being a pretty good team player around here. I want to give people space to work their priorities, but I think we need to stand up for those who are able to hold the key to this to help us unlock this so we can move a significant priority—not just for the Energy and Natural Resources Committee but a significant priority for every Member in this Chamber because it doesn’t make any difference if you are a Republican or a Democrat, if you come from an urban area or a rural area, when it comes to the strength of our Nation’s economy, the foundational interest here, the foundations rest solidly on energy.

So an opportunity to update and modernize our energy policies in a way that benefits us all is something that I would hope we can all agree to. I want to get this bill moving. I want these folks to be working on their priorities. It is an opportunity to pass a pretty good team working on this. I want to do this and pass this bill. You heard me in the week that originated in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee when it comes to some of our land and conservation measures. The Great American Outdoors Act passed by a strong margin. It was the work of a lot of good people, but both measures, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, as well as the Restore Our Parks Act, began with the
THE JUSTICE ACT

Mrs. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I want to end my few moments on the floor with an acknowledgment of where we are going to be next week. It has been made clear that we are going to have an opportunity to bring up for consideration the nomination of Marshall Billingslea, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security and Christopher C. Miller, of Virginia, to be Director of the Presidential Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

My hope—it is more than a hope; it is a prayer—is that we will come to the floor next week as colleagues and as individuals who want to bring to bear good policy for a country at a time that is so desperate for leadership that is responsive, leadership that has demonstrated a willingness to listen to the voices of Americans across this country and to listen what we have seen expressed across this country in the few weeks since the terrible death and killing of George Floyd but recognizing that it is far more than the horrible death of one individual. It is a history that in many parts of our country is raw and open and needs to be addressed.

My prayer is that we can come to this floor next week with open hearts and open minds, having listened well. If we do that, I can only suspect that the outcome will be good. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the day be resumed.

Mr. WILKSON. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OBJECTION

WITHDRAWAL

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I previously notified the Chamber of my objection to the nominations of Marshall Billingslea, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security and Christopher C. Miller, of Virginia, to be Director of the Presidential Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence. On June 12, 2020, I received two letters: one from the Department of State, which contained a copy of recent correspondence between the administration and the Council of the Inspector General on Integrity and Efficiency, CIGIE, requesting that CIGIE investigate specific allegations into the conduct of the State Department Inspector General, State IG, Steve Linick, and another separate letter from the White House Counsel concerning the removal of Intelligence Community Inspector General, IC IG, Michael Atkinson. Without making comment regarding the veracity of the allegations against Mr. Linick, I believe that these letters fulfill the President’s requirement to provide Congress reasons for the removal of the IC IG and the State IG, as required by the Inspector General Reform Act. It is for this reason that I withdraw my objection to both Mr. Billingslea and Mr. Miller.

The letter from the White House Counsel regarding the removal of the IC IG repeats a previous letter from the Department of State that the President had lost confidence in the IC IG. However, the White House Counsel enclosed with that letter a transcript of President Trump providing his reasons for removing Mr. Atkinson to the press and has informed me that those reasons represent the President’s official explanation of Mr. Atkinson’s removal to Congress. I believe that this transcript and its transmittal to Congress has fulfilled the statutory notice requirement of the Inspector General Reform Act. It is for this reason that I withdraw my objection to Mr. Miller.

Here follow my comments to the President, including my actions and rationale: although the Constitution gives the President the authority to manage executive branch personnel, Congress has made it clear by law that should the President fire an inspector general, there ought to be a good reason for it. No such reason was provided when the President informed Congress of the removal of Mr. Atkinson on April 3, 2020. Thus, in a bipartisan letter on April 8, 2020, my colleagues and I reminded the President of his requirement under the statute to provide reasons for removing an IG. On May 15, 2020, the President notified Congress of his intent to remove Mr. Linick. This notification also lacked reasons for the removal spurring my solo letter on May 18, 2020, again reminding the President of his requirement to provide reasons.

After a delay, and a personal call with the White House Counsel, I was promised a response to my letters that would fulfill the statutory notice requirement. On May 26, I received a response from the White House Counsel explaining the President’s Constitutional removal authority, which I never questioned. However, the letter still contained no reason for the removal or the procedures required for it to comply with the statute prompting my objection to both Mr. Miller and Mr. Billingslea on June 4, 2020.

On June 6, 2020, I asked the White House to provide written reasons for the removals of the IGs and several other key officials. I took this opportunity to talk to the White House and I told them that I needed reasons for the firing of IGs to be submitted in writing.

On June 12, 2020, I received the enclosed letter from the State Department which finally fulfills the executive branch’s legal requirement to provide Congress reasons for an IG’s removal with regard to Mr. Linick. Here is my view of Mr. Linick.

The State Department’s correspondence with CIGIE provided four reasons for Mr. Linick’s removal, all involving the investigation of the leak of information to a news reporter pertaining to an IG report, which the reporter claims to be based on information garnered from “two government sources involved in carrying out the investigation. The letter to CIGIE requests that they begin an investigation into Mr. Linick’s alleged breaches, including: (1) failure to formally refer to CIGIE . . . the investigation of [the] leak”; 2) “hand selection” of the Department of Defense OIG to conduct the leak investigation; 3) “non-compliance with State Department Office of Inspector General (OIG) email policies”; and 4) refusal to supply Department of State leadership with a copy or summary of the leak investigation report despite “repeated requests” from State Department leadership. These claims are as of yet unverified but the President has of-
such a briefing and reviewing the additional relevant information.

After reviewing the provided rationale, I have several concerns. Chief among them is that CIGIE does not traditionally conduct investigations into each other’s work, and CIGIE often suggests that allegations against IGs or their offices be referred to peer IGs. This is done when crucial IG independence must be maintained but the appearance of conflicts of interest may arise. It would also not be uncharacteristic for a IG to safeguard the office’s statutorily required independence by potentially refusing to provide internal information to its parent agency. In short, although it would make little sense for CIGIE to conduct the investigation in the manner desired by the State Department, it would not be outside the bounds of precedent for one office of inspector general to conduct an investigation into another.

Although I have not yet had the opportunity to verify the allegations regarding Mr. Linick, as I noted earlier, the President retains the constitutional authority to manage executive branch personnel. My objection to these nominees was designed to prompt compliance with the IG Reform Act, which the President has now done with regards to Mr. Linick. Therefore, I am withdrawing my objection to Mr. Billingslea.

On June 12, 2020, I received the enclosed letter from the White House Counsel which finally fulfills the executive branch’s legal requirement to provide Congress reasons for an IG’s removal with regard to Mr. Atkinson. On June 11, 2020, Mr. Atkinson was removed by the President for reasons that remain vague, even though the President satisfied the requirements of the law, I do not agree that the provided reasons merited Mr. Atkinson’s removal. In the provided transcript the President states, ‘I thought [Atkinson] did a terrible job. Absolutely terrible...’ But ask him, ‘Why didn’t you go and see the [transcript of my phone call with the Ukrainian president]?’ There was no rush. [Atkinson] said, ‘Oh we’d have to rush over there.’ This statement suggests that the reason(s) that the President removed Mr. Atkinson was because of the speed with which he sought to bring the whistleblower information to Congress and/or his role generally in the impeachment process.

With respect to this objection concerning Mr. Atkinson’s supposed haste, it is necessary to review the IC IG’s responsibility under the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. The act provides the IC IG only 14 days to determine if an “urgent concern” “appears credible” and transmit that information to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, ODNI. Notably, the law also does not require that a full investigation of a whistleblower’s allegations be completed before the information is provided to Congress. Reading such a requirement into the law could result in critical and relevant information not reaching the ODNI Office of Compliance in a timely manner and could pose a chilling effect on whistleblowers’ willingness to report urgent concerns and other issues of waste, fraud, and abuse in the intelligence community. That being said, I understood the President’s irritation with this IG’s action being a factor in the House of Representatives’ impeachment.

In those remarks, the President also said that “they give this whistleblower a status that he doesn’t deserve... And, frankly, somebody ought to sue [him].” To the extent that the President is referring to Mr. Atkinson’s determination that the whistleblower allegation at issue amounted to an urgent concern, the rationale provided on June 11, 2020, remains a significant difference of legal opinion on this matter. The President’s position is supported by the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel, and Presidents routinely follow the legal determinations of that office. However, whether or not the whistleblower’s allegation meets the legal definition of an “urgent concern” under the law, I obviously do not agree that person should be sued or otherwise retaliated against.

My objection to these nominees was designed to prompt compliance with the IG Reform Act, which the President has now done with regards to Mr. Atkinson. Therefore, I am withdrawing my objection to Mr. Miller.

Although some may want to believe that this is a new issue unique to this administration, it certainly is not. In July of 2009, then President Obama removed the Corporation for National and Community Service—CNCS—Inspector General, Gerald Walpin, from his post in a very similar manner and also did not provide reasons for removal. This began a bout of negotiations that resulted in not only the hold of several Presidential nominees but also a bicameral congressional investigation into the matter. In that case, I similarly pushed for compliance with the statute, held up a nominee to obtain information, and disagreed with the stated reasons for Mr. Walpin’s removal. In both cases, Mr. Walpin was never reinstated.

Given the misinterpretation of the statute by successive administrations from both political parties, it is apparent that Congress must clarify the statute to ensure inspectors general are able to continue operating without undue interference. So I am introducing a bipartisan bill today to accomplish just that.

(At the request of Mr. Durbin, the following letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I will not be present to vote on the confirmation of Justin Walker, vote 123, to be a judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Were I present, I would vote nay.

JUNETEENTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, tomorrow, we will commemorate the 155th Juneteenth, the celebration of the end of chattel slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, Robert Smalls, John Horse, Gordon Granger and Union soldiers delivered the news of liberation to one of the last remaining Confederate outposts in Galveston, Texas. The Civil War had ended, and the last remaining enslaved Black Americans were free. General Gordon’s decree would arrive over 2 years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

For millions of Black Americans, Juneteenth traditionally has been a celebration of this freedom; it is also a day of reflection and education on a history that we all must confront. There is much to inform us about our present times that we can learn from the story of Juneteenth. It is the story of America, the story of my home State of Maryland. Each year, I aim to share these lessons and resources with my constituents through my office and in recognizing the continued work we must do to elevate Black history and create a more tolerant society. This year, my office will close to commemorate the holiday and allow staff the time to reflect on its important historical lessons.

Juneteenth is a reminder that, even after the signing of Abraham Lincoln’s seminal declaration, that even in a Nation whose founding documents should have enshrined liberty and justice for all of its inhabitants, freedom was a dream deferred for Black Americans. It is a reminder that liberation was hard fought by those who were denied it, including abolition leaders like Marylanders Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, who then passed the torch to civil rights leaders and social movements past and present who are still fighting to realize equal justice under law. Equal justice under law is a promise the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Emancipation Proclamation all made, but it remains elusive, so the struggle continues.

In this way, Juneteenth is a quintessential American holiday. The history of chattel slavery is interwoven throughout American history and would become the architecture for unjust systems that still stand today. The Juneteenth liberation would precede over a century of continued oppression, segregation through stigmatization, policymaking, voter disenfranchisement, and Jim Crow segregation laws, which continued to widen the gaps of social, economic, and political achievement for Black Americans in our society. Acknowledging its history and the efforts to chip away at it are critical to understanding how to dismantle it from its core.
Through the lens of recent tragedies—the police killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and, just this week, Rayshard Brooks—and the worldwide anti-racism protests they have sparked, this education is more important than ever. We are being called to connect the dots in our history and take action to bring about meaningful change, to save lives, and to right the wrongs of the past. We are being called, yet again, to answer in what ways are our constitutional promises still left unfulfilled for Black Americans?

Answering this question is essential to addressing police and criminal justice reform. From the establishment of deputized slave patrols in the American South, to the enforcement of segregation laws through the 1960s, to mass incarceration and disproportionate police violence in our present day, Black Americans have often faced systemic racism that the law either required or permitted. The same 13th Amendment that abolished slavery did so in all forms except incarceration, shrouding the institution in a new light and enabling the continued suppression of freedom and rights.

Today, Black Americans are still twice as likely to be killed by police as White Americans. And despite representing only 12 percent of the U.S. adult population, Black Americans make up 33 percent of the sentenced prison population. We have seen the brutal videos. We see the painful list of names of men and women killed at the hands of police brutality. We see the effects of this cyclical system on the health of our communities and families every day. We must act to stop it.

The roots of systemic racism in law enforcement were planted centuries ago and can be unraveled with targeted and conscious action. This is why I have been proud to work with my colleagues Senator Booker and Harris on crafting police reform legislation that works toward justice and systemic change, the Justice in Policing Act. This broader legislation includes two bills I have introduced for several years, the End Racial and Religious Profiling Act and the Law Enforcement Trust and Integrity Act. The Justice in Policing Act would prohibit racial profiling, improve officer training, and hold officers accountable for the misconduct that keeps alive the culture of violence and racial profiling.

I hope the Senate can pass this bill. Equal treatment of individuals under the law must not be a partisan issue. All Americans must recognize and celebrate Juneteenth so that we may face these harsh realities about our past and present and understand that the fight for freedom is ongoing. We cannot ignore our past, for it is with us here in the present in many forms. The wounds of our Nation will not heal until we acknowledge them, bring them to light, and commit to the work in Congress and in our communities to mend them. Freedom has never been free, nor has it ever come easily. Let us celebrate liberation by doing everything we can to fight for it for generations to come.

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

**TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DEL G. ATKINSON**

- Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of U.S. Air National Guard CMSgt. Del G. Atkinson, who is retiring after almost 40 years of faithful service to our country.

Chief Atkinson entered Federal Active-Duty service in the U.S. Army in August 1982. He was stationed in Nuremberg, West Germany, with the 595th Military Police Company, First Armored Division “Old Ironsides” and the 101st Airborne Division “Screaming Eagles” with the 101st Military Police Company Port Campbell, KY.

Upon completion of his Army service, he entered into the Air National Guard. During his lengthy career in the Guard, Chief Atkinson served a number of combat deployments, including Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and Coronet Oak.

Chief Atkinson used his experience in the Army to launch a career in law enforcement, working as a member of the University of Arkansas Police Department and the Springdale, AR, Police Department.

Over the course of almost 36 years, his military service took him around the globe, and yet, whether it was in Arkansas, our Nation’s Capital, or overseas, he and I always seemed to be crossing paths.

A number of those occasions were more than just fortunate circumstances, as for a time, he was part of a team responsible for providing protection for aircraft transitioning between overseas airfields with inadequate security.

He often found himself assigned to White House missions. I was privileged to have been onboard for some of those flights. My colleagues and I relied on Del and his teammates, for our protection as we traveled to some dangerous places.

On those trips, I remember looking back at the local law enforcement and thinking to myself how special it was that northwest Arkansas had extra representation onboard. Del and his colleagues took great care of us, each and every time, and for that, I will always be appreciative.

Chief Atkinson was promoted eight times during the course of his military career. He earned a number of prestigious awards and medals including a Meritorious Service Medal with three oakleaf clusters and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

His pride in our Nation and his fellow servicemembers is apparent, including with his service as a member of the Liberty Jump Team, where he performed commemorative parachute jumps honoring veterans of wars and foreign conflicts. He joined the team because “he wanted to give back to the Greatest Generation” and honor how they overcame all obstacles and persevered to win the victory on all fronts.”

I remain grateful for Del’s combat service to the Nation, dedication to keeping the UA campus and the community of Springdale safe during his law enforcement days, and commitment to keep alive the memory of those who sacrificed for our Nation. I wish him years of joy and happiness in retirement.

**MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

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

**EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED**

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, and treaties, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

**MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR**

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3985. A bill to improve and reform policing practices, accountability, and transparency.

**EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

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

EC–4856. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the President’s Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, together with the accompanying papers and documents, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–4857. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the President’s Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, together with the accompanying papers and documents, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–4858. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense,
transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Market Research and Consideration of Value for the Determination of Price” (RIN0705–AK65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4859. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Justification and Approval Thresholds for Small Contracts” (RIN0705–AK66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4860. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Qualifications Requirements for Contracting Positions” (RIN0705–AK99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4861. A communication from the Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Home Mortgage Disclosure (Regulation C)” (RIN3170–AA76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4862. A communication from the Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Remittance Transfers under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (Regulation E)” (RIN3170–AA76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4863. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of the designation of Jason Kearns as Chairman and Randolph J. Stayin as Vice Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, effective June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–4864. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; HHS Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2021; Notice Requirement for Non-Federal Government Plans” (RIN5009–AT76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4865. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Poverty and Resources Determinations in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency” (RIN0938–AT31) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–4866. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, with respect to North Korea, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–4867. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “June 2020 Report to the Congress: Medicare and the Health Care Delivery System”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–4868. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Service Contracts” (RIN3072–AC30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–4869. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Interpretable Rule on Demurrage and Detention Under the Shipping Act” (RIN3072–AC78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.


PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM–204. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them by supporting H.R. 141 and S. 521 of the 116th Congress, the Social Security Fairness Act; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

Whereas, the Congress of the United States of America has enacted both the Government Pension Offset (GPO), reducing the spousal and survivor Social Security benefit, and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), reducing the earned Social Security benefit, payable to the individual who receives a public pension benefit earned in public employment not covered by Social Security; and

Whereas, the GPO can negatively affect a retired public employee receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit earned in employment not covered by Social Security, who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by the retiree’s spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO can negatively affect a retired public employee receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit earned in employment not covered by Social Security, who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by the retiree’s spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO can negatively affect a retired public employee receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit earned in employment not covered by Social Security, who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by the retiree’s spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO can negatively affect a retired public employee receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit earned in employment not covered by Social Security, who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by the retiree’s spouse; and

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them by supporting H.R. 141 and S. 521 of the 116th Congress, the Social Security Fairness Act; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 1069. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently ingesting high-resolution geospatial data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, state, regional, and national capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–234).
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. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HASSAN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. TESTER, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3994. A bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to require that the President or certain agency heads may remove an Inspector General, or place an Inspector General on non-duty status, only if certain conditions are met and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 3995. A bill to limit the authority of the States or other taxing jurisdictions to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States or taxing jurisdictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BARBARSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MUNCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUHOL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3996. A bill to amend the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2019, relating to the conduct of knowledge diplomacy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BARBARSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MUNCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUHOL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3997. A bill to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. 3998. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to simplify payments for Social Security disability and Medicare beneficiaries with specific impairment-related conditions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3999. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure access to dialysis and behavioral health services furnished through telehealth under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 4000. A bill to require Federal law enforcement and prison officials to obtain or provide immediate medical attention to individuals in custody who display medical distress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. OXFORD, Mr. CASHEY, Mr. PERDUE, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 4001. A bill to amend title IX of the Social Security Act to improve emergency unemployment benefits for governmental entities and nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on Finance.
condolences to the family of David Dorn; considered and agreed to. By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. CRUZ) S. Res. 632. A resolution reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Republic of Ecuador and recognizing the restoration of diplomatic relations and the strengthening of economic relations, security, and development opportunities in both nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 745

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 783, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 872

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown) was added as a cosponsor of S. 872, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign $20 Federal reserve notes so as to include a likeness of Harriet Tubman, and for other purposes.

S. 1374

At the request of Ms. MCSELLY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. Ernst) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1374, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 1620

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1620, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to exempt from inspection the slaughter of animals and the preparation of carcasses conducted at a custom slaughter facility, and for other purposes.

S. 3095

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3095, a bill to develop voluntary guidelines for accessible postsecondary electronic instructional materials and related technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 3103

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 3103, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for other purposes.

S. 3599

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) were added as cosponsors of S. 3599, a bill to enhance our Nation's nurse and physician workforce during the COVID-19 crisis by recapturing unused immigrant visas.

S. 3620

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Peters) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3620, a bill to establish a Housing Assistance Fund at the Department of the Treasury.

S. 3703

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Moran) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker) were added as cosponsors of S. 3703, a bill to amend the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to improve the prevention of elder abuse and exploitation of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

S. 3722

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Moran), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Logue), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. Capito) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Cortez Masto) were added as cosponsors of S. 3722, a bill to authorize funding for a bilateral cooperative program with Israel for the development of health technologies with a focus on combating COVID-19.

S. 3768

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Smith) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3768, a bill to protect older adults and people with disabilities living in nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, and psychiatric hospitals from COVID-19.

S. 3800

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. Duckworth) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3800, a bill to require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to collect and report certain data concerning COVID-19.

S. 3801

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. Murray) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3801, a bill to authorize emergency home 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 COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 3901

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3901, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a task force to address the effects of the release of perfluoroalkyl substances and polyfluoroalkyl substances from activities of the Department of Defense, to include exposure to such substances in periodic health assessments of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Braun) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3981, a bill to prevent the militarization of Federal, State, and local law enforcement by Federal excess property transfers and grant programs.

S. 3892

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3892, a bill to extend to the Mayor of the District of Columbia the same authority over the National Guard of the District of Columbia as the Governors of the several States exercise over the National Guard of those States with respect to administration of the National Guard and its use to respond to natural disasters and other civil disturbances, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 509

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Young) 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.

S. RES. 623

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Rubio) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 623, a resolution commemorating Otto Frederick Warmbier and condemning the North Korean regime for their continued human rights abuses.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. BROWN).

S. 3995. A bill to limit the authority of States or other taxing jurisdictions to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States or taxing jurisdictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. Res. 623. A resolution commemorating Otto Frederick Warmbier and condemning the North Korean regime for their continued human rights abuses.
INDIVIDUALS—The term "qualified production employee" means a person who performs production services of any nature directly in connection with a taxing jurisdiction's qualified or approved film, television or other commercial video production for wages or other remuneration provided that the wages or other remuneration paid to such person are qualified production costs or expenditures under such taxing jurisdiction's qualified or approved film incentive program, and that such wages or other remuneration be subject to withholding under such film incentive program as a condition to treating such wages or other remuneration as a qualified production expense.

(b) WAGES OR OTHER REMUNERATION.—Wages or other remuneration earned in any calendar year shall not be subject to income tax withholding and reporting requirements with respect to any taxing jurisdiction unless the employee is subject to income tax in such taxing jurisdiction under subsection (a).

(c) INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Income tax withholding and reporting requirements under subsection (a)(2) shall apply to wages or other remuneration earned of the commencement date of employment duties in the taxing jurisdiction during the calendar year.

(d) OPERATING RULES.—For purposes of determining penalties related to an employer's income tax withholding and reporting requirements with respect to any taxing jurisdiction—

(1) an employer may rely on an employee's annual determination of the time expected to be spent by such employee in the taxing jurisdictions in which the employee will perform duties absent—

(A) the employer's actual knowledge of fraud by the employee in making the determination; or

(B) collusion between the employer and the employee to evade tax;

(2) except as provided in paragraph (3), if records are maintained by an employer in the regular course of business that record the location of an employee, such records shall not preclude an employer's ability to rely on an employee's determination under paragraph (1); and

(3) notwithstanding paragraph (2), if an employer maintains a system that tracks where the employee performs duties on a daily basis, data from the time and attendance system shall be considered, in determining the location of an employee's performance of employment duties.

(2) EMPLOYEE.—The term "employee" has the same meaning given to it by the taxing jurisdiction in which the employment duties are performed, except that the term "employee" shall not include a professional athlete, professional entertainer, qualified production employee, or certain public figures.

(3) PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE.—The term "professional athlete" means a person who performs services in a professional athletic event, provided that the wages or other remuneration are paid to such person for performing services in his or her capacity as a professional athlete.

(4) PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINER.—The term "professional entertainer" means a person of prominence who performs services in the professional performing arts for wages or other remuneration provided that such wages or other remuneration are paid to such person for performing services in his or her capacity as a professional entertainer.

(5) QUALIFIED PRODUCTION EMPLOYEE.—The term "qualified production employee" means a person who performs production services of any nature directly in connection with a taxing jurisdiction's qualified or approved film, television or other commercial video production for wages or other remuneration provided that the wages or other remuneration paid to such person are qualified production costs or expenditures under such taxing jurisdiction's qualified or approved film incentive program, and that such wages or other remuneration be subject to withholding under such film incentive program as a condition to treating such wages or other remuneration as a qualified production expense.

(6) CERTAIN PUBLIC FIGURES.—The term "certain public figures" means persons of prominence who perform services for wages or other remuneration on a per-event basis, provided that the wages or other remuneration are paid to such person for services provided at a particular event such as a speech, public appearance, or similar event.

(7) EMPLOYER.—The term "employer" has the meaning given to it in section 3401(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 3401(d)), unless such term is defined by the taxing jurisdiction in which the employee's employment duties are performed, in which case the taxing jurisdiction's definition shall prevail.

(8) TAXING JURISDICTION.—The term "taxing jurisdiction" means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, any territory or possession of the United States, any municipality, city, county, township, parish, transportation district, or assessment district, or any political subdivision within the territorial limits of the United States with the authority to impose a tax, charge, or fee.

(9) TIME AND ATTENDANCE SYSTEM.—The term "time and attendance system" means a system in which—

(A) the employee is required on a contemporaneous basis to record his work location for every day worked outside of the taxing jurisdiction in which the employee's employment duties are primarily performed; and

(B) the system allows the employer to allocate the employee's wages for income tax purposes among all taxing jurisdictions in which the employee performs employment duties.

(10) WAGES OR OTHER REMUNERATION.—The term "wages or other remuneration" may be limited by the taxing jurisdiction in which the employment duties are performed.

(e) ADJUSTMENT DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.—With respect to calendar year 2020, in the case of an employee who performs employment duties in any taxing jurisdiction other than the taxing jurisdiction of the employee's residence during such year as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, subsection (a)(2) shall be applied by substituting "90 days" for "30 days".
By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTES MAATO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3997. A bill to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am here on the floor to talk about a significant step forward in holding China accountable for not playing by the rules. Today, after months of work, we are introducing bipartisan legislation called the Safeguarding American Innovation Act. It's our bill and it's focused on helping our country protect our own research and IP by exploiting exemptions who we know are seeking to steal research and IP from America's colleges and universities.

First, our bill makes it a crime failing to disclose their foreign ties on federal grant applications, which, shockingly, it currently isn't. It requires the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, to streamline and coordinate grant-making between the federal agencies so there's needed accountability and transparency when it comes to tracking the billions of dollars of taxpayer-funded grant money that's being distributed.

It also allows the State Department to deny visas to foreign researchers who we know are seeking to steal research and IP from our university laboratories. Our bill also requires research institutions and universities to provide the State Department basic information about the sensitive technologies that a foreign researcher will have access to.

And our bill requires transparency by requiring universities to report any foreign gift of $50,000 or more and empowering the Department of Education to fine universities that repeatedly fail to disclose these gifts.

As we're talking about the sensitive technologies that are being distributed, it's shocking to me that we have so many colleges and universities that are repeatedly failing to disclose these research and IP.

That's starting to change in the wake of our Subcommittee investigation. Right now, our law enforcement officials and other federal entities are still not working together to hold accountable for this IP theft problem but are limited in the actions they can take under current law. All of the arrests they've made so far have been because of peripheral financial crimes like wire fraud and tax evasion rather than chasing the issue of taking American taxpayer-funded research to benefit China. Why? Because they don't have the legal ability to address the root causes of this problem. That's changing today.

That's why I'm proud to be working with my Democratic counterpart on the Subcommittee, Tom CARPER from Delaware, to introduce the bipartisan Safeguarding American Innovation Act to empower the government to protect our research enterprise while keeping it open and transparent. The bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill shall be ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4002. A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to extend the interest rate limitation on debt entered into during military service to debt incurred during military service to consolidate or refinance student loans incurred before military service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4002. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Service-member Student Loan Affordability Act of 2020.”

SEC. 2. INTEREST RATE LIMITATION ON DEBT ENTERED INTO DURING MILITARY SERVICE TO CONSOLIDATE OR REFINANCE STUDENT LOANS INCURRED BEFORE MILITARY SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 207 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 1637) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “on debt incurred before service” after “limitation to 6 percent”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph (2):

(2) LIMITATION TO 6 PERCENT ON DEBT INCURRED DURING SERVICE TO CONSOLIDATE OR REFINANCE STUDENT LOANS INCURRED BEFORE SERVICE.—An obligation or liability bearing interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent per year that is incurred by a servicemember, or the servicemember’s spouse jointly, during military service to consolidate or refinance one or more student loans incurred by the servicemember before such military service shall not bear an interest at a rate in excess of 6 percent during the period of military service.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “the interest rate limitation on subsection (a)” and inserting “an interest rate limitation in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a)”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking “effective as of date of order to active duty” and inserting “effective as of date of order to active duty”;

(B) by inserting before the period at the end of the following in the “in the case of an obligation or liability covered by subsection (a)(1), on the date the servicemember (or servicemember and spouse jointly) incurs the obligation or liability concerned under subsection (a)(2)”;

(c) STUDENT LOAN DEFINED.—Subsection (d) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(3) STUDENT LOAN.—The term ‘student loan’ means the following: “(A) A Federal student loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.).”

A private student loan "A Federal student loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.)."
By Mr. THUNE:
S. 4015. A bill to provide funds to assess the availability, accelerate the deployment, and improve the sustainability of advanced communications services and communications infrastructure in rural America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 4015

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the "Rural Connectivity Advancement Program Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. DEPOSIT OF SPECTRUM AUCTION PROCEEDS IN RURAL BROADBAND ASSESSMENT AND DEPLOYMENT FUND.
Section 306(j)(B) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 306(j)(B)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "and (G)" and inserting "(G), and (H)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(H) ASSESSMENT AND DEPLOYMENT FUND.—

"(1) In general.—Notwithstanding subsection (A) of this section (as added by section 2 of this Act) as a result of that auction.

"(2) Establishment of Fund.—There is established in the Treasury a fund to be known as the "Rural Broadband Assessment and Deployment Fund".

"(c) Borrowing Authority.—

"(1) In general.—Beginning on the date on which the Commission announces the results of an auction under section 306(j) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 306(j)) the Commission may borrow from the Treasury of the United States an amount not to exceed the amount that will be deposited in the Rural Broadband Assessment and Deployment Fund under paragraphs (8)(H) of that section (as added by section 2 of this Act) as a result of that auction.

"(2) Reimbursement.—The Commission shall reimburse the general fund of the Treasury, without interest, for any amounts borrowed under paragraph (1) as funds are deposited into the Rural Broadband Assessment and Deployment Fund.

"(d) Availability of Amounts.—Any amounts borrowed under subsection (c)(1) and any amounts deposited into the Rural Broadband Assessment and Deployment Fund that are not necessary for reimbursement of the general fund of the Treasury for such borrowed amounts shall be available to the Commission for use in accordance with subsection (e).

"(e) Use of Amounts.—

"(1) Establishment of Program or Programs.—The Commission shall use amounts made available under subsection (d) to establish 1 or more programs that are separate from, but are coordinated with and complement, the high-cost programs to address:

(A) gaps that remain in broadband internet access service coverage in high-cost rural areas despite the operations of the high-cost programs;

(B) shortfalls in sufficient funding of the high-cost programs that could adversely affect the sustainability of services or reasonable comparability of rates that are supported by those programs.

"(2) Purposes.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Commission shall use amounts made available under subsection (d) in an efficient and cost-effective manner by—

(A) for the assessment of, and to provide subsidies in a technology-neutral manner through a competitive process (subject to weighting preferences for performance quality and other service metrics as the Commission may find appropriate) to providers for support of, deployment of broadband-capable infrastructure in high-cost rural areas that the Commission determines are unserved by fixed terrestrial broadband internet access service at a download speed of not less than 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of not less than 3 megabits per second (or, for such areas designated by the Commission, any speed that is found appropriate); and

(B) to assess, and provide subsidies to providers to vi- sibly demonstrate the ability to sustain, broadband internet access service in any rural area in which—

(i) only one provider of fixed terrestrial broadband internet access service operates; and

(ii) the high-cost nature of the area precludes the offering of voice service and broadband internet access service at rates and performance levels available in urban areas as determined by the Rural Rate Service Area Designation Act of 1998, as amended by this Act.

"(3) Tribal Considerations.—In distributing amounts under this subsection, the Commission shall consider the broadband internet access service availability and rates in Tribal lands (as defined in section 54.400 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation).

"(4) Limitations.—

"(A) Prohibition on Funding Other Programs.—

(1) In general.—The Commission may not use amounts made available under subsection (d) to fund any program that was not established by the Commission under paragraph (1) of this subsection, including any program established under section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) Use of Funds.—The Commission shall use any amounts made available under paragraph (1)(A) for the purposes established under paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection.

"(B) Transparency and Accountability for Addressing Gaps in Coverage.—The Commission shall establish transparency and accountability requirements for amounts made available for the purpose set forth in paragraphs (1)(A) and (1)(B) that, at a minimum—

(I) provide—

(A) for the challenging any initial determination by the Commission regarding whether an area is served or unserved; and

(B) written public notice on the website of the Commission of—

(aa) how each challenge under subparagraph (a) was decided; and

(bb) the reasons of the Commission for each decision.

(ii) establish broadband service buildout milestones and require periodic certification by funding recipients to ensure compliance with the broadband service buildout milestones established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission;

(iii) establish periodic reporting requirements for funding recipients that identify, at a minimum, the nature of the service provided in each area where funding is provided;

(iv) establish standard penalties for non-compliance with the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission; and

(v) require a funding recipient to—

(A) file an annual report documenting the nature of the service provided and any non-compliance with the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission; and

(B) meet the requirements of this subparagraph with respect to areas in which the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission.

(iii) establish a maximum buildout timeframe of 4 years beginning on the date on which funding is provided;

(iv) establish per-program reporting requirements for funding recipients that identify, at a minimum, the nature of the service provided in each area where funding is provided;

(v) establish standard penalties for non-compliance with the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission; and

(vi) require a funding recipient to—

(A) file an annual report documenting the nature of the service provided and any non-compliance with the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission; and

(B) meet the requirements of this subparagraph with respect to areas in which the requirements established under this subparagraph and as may be further prescribed by the Commission.

(iv) establish a maximum buildout timeframe of 4 years beginning on the date on which funding is provided.
WHEREAS Romania joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 2004 and hosts NATO’s Multi-national Division Headquarters South East, a NATO Force Integration Unit in Sabac, Croatia, and the Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System, a key element of the United States European Phased Adaptive Approach missile defense system;

WHEREAS, in 2011, the United States and Romania issued the “Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership for the 21st Century” aiming to expand cooperation with Romania and the Black Sea region, reflecting increasing cooperation between the countries and throughout the Black Sea region to promote security, democracy, free market opportunities, and cultural exchange;

WHEREAS Romania continues to modernize its air defense system. The Department of Defense has made its 2014 Wales Summit commitment to allocate at least 2 percent of gross domestic product for defense spending;

WHEREAS the Romanian Armed Forces have supported NATO and United States operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for almost 2 decades, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to those missions, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice;

WHEREAS Romania is a member of the Global Coalition to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Iraq and Syria, and is making significant contributions to the fight against international terrorism;

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2019, the United States and Romania signed a memorandum of understanding outlining a shared commitment to developing a secure and vibrant fifth-generation wireless infrastructure based on free and fair competition, transparency, and the rule of law— including a rigorous evaluation of vendors;

WHEREAS Romania has played a leading role in the establishment of the Three Seas Initiative and was one of the first countries to invest in the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund, which aims to increase energy independence and infrastructure connectivity across Central and Eastern Europe;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been deepening their economic relationship through bilateral trade and investment, and in 2017, Romania hosted the tenth annual United States Commercial Service and Trade Mission, helping United States companies boost exports across Southeast Europe;

WHEREAS, in 2018, as Romania celebrated its National Day, President Donald J. Trump issued a proclamation congratulating Romans and Romanian-Americans on that historic milestone, illustrating the close ties and friendship that exist between the United States and Romania;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been a strategic military partner since 1997, with the Romanian Armed Forces contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for almost 2 decades, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to those missions, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice;

WHEREAS the Romanian Armed Forces have supported NATO and United States operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for almost 2 decades, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to those missions, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice;

WHEREAS Romania is a member of the Global Coalition to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Iraq and Syria, and is making significant contributions to the fight against international terrorism;

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2019, the United States and Romania signed a memorandum of understanding outlining a shared commitment to developing a secure and vibrant fifth-generation wireless infrastructure based on free and fair competition, transparency, and the rule of law— including a rigorous evaluation of vendors;

WHEREAS Romania has played a leading role in the establishment of the Three Seas Initiative and was one of the first countries to invest in the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund, which aims to increase energy independence and infrastructure connectivity across Central and Eastern Europe;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been deepening their economic relationship through bilateral trade and investment, and in 2017, Romania hosted the tenth annual United States Commercial Service and Trade Mission, helping United States companies boost exports across Southeast Europe;

WHEREAS, in 2018, as Romania celebrated its National Day, President Donald J. Trump issued a proclamation congratulating Romans and Romanian-Americans on that historic milestone, illustrating the close ties and friendship that exist between the United States and Romania;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been a strategic military partner since 1997, with the Romanian Armed Forces contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for almost 2 decades, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to those missions, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice;

WHEREAS Romania is a member of the Global Coalition to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Iraq and Syria, and is making significant contributions to the fight against international terrorism;

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2019, the United States and Romania signed a memorandum of understanding outlining a shared commitment to developing a secure and vibrant fifth-generation wireless infrastructure based on free and fair competition, transparency, and the rule of law— including a rigorous evaluation of vendors;

WHEREAS Romania has played a leading role in the establishment of the Three Seas Initiative and was one of the first countries to invest in the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund, which aims to increase energy independence and infrastructure connectivity across Central and Eastern Europe;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been deepening their economic relationship through bilateral trade and investment, and in 2017, Romania hosted the tenth annual United States Commercial Service and Trade Mission, helping United States companies boost exports across Southeast Europe;

WHEREAS, in 2018, as Romania celebrated its National Day, President Donald J. Trump issued a proclamation congratulating Romans and Romanian-Americans on that historic milestone, illustrating the close ties and friendship that exist between the United States and Romania;

WHEREAS the United States and Romania have been a strategic military partner since 1997, with the Romanian Armed Forces contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters for almost 2 decades, contributing more than 30,000 total combat and support personnel to those missions, some of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice;
Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with economic growth, positive health outcomes, and better quality of life;

Whereas many outdoor recreation businesses are small businesses, which have been heavily impacted by the COVID–19 pandemic;

Whereas, as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic, many outdoor recreation businesses have closed their doors in the United States and have furloughed or laid off employees;

Whereas outdoor recreation businesses are cornerstones of rural communities and outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States; and

Whereas June 2020 is an appropriate month to designate as “Great Outdoors Month” to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2020 as “Great Outdoors Month”;

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to responsibly participate in recreation activities in the great outdoors during June 2020 and year-round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 630—DESIGNATING JUNE 20, 2020, AS “AMERICAN EAGLE DAY” AND CELEBRATING THE RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF THE BALD EAGLE AS THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 630

Whereas the bald eagle was chosen as the central image of the Great Seal of the United States on June 29, 1942, by the Founding Fathers at the Congress of the Confederation;

Whereas the bald eagle is widely known as the living national symbol of the United States; and generations have represented values, such as—

(1) freedom;

(2) democracy;

(3) opportunity;

(4) strength;

(5) spirit;

(6) independence;

(7) justice; and

(8) excellence;

Whereas the bald eagle is unique to North America and cannot be found naturally in any other part of the world, which was one of the primary reasons the Founding Fathers selected the bald eagle to symbolize the Government of the United States;

Whereas the bald eagle is the central image used in the official logos of many branches and departments of the Federal Government, including—

(1) the Executive Office of the President;

(2) Congress;

(3) the Supreme Court of the United States;

(4) the Department of Defense;

(5) the Department of the Treasury;

(6) the Department of Justice;

(7) the Department of State;

(8) the Department of Commerce;

(9) the Department of Homeland Security;

(10) the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(11) the Department of Labor; and

(12) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(13) the Department of Energy;

(14) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(15) the Central Intelligence Agency; and

(16) the United States Postal Service;

Whereas the bald eagle is an inspiring symbol of the spirit of freedom and the sovereignty of the people of the United States; and

Whereas the image and symbolism of the bald eagle has—

(1) played a significant role in art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, and culture in the United States; and

(2) appeared on United States stamps, currency, and coins;

Whereas the bald eagle was endangered and facing possible extinction in the lower 48 States but has made a gradual and encouraging comeback in national parks, waterways, and skyways of the United States;

Whereas the dramatic recovery of the national bird of the United States is an endangered species success story and an inspirational example to other environmental, natural resources, and wildlife conservation efforts worldwide;

Whereas, in 1940, noting that the bald eagle was threatened with extinction, Congress passed the Act entitled “An Act for the protection of the bald eagle”, approved June 6, 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.), which prohibited the killing, selling, or possessing a bald eagle, and a 1962 amendment to that Act expanded protection to the bald eagle when nesting (referred to collectively in this preamble as the “Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act”);

Whereas, by 1963, there were only an estimated 4,000 nesting pairs of bald eagles remaining in the lower 48 States, with loss of habitat, poisoning, and the use of pesticides and other environmental contaminants contributing to the near demise of the national bird of the United States;

Whereas, in 1967, the bald eagle was officially declared an endangered species under Public Law 89–669 (80 Stat. 926) (commonly known as the “Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966”) in areas in the United States south of the 40th parallel due to the dramatic decline in the population of the bald eagle in the lower 48 States;

Whereas the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) was enacted in 1973, and 1978, the bald eagle was listed as an endangered species throughout the lower 48 States, except in the States of Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin, in which the bald eagle was listed as a threatened species;

Whereas, in July 1995, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service announced that in the lower 48 States, the bald eagle had recovered sufficiently to change the status of the species from endangered to threatened;

Whereas, by 2007, bald eagles residing in the lower 48 States were rebounded to approximately 11,000 pairs;

Whereas, on June 28, 2007, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service took the bald eagle from protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), but the bald eagle continues to be protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.), section 42 of title 18, United States Code (referred to in this preamble as the “Lacey Act”), and the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371 et seq.);

Whereas the sustained recovery of the bald eagle population will require the continuation of recovery, management, education, and public awareness programs to ensure that the population numbers and habitat of the bald eagle remain healthy and secure for generations to come; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 20, 2020, as “American Eagle Day”;

(2) applauds the issuance of bald eagle commemorative coins by the Secretary of the Treasury to generate critical funds for the protection of the bald eagle; and

(3) encourages educational entities, organizations, businesses, conservation groups, and government agencies with a shared interest in conserving endangered species to collaborate and develop educational tools for use in the public schools of the United States; and

(4) the people of the United States to observe American Eagle Day with appropriate ceremonies and other activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 631—HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DAVID DORN AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF DAVID DORN

Mr. HALEY (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 631

Whereas David Dorn was born on October 29, 1942, in St. Louis, Missouri; Whereas David Dorn was—
have taken to protect freedom of expression and freedom of the press in his country;  
(4) encourages the Republic of Ecuador to ensure that the rights of refugees and asylum seekers are protected; and  
(5) supports actions to strengthen the historic bilateral relationship between the United States and Ecuador, including—  
(A) the establishment of robust bilateral trade and investment frameworks with Ecuador to build mutual prosperity through greater transparency and competitiveness;  
(B) stronger law enforcement and security cooperation between the two countries, including in cybersecurity, border management, counternarcotics, anti-money laundering, military and civilian security professionalization, and criminal justice capabilities;  
(C) the return of the United States Agency for International Development and the extension of the Peace Corps Program in Ecuador;  
(D) continued United States assistance for Ecuador’s response to combat the COVID-19 pandemic;  
(E) closer ties between Americans and Ecuadorians through English language learning and teaching programs that foster greater professional and educational opportunities;  
(F) continued efforts to protect freedom of expression and freedom of the press; and  
(G) continued efforts to ensure that the rights of refugees and asylum seekers are protected.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, June 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing, on the nomination of Sethuraman Panchanathan, of Arizona, to be Director of the National Science Foundation for a term of six years. Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.
Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McCoy and Moak nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NOs. 116-2, 116-3, AND 116-4

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaties transmitted to the Senate on June 18, 2020, by the President of the United States: Extradition Treaty with the Republic of Croatia, Treaty Document No. 116-2; Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation, Treaty Document No. 116-3; Protocol Supplementary to the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, Treaty Document No. 116-4; I further ask that the treaties be considered as having been read the first time; that they be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Panchanathan, Moak and Zollars nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 642 and 651.

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

The clerk will report the nominations.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Peter M. McCoy, Jr., of South Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years, and of Vincent F. DeMarco, of New York, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of New York for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McCoy and DeMarco nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 713 and 716.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of William Zollars, of Kansas, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2022, and Donald Lee Moak, of Florida, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2022.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Zollars and Moak nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 2(2) of the Agreement on Extradition between the United States of America and the European Union, signed June 25, 2003, as to the Application of the Treaty on Extradition signed on October 25, 1991 (the “U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement”), and the Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 2(2) of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance between the United States of America and the European Union, both of which entered into force on February 1, 2010.

The U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement modernizes in important respects the Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Croatia for the Extradition of Fugitives from Justice, signed October 25, 1991 (the “1991 Extradition Treaty”), which is currently in force between the United States of America and the Republic of Croatia. Most significantly, it replaces the outdated list of extraditable offenses with the modern “dual criminality” approach, thereby enabling coverage of newer offenses, such as cyber-related crimes, environmental offenses, and modern terrorism offenses. In addition, it includes several provisions updating and streamlining procedural requirements for preparing and transmitting extradition documents.

The U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement formalizes and strengthens the institutional framework for legal assistance between the United States of America and the Republic of Croatia in criminal matters. Because the United States of America and the Republic of Croatia do not have a bilateral mutual legal assistance treaty in force, the U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement is a partial treaty governing only those issues regulated by the U.S.-European Union Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement, specifically: identification of bank information, joint investigative teams, video-conferencing, expedited transmission of requests, assistance to administrative authorities, use limitations, confidentiality, and grounds for refusal. This agreement is consistent with that taken with other European Union member states (Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Malta, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia) with which the United States does not have an existing mutual legal assistance treaty.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement and the U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement.

DONALD J. TRUMP.


To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (the “Beijing Protocol”), adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organization International Conference on Aviation Security (Diplomatic Conference on Aviation Security) in Beijing on September 10, 2010, and signed by the United States on that
same date. I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Beijing Protocol.

The Beijing Protocol is an important component of international efforts to prevent and punish terrorism targeting civil aviation. It complements the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, done at The Hague on December 16, 1970 (the "Hague Convention"), and fills several gaps in the existing international legal framework for combating global terrorism. It will significantly advance cooperation between States Parties in the prevention of the full range of unlawful acts relating to civil aviation and in the prosecution and punishment of offenders.

The Beijing Protocol amends the existing hijacking offense in the Hague Convention to cover hijackings that occur pre- or post-flight and addresses situations in which the offender may attempt, attack, or remotely interfere with flight operation or data transmission systems. The Beijing Protocol requires States Parties to criminalize these acts under their domestic laws and to cooperate to prevent and investigate suspected crimes under the Beijing Protocol. It includes an "extradite or prosecute" obligation with respect to persons accused of committing, attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, or aiding in the commission of such offenses.

Some changes to United States law will be needed for the United States to implement provisions of the Beijing Protocol, obligating the United States to criminalize certain offenses, make those offenses punishable by appropriate penalties, and authorize the assertion of jurisdiction over such offenses. Proposed legislation is being separately transmitted by my Administration to the Congress.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Beijing Protocol, subject to a reservation and certain understandings that are described in the accompanying report of the Department of State.

DONALD J. TRUMP.


To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation (the "Beijing Convention"), adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organization International Conference on Air Law (Diplomatic Conference on Aviation Security) in Beijing on September 10, 2010, and signed by the United States on that same date. I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Beijing Convention.

The Beijing Convention is an important component of international efforts to prevent and punish both terrorism targeting civil aviation and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. As between parties to the Beijing Convention, it replaces and supersedes the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal, September 23, 1971, and its supplementary protocol, the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, done at Montreal, February 24, 1974. It strengthens and in the existing international counterterrorism legal framework and facilitates the prosecution and extradition of those who seek to commit acts of terror, including acts such as those committed on September 11, 2001.

The Beijing Convention establishes the first international treaty framework that criminalizes certain terrorist acts, including using an aircraft in a terrorist activity and certain acts related to the transport of weapons of mass destruction or related materials by aircraft. The Beijing Convention requires States Parties to criminalize specified acts under their domestic laws and to cooperate to prevent and investigate suspected crimes under the Beijing Convention. It includes an "extradite or prosecute" obligation with respect to persons accused of committing, attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, or aiding in the commission of such offenses.

Some changes to United States law will be needed for the United States to implement provisions of the Beijing Convention obligating the United States to criminalize certain offenses, make those offenses punishable by appropriate penalties, and authorize the assertion of jurisdiction over such offenses. Proposed legislation is being separately transmitted by my Administration to the Congress.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Beijing Convention, subject to a reservation and certain understandings that are described in the accompanying report of the Department of State.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 631) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s Record under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, June 22; 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 to resume consideration of the Wilson nomination. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture vote on the Wilson nomination occur at 5:30 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020, AT 3 P.M.

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 4:03 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 22, 2020, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

CAROLINE A. CRENSHAW, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2024, VICE ROBERT J. JACKSON, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BRADLEY D. HANSELL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE KARI A. BINGEN.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

KYLE HAUPTMAN, OF MAINE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 2, 2025, VICE J. MARK MOWATT, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CYNTHIA KIERSCHT, OF MINNESOTA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLeniPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA.

GEETA PASI, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PleniPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 18, 2020:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PETER M. MCCOY, JR., OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

VINCENT F. DEMARCO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

SETHURAMAN PANCHANATHAN, OF ARIZONA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUSTIN REED WALKER, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

WILLIAM ZOLLARS, OF KANSAS, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2022.

DONALD LEE MOAK, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2022.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROMOTING FAIR AND EFFECTIVE POLICING THROUGH RESEARCH ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON OF TEXAS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Promoting Fair and Effective Policing Through Research Act.

We are a nation in mourning. Our shared anguish over the loss of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, Botham Jean and countless other black men and women at the hands of police has spurred a growing chorus of Americans to demand not only justice, but meaningful and lasting change.

Cities across the nation are grappling with how to respond. A number of officials have committed to sweeping reductions in police department funding and embraced a move toward innovative approaches to providing public safety. Others are calling for more resources for police departments and advocating for procedural reforms.

I am heartened that we, as a nation, are engaging in substantive discourse about the role of policing in American society. This day is long overdue and has come at too high a cost, but we must seize this opportunity. We must dig deep to examine how the history and culture of policing in America has brought us to this tumultuous place. And, in our search for solutions, we must be guided by evidence grounded in data and scientific research.

First and foremost, we must have a national database on police use of force, and I am glad to see this included in the Justice in Policing Act. We must explore the legacy of policing and the root cause of the racial disparities we observe. We must assess the organizational influences on policing—such as recruitment, training, and performance evaluation. We must examine promising practices for promoting accountability and fostering community trust. We must study the use of technology and big data on vulnerable populations and work to root out any biases. Finally, we must establish meaningful partnerships between law enforcement and researchers to empower jurisdictions to tailor proven solutions to meet their needs and the needs of the communities they serve.

The bill I am introducing today directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund social and behavioral research on policing policies, including the causes, consequences, and mitigation of police violence. NSF is directed to support collaborative partnerships between social science researchers, law enforcement agencies, and civil society organizations. The bill also provides for a National Academies study to identify research gaps related to law enforcement policies, collect promising practices, and make recommendations for advancing research and implementation of proven solutions.

This bill would also address research and standards for biometric identification technologies, including facial recognition technologies. If we allow inaccuracies or biases to persist in these systems, then when deployed in high-impact situations, like decision making in the criminal justice system, those biases will disproportionately harm communities of color. Important research and testing at the National Institute of Standards and Technology has already helped identify the biases and improve the accuracy of these systems. This bill directs NIST to expand upon these efforts and focus on new areas in need of testing, such as capture devices. This bill will also help lead to standardization of methodologies and practices to eliminate biases across the industry and develop guidance to inform law enforcement procurement decisions.

Importantly, science and standardization are only two pieces in the biometric puzzle. We need a national privacy law to limit the risk of abuse from biometric identification technologies. I call on my colleagues in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the House Committee on the Judiciary to take up this issue with haste.

Finally, the bill leverages science at the Department of Homeland Security to support the reduction of excessive use of force and lethal use of force by law enforcement. There have been too many fatal encounters with not only state and local police across the country, but also with Federal law enforcement, including the U.S. Park Police. This bill requires the Under Secretary for Science and Technology to consult with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to support research and data analysis to improve training, policies, and practices for Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officials. The Department’s research and support for risk assessment tools can assist in the development of guidelines and best practices for policing and police training, including how to mitigate racial bias and minimize the use of excessive force.

I urge my colleagues to join me and help move this legislation forward into law.

HONORING THE CLASS OF 2020 AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, in honor of all of this year’s graduates, I am proud to recognize the Class of 2020 across Iowa’s Third Congressional District as our Iowans of the Week. As we near the end of the semester for thousands of students, I ask that you all join me in taking a moment to acknowledge their accomplishments over the course of the year and congratulate them on this achievement as they move forward in their lives and toward their next endeavors.

Unfortunately, many of the traditions and ceremonies our graduates would typically look forward to have been cancelled. The pageantry and tradition of turned tassels, pomp and circumstance, and the bestowing of the degree or the diploma will sadly not come this year. And just as this pandemic has denied graduates these moments, so too has it compounded the daily challenges of life these students have faced.

As distance learning has become the new norm, these students have developed a whole new appreciation for the academic, social, and emotional supports that have helped them along the way. While these unfortunate circumstances have clouded a typically joyous time of year, it has been remarkable to see students rise to the challenge, adapt, and learn with little time to plan. They transitioned to online and distance learning and were able to come out on the other side more resilient as they finish the final days of their final year.

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I urge my colleagues to join me and help move this legislation forward into law.

HONORING RUDOLPH HYDE AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Pastor Dr. Rudolph M. Hyde is a native of the Caribbean Island of Jamaica who migrated to the United States of America and attended Polk State College, graduating with a degree in Computer Network Engineering. He was also awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Ministry from Isaiah University.

Recognizing and nurturing the anointing and calling upon his life, Pastor Rudolph was ordained as an Elder and has served in various
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June 18, 2020

leadership positions throughout the years. His love for ministry led him to start the Faith Temple Apostolic Ministries International church in Eagle Lake, Florida in March 2014, and was ordained as the Pastor. He is supported by his wife Marlene and four children. The church in Eagle Lake is a multi-cultural ministry serving the whole individual regardless of challenges or limitations. He believes there is nothing too difficult for God and believes that a voice in the community is a voice for hope and identity. Through the platform of his ministry, he has opened opportunities to work and help in the community by addressing the needs of the people. Over the years, the ministry has been able to provide food, clothing and funds to the general public through the Feed the People Program.

For the last 6 years, the ministry has hosted a free public annual event known as Jamaica Day, bringing Caribbean culture, food and music to the community of Polk County which draws in hundreds of people annually.

With his passion for giving back, Pastor Hyde also founded Hyde’s Academy in Eagle Lake to provide Computer and CPR training to the general community with the American Heart Association’s support. He believes that there is nothing impossible that the human mind cannot accomplish if we work and unite together.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JEFFREY L. CURTIS AS HE RECEIVES THE JOHN B. BARNWELL AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL OF MICHIGAN IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Jeffrey L. Curtis as he receives the 2019 John B. Barnwell Award. Dr. Curtis’s commitment to advancing the healthcare of our nation’s veterans is worthy of commendation.

After receiving his medical degree from the Georgetown University School of Medicine, Dr. Curtis completed his clinical residency at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and spent two years as a Clinical Immunology Fellow at the National Institute on Aging, NIH. Following residency, Dr. Curtis trained in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (PCCM) at the University of California San Francisco, where he joined the faculty at the San Francisco VA. Dr. Curtis continued his work with veterans at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, VA, where he served as Chief in the PCCM Section and as scientific director of a Research Enhancement Award Program center in tobacco-induced lung diseases. Dr. Curtis has held leadership roles in several COPD trials and continues to lead groundbreaking research efforts, including the ongoing SPIROMICS and COPDGene studies. Furthermore, Dr. Curtis is the Associate Editor of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, is the past-Chair of the American Thoracic Scientific Assembly on Allergy, Immunology, and Inflammation, and is a current professor at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Receiving the prestigious John B. Barnwell Award exemplifies Dr. Curtis’s continued commitment to scientific discovery and improving health outcomes for our nation’s veterans. The award, which represents the Clinical Science Research and Development Service’s highest honor within the Department of Veterans Affairs, recognizes senior VHA investigators who have achieved international acclaim for their clinical research accomplishments and have led clinical activities that have advanced the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders in the veteran population. Undoubtedly, Dr. Curtis is a deserving recipient of this award. He is internationally recognized as a leading researcher in the field of pulmonary and critical care, and his work has led to the development of major clinical trials and programs that have advanced the study of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other lung disorders. Dr. Curtis has dedicated his career to clinical research and continues to transform the quality of care for veterans nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Jeffrey Curtis as he receives the John B. Barnwell Award. We thank him for his meaningful work and wish him continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELIZABETH “BETSY” GILBERTSON

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO OF CONNECTICUT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to Elizabeth “Betsy” Gilbertson, a dear friend who we lost much too soon. Though she waged a fierce battle, Betsy recently lost her fight with ovarian cancer.

Betsy dedicated her professional life and much of her personal time to ensuring that everyone has access to affordable, quality health care. From the earliest days of her career, Betsy combined her passion for advocacy with that of her belief that quality, affordable healthcare was a right, not a privilege. As a member of the National Nurses Association and District 1199, New England SEIU, Betsy represented her fellow nurses in collective bargaining. She also led a non-profit women’s health center before joining UNITE HERE HEALTH, a Taft-Hartley labor management trust fund that provides health benefits that offer high quality, affordable healthcare to their participants, where she held a number of leadership roles prior to her last position as Chief of Strategy.

Betsy’s dedication to quality, affordable healthcare extended far beyond her professional career. She served on National Quality Forum Task Forces on patient safety and ambulatory care measures; was founder as well as Chair/Co-Chair of the Health Services Coalition, a labor management organization that contracts with hospitals and advocates for public policies that improve quality health care, affordability, and access in Nevada; and was a Board member of the National Committee for Quality Assurance for five years. In more recent years, she continued her good work serving on the Low Income Advisory Council and the federal Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee.

For me, Betsy was not only an invaluable resource on healthcare issues, but a cherished friend. It is a friendship that dates back to a time before our lives took us to Washington, D.C. Betsy and her husband, John, lived in my childhood neighborhood of Wooster Square in New Haven, Connecticut for many years—John and my husband, Stan, teaching together at Yale University long before they knew each other. Betsy and John were kindred spirits and I will be forever grateful to have had her friendship all these years.

I am heartbroken at Betsy’s loss and extend my deepest sympathies to her husband, John Wilhelm, as well as their children Tom and Vinnie; and their grandchildren. I, like so many of those who had the opportunity to know her, consider myself fortunate to have called her my friend and will continue to be inspired by her memory. Betsy was an extraordinary woman who passion and dedication touched countless lives—this world is just a bit dimmer without her in it.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY H. MCCOMBS

HON. NORMA J. TORRES OF CALIFORNIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran and Rialto community leader Mary H. McCombs.

A graduate of University of Redlands, Mary began her decades of community service as a social worker with the Riverside County Welfare Department. Shortly after President Roosevelt’s signing of the Navy Women’s Reserve Act into law in 1942, she answered the call to serve her country and enlisted in the U.S. Navy WAVES program.

Mary’s tenure in the WAVES program resulted in travel to New York, Norco, California, and the San Francisco Bay where she trained to serve the Navy in a medical capacity. Until the end of World War II, she was stationed at the Naval Hospital on Treasure Island where her primary duties involved tracking all the admissions and discharges for the hospital.

Upon discharge from the Navy, Mary married Ray McCombs and moved to Rialto, California, where she served as First Lady of Rialto from 1952 to 1954. A loving mother of five children, she always sought opportunities to improve the lives of others. In 1962 she returned to work for the San Bernardino County Adoption Service, where she placed hundreds of children into loving homes throughout the county.

Mary’s beloved husband sadly passed in 1983.

Mary continued to remain active in the community and with her local church. She was a member of the American Association of University Women, the Rialto Symphony Guild and other civic organizations. In June 1995, she was honored for her work on the task force to build the Rialto Senior Center and subsequently served on their board. Within education, Mary contributed to the establishment of the Morrow-McCombs Memorial Lecture Series at Cal State University, San Bernardino, which had a focus on fostering better understanding among Christian, Jewish, and Muslim people.

An avid traveler, Mary visited sites around the world and accomplished many feats in her travels, such as climbing the Great Pyramid of
Giza in her late seventies. She enjoyed exercise, as demonstrated by her frequent 3-mile walks to Trapp Elementary School. Mary remained active throughout her retired life, until she peacefully passed away on June 6, 2020.

For her decades of commitment to our community and country in so many ways, we honor Mary H. McCombs on this day and thank her for the legacy she left in the City of Rialto and the greater Inland Empire. May she rest in peace.

IN HONOR OF MR. ANDRE MOSES WHITE
HON. DAVID SCOTT
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Andre Moses White of Atlanta, Georgia, who passed away on June 9, 2020.

Mr. White was the third of seven children born to Moses and Lucille White. He was raised in Tampa before relocating to Tallahassee and graduating from Lincoln High School. He then enrolled at Florida A&M University and earned a BS in Physical Education with a minor in Health Education. After graduating from FAMU, White was drafted by the Denver Broncos as a Tight End. He also played for the San Diego Chargers and was one of the first African Americans to sign with the Cincinnati Bengals.

After a knee injury brought his football career to a close, White returned to Tampa to serve as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Officer for Hillsborough County. While there, he most notably launched the San Diego Chargers and was one of the first African Americans to sign with the Cincinnati Bengals.

Mr. White was born to Moses and Lucille White. He was raised in Tampa before relocating to Tallahassee and graduating from Lincoln High School. He then enrolled at Florida A&M University and earned a BS in Physical Education with a minor in Health Education. After graduating from FAMU, White was drafted by the Denver Broncos as a Tight End. He also played for the San Diego Chargers and was one of the first African Americans to sign with the Cincinnati Bengals.

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Mr. White's career also included following in his father's footsteps and operating Moses White's Cozy Comer BBQ restaurant, serving as the road manager for Marvin Gaye, and starting The Georgia Sentinel, a progressive news outlet for Atlanta's African American community.

Mr. White was a member of numerous organizations, served on the board of Wayfield Food Stores, and was the President of the Moses White Foundation. Mr. White will be forever remembered as a dedicated servant from whom many in the community sought counsel. His wife of 55 years, Joyce White, died on April 2, 2020. He is survived by his siblings, 4 children, and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in the House of Representatives this day to honor Detective Troy Charbonneau of Billings for always being prepared and willing to answer the call of duty whether he is in uniform or off duty.

It was the first weekend of June, and Troy wanted to take advantage of the nice weather. He packed his kayak and headed to Lake Elmo with his new puppy which was also eager. As they paddled, Troy heard a cry in the water and his pup enjoying the view, Troy was able to relax.

After a while, Troy noticed a small dot on the lake's horizon. He looked closer and realized it was a person about 250 yards from the bank. At the shore, people were yelling. The swimmer was struggling, his head disappearing underwater. Realizing the severity of the situation, Troy immediately steered his kayak toward the boy. Troy was able to get the boy alongside his kayak and secure him with a life jacket. Using a rope, he towed the boy safely to shore as sounds of ambulance and police sirens echoed across the lake.

A detective with the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office, Troy says being a police officer is a 24/7 job. If you're off duty, he says, you still have a responsibility to do what you can to keep everyone safe. An investigator of crimes against children and a forensic interviewer, Troy is dedicated to the Billings community, and that drive keeps him ready at a moment's notice. Troy saved a boy from drowning, because he's always observant of everything around him. He's committed his life to public service and law enforcement.

On behalf of a grateful Montana and nation, I thank Troy and all our law enforcement officials who serve our communities selflessly, honorably, and with distinction.

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I congratulate Deb Marriott, the founding and long-time Executive Director of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, on her well-deserved retirement. For twenty-five years, Deb has very capably led the Estuary Partnership to educate youth, restore Columbia River ecosystems, and advocate for culturally appropriate, science-based management. She has proven to be a committed and collaborative partner for Tribes, schools, shippers, and fishing communities, as well as municipalities along the Columbia. And she has left the River, and its communities, all the better through her work.

Deb was instrumental in designing—and ultimately helping to pass into law in 2016—the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act, legislation that I and my colleagues created to reduce toxics in the Columbia. She worked to bring people together around a common theme—cleaning up the river—and kept true to the science. This is just one example of her work; throughout the years she has developed a reputation for honesty, hard work, and exceptional quality, and that standing has been passed on to the Estuary Partnership. The resiliency of so many on-the-ground projects, the respect for many long hours of hard work and much collaboration with partners, and of the National Estuary Program itself, show Deb's meaningful mark on the River and its communities for generations to come.

Issues of salmon recovery and watershed protection are not always the easiest in the Pacific Northwest, yet I have known Deb to be not just a tireless advocate, but also a skilled listener. Whether it has been through work with Tribes, politicians and agency officials, volunteers, students, or any number of other stakeholders, Deb has always kept her eyes on the bigger picture.

Her work has played a tremendous role in connecting people to this special part of our amazing planet. I thank Deb from the bottom of my heart, for her decades of service. I wish her the best in a well-deserved retirement.

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Debrah Marriott on her retirement as Executive Director of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership at the end of this month.

Throughout her career, Debrah has been a steadfast champion for protecting and advocating for the Lower Columbia River. Debrah has led the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership since its inception, and there is no doubt that the river's habitats and water quality are improved today because of Debrah's leadership, particularly her work on the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Estuary Caucus, I have relied on Debrah's expertise for years. Her thoughtful perspective and extensive network through the National Estuary Program have been invaluable. Most recently, she and her staff helped inform my work on the bipartisan Blue Carbon for Our Planet Act. Last year, I had the pleasure of joining Debrah at the groundbreaking of the Steigerwald Reconnection Project, a 960-acre habitat restoration project on the mainstem of the Columbia River that will help, and will help to allow the larger ecosystem to flourish. Projects like Steigerwald and countless others along the Columbia River would not exist without Debrah's commitment to collaboration with regional partners. I appreciate her dedication to the ecological benefits of a project, and also to her commitment to supporting the region's economic, social, and cultural needs. Even during the coronavirus pandemic, Debrah joined me for a virtual panel discussion earlier this month on how to revitalize our coastal communities.

Debrah's tenacity and dedication to protecting our lands and waters has created an incredible legacy of conservation for our region. I thank Debrah for her more than 25
years of dedicated service to Northwest Oregon and congratulate her on her retirement.

HONORING JEREMY THOMAS LANDIER AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, 4th generation Floridian, Jeremy Thomas Landier has been a lifelong resident of Osceola County. For decades he has worked with his parents, Tom and Sharon Lanier, in their family antiques store located in the heart of Historic Downtown Kissimmee. Raised with a sense of civic duty, Jeremy is president of the Downtown Business Association of Kissimmee, an organization that both of his parents led at one time, and he also serves as a board member of various community organizations including Kissimmee Main Street, the Osceola County Historical Society, the Opportunity Center, and the Osceola County LGBT.

In 2017 Jeremy began his career in public health at the Florida Department of Health in Osceola County working primarily with HIV patients in the ASPECTS clinic. After graduating with a degree in psychology from Rollins College in Winter Park, Jeremy used his education to successfully counsel both newly diagnosed and long-term HIV survivors and assist them throughout the treatment process. In addition to his counseling position at the health department, he also began working in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program where he manages the medication regimens of over 200 Osceola County clients.

Jeremy also manages the ADAP Copay and Premium Assistance program; assisting over 50 clients with the acquisition and management of their insurance acquired through the Healthcare Marketplace. Jeremy also assists in the oversight of the PrEP program through which over 100 clients have been afforded access to pre-exposure prophylaxis. Recently he accepted the position of Public Information Officer at the FDOH-Osceola where he manages media relations, internal and public messaging and public outreach for the health department. Jeremy and his partner Christopher May live in the business district of Historic Downtown Kissimmee where they are active in community organizations and proudly support LGBT causes throughout Osceola County.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Ray Spradlin for his exceptional public service to the people of the city of Santa Rosa and the State of California, and to honor his retirement after 38 years as a fireman.

Captain Ray Spradlin was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended Petaluma High School from 1977 to 1981 and graduated from Santa Rosa Junior College in 1984. Since then, he has dedicated his career to serving the community around him, often while it was at its lowest point. He rose through the ranks of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Santa Rosa Fire Department, earning the respect of those around him. As captain, he used the knowledge and expertise gained from his years of experience to both lead his colleagues in protecting members of the public and ensuring a safer working environment for the people around him. He will continue to dedicate his life to protecting fellow first responders even after his retirement through his work with Worldwide Safety Solutions.

Throughout his career, Captain Spradlin has been recognized for his hard work and commitment to fighting for the people around him. He was honored at the 2010 Sonoma County Paramedic Associate Survivors Union for providing life-saving treatment to Yessenia Cruz, who would have died if it were not for the quick thinking and action of Captain Spradlin. This recognition is just one example of countless heroic actions taken by Captain Spradlin to protect his community. More recently, Captain Spradlin served on the front lines during the Tubbs Fire in 2017, working tirelessly for days to fight that devastating disaster.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Captain Ray Spradlin represents the type of fine citizen that we should all strive to be. His career has been dedicated to protecting both his community and his fellow first responders. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FARM-TO-MARKET ROAD REPAIR ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Farm-to-Market Road Repair Act, legislation that will expand eligibility for the Surface Transportation Block Grant program to include rural roads that serve to transport agriculture products from farms or ranches to the marketplace.

American agricultural communities play a pivotal role in the economy within my district and across America. These farms and ranches provide the communities they serve with fresh products daily, ensuring consumers have an adequate and healthy food supply. Unfortunately, many of the roads are deteriorating.

Over 70 percent of our nation’s total road mileage is in rural areas, yet, between 2009 and 2015, these roads have only seen about 37 percent of federal highway fund. As Congress debates how to move forward with a bold plan to address infrastructure, we need to ensure road-repair projects like these do not fall by the wayside as we seek to address other larger infrastructure projects. Just because a road is in a rural area does not mean the road is small or otherwise unimportant. To the contrary, I am aware of several rural road projects in my district and the surrounding region that are major connectors that would benefit from this type of funding opportunity.

My bill expands the current surface block grant program to include these roads—roads that serve as a lifeline to the people that depend on them. We must invest in our rural infrastructure now, before it is in complete disrepair. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING IOWA’S TEACHERS AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week, I am recognizing the incredible educators of Iowa’s Third Congressional District as our Iowans of the Week. Their daily contributions to our children’s lives have perhaps never been more evident than during the past few months while our nation battles the COVID–19 pandemic. As distance learning has become the new norm, parents-turned-home-educators have developed a whole new appreciation for the academic, social, and emotional support teachers provide our children.

It has been remarkable to see educators and school staff rise to the challenge of serving their students in the face of this unprecedented crisis. With little time to plan and while coping with the pandemic, they, in addition to their lesson plans, transitioned lesson plans to fit the constraints of distance learning and have worked hard to find creative ways to keep students engaged. Within the Des Moines Public School district alone, teachers have now moved more than 6,300 Pre-K through 8th grade classes to an online learning platform and distributed nearly 21,000 laptop computers to students across grade levels. In districts across central and southwestern Iowa, teachers have also packed countless bags of books, school supplies, games, and other supports to students and families. And at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, teachers are now hosting activities like Anime Club meetups via Google Hangouts.

Their efforts extend far beyond traditional lesson plans. Teachers were among the first to recognize and fill the void of food insecurity for many students in their school districts; for weeks now, they have stepped up to pack and serve tens of thousands of meals weekly for students who might otherwise go without. They know many students still need a wellness check, so educators have donned masks and knocked on doors to make sure students are safe and secure. And at the end of the day, teachers still find the energy to organize parades through their school districts just to put a smile on their students’ faces.

Their contributions to our community don’t end with their students. We even have teachers who are working around the clock to produce face shields for health care workers on their school’s 3D printers.

Teachers deserve special recognition this week and every week for their willingness to go above and beyond for the benefit of our students and families. In many ways, educators are the heart of Iowa’s communities. They are thoughtful caretakers and mentors of our generations to come, and it is a role they approach with purpose and compassion. While educators face various professional challenges, many see teaching as their life’s calling. I am grateful for every person who has...
HONORING ROMIALD OSCAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Romiald Oscar is the founder of Sunshine Services Group, a financial and consulting firm serving Polk County since 2011. Romiald is an accountant and consultant at the firm, where he works directly with individuals to examine the accuracy of financial statements and review financial records for tax filing; he also documents business financial transactions and compiles the necessary information to prepare entries for the company accounts. Romiald provides short term emergency loans to the people in his community such as cash advance and payday loans. He also assists them with immigration services and processing since Polk County has a large immigrant community that includes Haitians, St. Lucians, Jamaicans, Mexicans and others. Romiald successfully sustains over 9 years in providing services to Polk County.

As a leader, Romiald always stands with his community. He would volunteer to assist and help the people with various issues and concerns. He networks, seeks resources, and spot talents as he promotes his rich and colorful Haitian culture on Haitian holidays and especially on Haitian Flag day. Romiald has served as the president of the Haitian Association of Polk County since 2018 and contributes to several educational radio stations such as Radio Kalalou, Radio Tonmtonm Internationale, and Voix Communaute Haitienne to inform, educate, and advise his community throughout Polk County and beyond.

Romiald has a very strong academic background. He completed his courses in pursuit of a Doctorate of Business Administration in Finance and is currently working on his dissertation from Walden University. He holds both an MBA in Accounting and bachelor’s degree in Government from Liberty University, where he took part in the Student Government Association and other social activities.

Romiald Oscar is a respected and well-known name amongst the Polk County, Florida. He is a powerful voice in the community and will continue blazing a trail for the progress of the people in professional settings.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD AND CALLING FOR SYSTEMIC LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. George Floyd and to call for systemic law enforcement reform and accountability in our nation.

On May 25, 2020, Mr. George Floyd was murdered by a Minneapolis Police officer while three other officers stood by. This was a horrific crime that demands that the perpetrators be held fully accountable by our justice system and our society. The shocking video of Mr. Floyd's murder makes us all a witness to the brutally cruel and excessive treatment that caused Mr. Floyd's death. Now that the four officers involved in this outrageous act have been taken into custody and charged, the family of Mr. Floyd and our communities deserve to see justice done.

But the tragic death of Mr. Floyd was not an isolated incident of the cruel and excessive use of force against Black Americans or other people of color in police custody. It is only the latest example of a systemic problem that has plagued every state in this nation for generations. It is the duty of police and peace officers to keep our communities safe, but protecting public safety fundamentally demands a respect for the civil rights and human rights of all residents. All too often, people of color do not get that respect from the police.

Mr. Floyd should be alive today. He was a loving father and a proud older brother who looked out for his siblings. His family describes him as a kind soul and a gentle giant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family in their time of grief.

Mr. Floyd's death was a senseless tragedy that should never have happened. What we can do now to honor his memory is to finally bring accountability to our law enforcement practices and ensure that no one in this nation regardless of the color of their skin is treated with dignity and respect. In Congress, that means passing the Justice in Policing Act of 2020. Madam Speaker, I am proud that the House of Representatives is advancing this critical reform legislation to a vote on the floor so that every Member of Congress has the opportunity to say loud and clear—no more.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF MARTIN POHL

HON. JOSH HARDER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. Martin dedicated his career to our Central Valley almond industry and his efforts have positively benefited communities and farmers throughout California.

Martin was known for many roles within the almond industry and will be remembered for his strong leadership and passion for the industry and the people he served. Martin remained active with the Almond Board of California throughout his career as shown through his service on the Board’s Technical and Regulatory Affairs committee, where he served as chairman. Additionally, his contributions to the industry’s world-renowned food safety programs are unparalleled. His guidance and care for the almond industry and those who worked in it can be seen though his role as a mentor for the Almond Board’s Leadership program since its inception. In addition to his work with the Almond Board, Martin and his original founding partners, Ham Cunningham and Cleo Barth, developed Hughson Nut Inc. in 1985. His skills in engineering and design were considered critical to the company’s success and reputation as a leader in the industry.

His exemplary work was recognized in 2013 when he received the prestigious Almond Board of California’s Almond Achievement Award and again in 2017 when he was recognized as the Almond Association’s Member of the Year. Martin was a tremendous individual and had the love and respect of his peers in the community. His good nature and sincerity were infectious and many in the industry will tell you that Martin was the person they felt comfortable going to for guidance. His warmth and willingness to help everyone is an example of how Martin was a silent leader and strived to make the world a better place.

I am honored to recognize the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Martin for his countless contributions to the almond industry and the State of California throughout his career.
be the first in Florida to embrace and recognize LGBT businesses in their procurement processes.

Kellie serves on the Orlando Mayor’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission and volunteers with the Central Florida Freethought Community, and dedicated to the separation of state and church. In the wake of the Pulse Tragedy, she served on the taskforce to formally establish the One Orlando Alliance, a coalition of non-profits unifying Central Florida’s LGBTQ+ community.

She believes every moment counts, and that together we can create positive change if we show up, speak out, and act with love, which she strives to do daily for the community at large, and for her family, where she is a proud and fierce mama bear.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOUISE ENDEL

HON. ROSA L. DELAUR OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Louise Endel, a pillar of the New Haven community and a dear friend. Though she lived a long life, she still feels as though she was taken from us much too soon. Hers is a legacy of compassion, philanthropy and generosity that will surely continue to serve as an inspiration to all those who knew her—and likely many that did not.

Louise and her husband, Charlie, moved to North Haven with their three daughters in 1952 and soon became actively involved in the community and with a myriad of community organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the Girl Scouts, and Ridge Road School’s Parent Teacher Association. Louise and Charlie were also founding members of the Ridge Top Club, the first swimming club in the area to “eschew racial and religious discrimination.” Over the course of her life, Louise served on fifty-two local, state and national boards. She was passionately devoted to supporting many New Haven non-profits including the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, the Long Wharf Theatre, the Elm Shakespeare Theater, St. Raphael’s Hospital Foundation, and L.E.A.P.

Louise was the epitome of a “people-person.” She intrinsically understood the soul of a person—where their passions lay and how best they could make a difference. Louise herself was one of the most giving people I have ever had the good fortune to know. She was noted to be a favorite of President Bill Clinton’s during his upbringing in Hot Springs. Not only does McClard’s Bar-B-Q boast of some of the best cooking in the Southwest Arkansas area, but the restaurant holds 92 years of Arkansas culture, history, and memories. Theirs is a story of the American dream, and I look forward to seeing this place continue to be a beacon of joy for future presidents, just as it has for nearly a century. I take this time to thank all generations of the McClard family for their years of hard work and their diligence in creating the most loved of Hot Springs traditions.

HONORING ASHLEY FIGUEROA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Ashley Figueroa is an amazing woman leader in social services and a proud Trans Latina American Woman. Among her chosen advocacy roles, Ashley is the Founder and Executive Director of the Gender Advancement Project (GAP) which focuses on the progression and inclusion of Transgender and Gender Non Binary individuals in Central Florida life. Ashley also works with several local and national community based organizations to make a positive impact in today’s society. Some of the boards she currently serves on are: Trans-Action Florida Advisory Council, the Contigo Fund Community Board, the National Network + Latin Plus, and the Orlando Trans Collective. In 2019, Ashley was appointed by Mayor Buddy Dyer as the Secretary for the City of Orlando Census Complete Count Committee. That same year, Ashley was honored with the Voice of Equality award by Equality Florida and she was also named one of Watermark’s Most Remarkable People of 2019 for her advocacy and leadership with the transgender community of Orlando.

Ashley’s work has also earned her national recognition. Earlier this year, she was chosen as an honoree of the 41 List for being a Latinx LGBTQ+ role model.

HONORING THE FAMILY LEGACY OF MCCLARD’S BAR-B-Q

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the near-century-old legacy of McClard’s Bar-B-Q in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Founded by Gladys and Alex McClard in 1928, the fourth generation of the McClard family, represented by owners Scott and Shannon McClard, keeps its doors open today.

In the last century, McClard’s has been a cultural icon of the Hot Springs area, gathering long lines of customers outside its doors on Albert Pike Road. Known for barbecue pork, ribs, tamales, and infamous barbecue sauce, the barbecue joint is a local favorite, even noted to be a favorite of President Bill Clinton’s during his upbringing in Hot Springs. The restaurant’s leadership recently made the decision to sell the family-owned spot following a brief closing during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has reopened this week under new ownership, the McClard family is still actively involved in the restaurant’s progress in the community.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salinas City Elementary School District Superintendent, Martha Martinez, on her retirement after serving the state of California as a public educator since 1975. An outstanding citizen and educator, Superintendent Martinez has made an unparalleled impact in the educational community of the central coast of California and our entire state through 45 years of service.

Superintendent Martinez’s began her career as a paraprofessional in California’s Bay Area before later becoming an elementary teacher. After 20 years as an educator, she put her expertise towards work as a school administrator with the Santa Clara County Office of Education and Gilroy Unified School District. In 2015, she became Superintendent of the Salinas City Elementary School District. In this role, she has distinguished herself as a passionate advocate for providing all students, regardless of background, with a quality education that provides equitable opportunities for all learners. As a visionary leader, Superintendent Martinez not only holds students and educators to high expectations, but also provides her own endless support so that all goals can be attainable.

Superintendent Martinez has also built strong support for her district in the local community. She has launched a citywide literacy campaign in Salinas to provide over 160,000 residents with a free Early Literacy App and mobilized leaders across Monterey County to work to end bullying. With her robust background in building local and regional partnerships, Superintendent Martinez was selected to organize Salinas Founder’s Day, to celebrate the city’s 150th birthday, and the Salinas City Elementary School District’s Sesquicentennial Commemoration. With these two events, Superintendent Martinez brought individuals from all backgrounds in our community together to celebrate the City of Salinas and its outstanding students. Recognizing the support for this community, Superintendent Martinez is well-known to distinguish the stellar efforts of those she works with at every possible opportunity.

HONORING SUPERINTENDENT MARTHA MARTINEZ

HON. JIMMY PANETTA OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Salinas City Elementary School District Superintendent, Martha Martinez, on her retirement after serving the state of California as a public educator since 1975. An outstanding citizen and educator, Superintendent Martinez has made an unparalleled impact in the educational community of the central coast of California and our entire state through 45 years of service.

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HONORING ANGUS L. BRADSHAW AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Angus L. Bradshaw is a thriving nonprofit leader serving Central Florida. A native of Central Florida, Mr. Bradshaw graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration at Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University (FAMU) with the help of several scholarships. He began his love for community-oriented care after surviving childhood cancer himself. This experience led Mr. Bradshaw to involve himself in his community through routine volunteerism and philanthropy at the young age of 14.

Mr. Bradshaw has been supporting the mission of Miracle of Love, Inc. an HIV service organization in Orlando, FL. since 2002. He became its Executive Director in 2016 and is known for his constant smile and fun-loving, compassionate demeanor. A revered leader in the organization and in the community, Mr. Bradshaw is equally known for his fierce focus on making the mission. He believes it is integral to do so with each employee and each client’s self-respect, dignity, and morale intact. Mr. Bradshaw is aware that passion is not always enough, and he continually places himself in the position of a student; learning and applying those lessons to improve services and outcomes for those under his leadership. For this, he is valued by each of his team members and is seen as a community champion with upstanding repute. This has also given him expertise in many other areas; including social services, housing, and fund-raising.

Angus serves on multiple municipal committees in the Orlando Metropolitan area. These include Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee for Ryan White Part A—Orlando EMA Health Services Planning Council; Executive Committee Member for the Housing Opportunity for People with AIDS Advisory Committee; Equality Florida Board Member; an Executive Planning Committee Member of SMART Ride, the second largest AIDS charity bicycle rides in the U.S.

HONORING DR. ROY WEAVER
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Dr. Roy Weaver, dean of Ball State University’s Teachers College and a pillar of Indiana’s education community. Dr. Weaver has been a fixture at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana for nearly 40 years as a faculty member, associate dean, and dean of Teachers College, and is retiring on June 30.

Dr. Weaver is a Hoosier in the best sense of the word, spending most of his career in the Muncie area. He is a two-time graduate from Ball State University, earning his bachelor’s degree in English in 1968 and his master’s degree in curriculum and instruction in 1971. He was a classroom teacher at Muncie Central High School where he taught Language Arts and coached the tennis, speech, and debate teams. Dr. Weaver earned his Ed.D. from Indiana University in 1975 and worked at the University of Southern California for five years. In 1980, he returned to his alma mater, and served with distinction as associate professor of curriculum, professor of curriculum, associate dean, and spent 19 years over two tours of duty as dean of Teachers College.

During his career, Dr. Weaver has been a staunch supporter of education innovation and educational choice. At Ball State University, he managed the operation of the award-winning laboratory school, Muncie Burris. He assisted in the creation of one of the nation’s finest high schools, the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, which serves gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors. He oversaw the creation of Ball State University’s Office of Charter Schools, becoming Indiana’s only public university to authorize charter schools.

As a testament to his outstanding career, Dr. Weaver was awarded Ball State University’s Outstanding Administrative Service Award and recognized by the National Association for Gifted Children with its Educator of the Year award. He is also a respected scholar and the author of six books on a variety of education topics. Dr. Weaver has been a tremendous positive force for education in Indiana, and in the nation. He will be missed by his friends and colleagues at Ball State University, but his retirement is well-earned. On behalf of Hoosiers in Indiana’s 6th District, I congratulate Dr. Weaver and thank him for his many contributions to our great state.

HONORING GAIL ORCUTT AS THE IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the late Gail Orcutt of Pleasant Hill, Iowa as Iowan of the Week.

A lifelong Iowan, Gail worked as a teacher for more than three decades before retiring in 2008. Two years later, after experiencing what she thought was a case of spring allergies, Gail was diagnosed with lung cancer: a big surprise for someone who had never smoked. Upon discovering her illness was caused by radon, she embarked on a years-long effort to educate herself and others on the dangers of radon exposure and importance of mitigation, all while battling lung cancer as a chronic illness and using her experiences to inspire hope in others fighting cancer.

During my first year in Congress, my team and I had the pleasure of working with Gail on multiple occasions to raise awareness of important issues in health care. She lent her voice to roundtable discussions on affordability of prescription drugs and accessibility to quality care, and her powerful, personal story always made an impact on everyone present. She was a frequent contributor to community outreach held by organizations like AARP Iowa and American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, all with an aim of educating others. She spent time passionately advocating to state legislators and lawmakers in Washington for policies that would better inform the public about radon and mandate radon testing in schools. She still found time to volunteer for programs like Free to Breathe and participate in events like the Lung Association’s Fight for Air Climb—Des Moines, climbing the stairs of multiple downtown buildings post-treatment with one lung. Suffice it to say, she was a unique force for positive change.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to follow in Gail’s footsteps and educate Iowans about radon testing and mitigation. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas; you cannot see, smell, or taste it, but it may be present in your home or school building. While harmless in small amounts, breathing in elevated levels of radon can lead to serious illness. Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer, and we lose hundreds of Iowans every year to this illness. Five out of every seven homes in Iowa have an unacceptable level of radon, and it is recommended homeowners test their homes for radon every two years. The Iowa Radon Hotline at 1-800-383-5992 is a valuable resource to not only get answers to your questions, but also to order a testing kit to keep you and your family safe.

I admire Gail’s courage, grace, and grit in the face of unimaginable challenge. Her legacy of teaching, advocating, and giving hope to those battling cancer is a beautiful example of Iowan values: persevering through difficult times, bettering the lives of those around you through hard work and dedication, and leaving something meaningful behind for future generations. Her work made a difference. I extend my sincere condolences to her loved ones during this difficult time and am keeping them in my prayers. Iowa is a better place because of neighbors like Gail Orcutt, and I am proud to honor her as Iowan of the Week.
HONORING GUNETT GITTENS-ROBERTS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Guenet Gittens-Roberts is CEO of GGR Marketing & Public Relations, a company which currently markets and/or produces some of the largest Caribbean Festivals in Orlando including the Caribbean Fusion Festival in Kissimmee, the Orlando Carnival Downtown, and the Caribbean American Heritage Month Festival. She is responsible for developing and directing their communication strategy while also managing the agency’s outreach to the advertising, charitable, and business communities. GGR Marketing & Public Relations was formed to develop and execute programs aimed at reaching multicultural communities and niche markets utilizing an effective mixture of relationship marketing, event marketing, and branding through social media and traditional media sources. They offer a broad range of services that include marketing, public relations, branding, special event planning and management, sponsorship and fundraising, business development, and media relations.

Gittens-Roberts is also the publisher of Caribbean American Passport News Magazine, the largest and only Caribbean owned Statewide Newspaper in Florida. Caribbean American Passport is heading into its 10th year in September and covers the people of the English, French and Spanish communities in Florida. Through their publishing arm, they were responsible for the publication of Misión Boricua, a Spanish publication designed to raise awareness for the Puerto Rican community in English, French and Spanish communities in Florida. Through their publishing arm, they were responsible for the publication of Misión Boricua, a Spanish publication designed to raise awareness for the Puerto Rican community in English, French and Spanish communities in Florida.

As an active member of the community, Gittens-Roberts serves as President of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce. She also served as the vice president of the Central Florida Association of Black Journalists and vice president of the Guyanese American Cultural Association of Central Florida in addition to being actively involved in Greater Orlando United Foundation and the Montgomery, Alabama-based organization focused on youth mentoring programs.

RECOGNIZING CINDY O’BOYLE OF MONTANA

HON. GREG GIANFORTE OF MONTANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cindy O’Boyle of Kalispell for encouraging, empowering, and uplifting women through Montana through the Montana Woman Foundation (MWF). Sixteen years ago, Cindy founded MWF and serves as its executive director. The 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization’s mission is to help all Montana women reach their full potential through mentorship, workshops, and scholarships the group provides.

Cindy says she knows how important it is for women to support women. The group’s board believes women are stronger together and that programs that help women overcome challenges will ultimately benefit them and their communities.

Each year, MWF generally awards scholarships to women “who are generally non-traditional students or women who are under-served, under-privileged with the education, or who have dealt with a variety of struggles including but not limited to homelessness or poverty, health issues, learning disabilities, domestic-violence, foster care, single- or teen motherhood.”

Any Montana woman, regardless of age or social, economic, or cultural differences, may apply for the scholarship or participate in educational workshops or mentorship program. The goal is always the same: empower women to overcome obstacles, improve themselves, and better their community.

One specific example of success, which is near and dear to Cindy’s heart, is a woman MWF helped during its first five years. The woman in her early 60s was married, and her husband worked and provided for them. Unfortunately, he had a stroke that forced him to end his career, and they were not situated for retirement, and she faced the challenge of finding a good-paying job. To earn what the couple needed, she needed to go back to school. MWF paid for her to get the education she needed, she became an office assistant, and she began providing for the family. Cindy says it’s scary to be put in that situation, but the woman’s grit and determination brought her success.

This week, the foundation, which received over 250 applications for its 2020 scholarships, will announce the recipients. While MWF usually offers four annual scholarships, it will provide seven scholarships this year to Montana women across our state.

Madam Speaker, for nurturing and encouraging Montana women, helping change their lives, and supporting them in their success, I recognize Cindy O’Boyle of Kalispell for her Spirit of Montana.

HONORING LLOYD PHILLIPS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Lloyd Phillips was born in Guyana and relocated to the United States with his parents and siblings in 1969. He completed his high school education in Brooklyn, New York where his quest for higher learning led him to enroll at Brooklyn College. He attained a bachelor’s degree in Economics and then went to Long Island University where he graduated with an MBA in Finance.

Lloyd worked at Barclays Bank before being hired at the number one investment banking firm, Goldman Sachs & Company, where he worked in the Special Accounts Department. Lloyd subsequently worked his way up to Supervising Manager of the Special Accounts Trading Desk.

Lloyd’s career at Goldman Sachs ended during an economic downturn and decided to embark on a career change, joining the ranks of the Uniformed Services in New York City. He rose to the rank of Captain before taking an early retirement.

With a young but growing family, Lloyd and his wife Delilah decided to relocate to Florida, so that their children can live in an environment better suited to their needs. The family settled in Kissimmee, where Lloyd is currently President of the Caribbean and Floridian Association. He was also the President of the Commonwealth Alliance Association, Vice-President of the Guyanese-American Cultural Association, President of the Guyanese-American Diaspora United, and Vice-President of the Strafford Park Home-Owners Association. He was also appointed as an Educational Resource Ambassador by the University of Guyana, awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, presented by Congressman HAKEEM JEFFRIES for his work with the Guyanese Cultural Association of New York, and recognized by the City Council of

CHUCK NEWSOM

HON. DONALD NORCROSS OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the Brigantine, New Jersey resident Chuck Newsom, Timber Creek High School Educator of the Year 2020. This year we honor Chuck Newsom, a dedicated educator at Timber Creek Regional High School, on his receipt of the annual Timber Creek Regional High School Educator of the Year award. In addition to his role as a special education teacher, he serves as football coach, basketball coach, head coach of the girls’ volleyball team and is a role model for all his students.

Prior to his career of being a special education teacher at Timber Creek Regional High School, Newsom pursued a degree in higher learning led him to enroll at Brooklyn College. He attained a bachelor’s degree in Economics and then went to Long Island University where he graduated with an MBA in Finance.

Lloyd worked for Barclays Bank before being hired at the number one investment banking firm, Goldman Sachs & Company, where he worked in the Special Accounts Department. Lloyd subsequently worked his way up to Supervising Manager of the Special Accounts Trading Desk.

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**HONORING AUBRI ESTERS**

**HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life of Ms. Aubri Esters, an outspoken and beloved activist.

Aubri was a voice for the unheard. She was unabashed in sharing her story and her lived experiences to advocate for the wellbeing of those most marginalized, including other transgender individuals, people with disabilities, people with substance use disorders, and trauma survivors.

In addition to serving on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ Harm Reduction Commission, Aubri co-founded the organization SIFMA Now!, a coalition dedicated to building public support for supervised consumption sites and other life-saving harm reduction efforts.

Whether on the ground working directly with impacted communities or in the Massachusetts State House advocating for progressive health policies that center those most vulnerable, Aubri was committed to saving lives.

On Thursday, June 11th, our community lost a true activist leader, table shaker and accomplice in the fight for health care justice. Aubri was a voice for the unheard. She was a matriarch in the Wooster Square community, much like my own mother, Luisa. They were, in fact, great friends and it was a friendship that remained strong until my mother’s passing just two years ago. Both Theresa and my mother were forces of nature in their own rights, and when they got together, there was no stopping them. It was at their feet that I learned the importance of community and it is on their shoulders that I stand today. I would not be who I am today without their influence so I will be forever grateful for their guidance and support. Theresa was an extraordinary friend, mentor, and community leader. I like so many others consider myself fortunate to have known her. She was so much more than a friend—she was family. I am heartbroken at her loss, but I know her memory will live on.

Throughout her life, she touched the lives of many and hers is a legacy that will continue to inspire both those who knew her and generations to come.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life of Aubri Esters and her contributions to the Massachusetts 7th Congressional District. We remember Aubri with tremendous gratitude for her life-saving advocacy. May she forever rest in power.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF TERESA CARRANO ARGENTO**

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of one of the pillars of New Haven’s Italian-American community and my dear friend, Teresa Carrano Argento. She lived a long, full life and our community will not be the same without her.

One of six children, Theresa grew up in the Wooster Square neighborhood of New Haven. Her father owned a “specialty market,” selling imported fruit from California—pears, oranges, and cherries, all individually wrapped in color-coded paper. Her mother was an immigrant from Italy. When the stock market crashed, her family simply lost the store. Instead of folding as so many others had, her father found work, as did she and her siblings, and her mother was left to run the family business. It was from these early life lessons that Theresa learned the true strength of family and community.

Theresa dedicated most of her adult life to preserving and celebrating the community and its members’ shared Italian heritage. She was a founding member of the Sommerville’s La Maddalena Auxiliary, and then a branch of one of New Haven’s Italian-American Societies and an organization she led for decades before stepping down only a few short years ago. She was also a dedicated communicant of St. Michael’s Church, Connecticut’s oldest Italian church, organizing and supporting fundraisers and even serving as its bookkeeper for a time. She worked to revive the Columbus Day celebration in New Haven and was a constant presence at Wooster Square’s annual Cherry Blossom Festival. She was a member, and often served in the leadership, of most of the Italian-American clubs and organizations in the community.

Theresa understood the importance of preserving and sharing that culture and those traditions with new generations. She was, in a word, remarkable.

Theresa was a matriarch in the Wooster Square community, much like my own mother, Luisa. They were, in fact, great friends and it was a friendship that remained strong until my mother’s passing just two years ago. Both Theresa and my mother were forces of nature in their own rights, and when they got together, there was no stopping them. It was at their feet that I learned the importance of community and it is on their shoulders that I stand today. I would not be who I am today without their influence so I will be forever grateful for their guidance and support.

Theresa was an extraordinary friend, mentor, and community leader. I like so many others consider myself fortunate to have known her. She was so much more than a friend—she was family. I am heartbroken at her loss, but I know her memory will live on. I extend my deepest sympathies to Theresa’s daughters, Nettie and Francis, as well as her four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Throughout her life, she touched the lives of many and hers is a legacy that will continue to inspire both those who knew her and generations to come.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD CHAIR MARNY XIONG**

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Marny Xiong, Chairwoman of the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education who passed away from COVID–19 at the age of 31 on Sunday, June 7, 2020. Ms. Xiong was a trailblazing young activist, community leader, and a dedicated advocate for young people and strong public schools. Gender equity and racial justice were the core values that defined her public service.

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in political science and African and African-American studies, Ms. Xiong began working in the local nonprofit community. In 2017 she was elected to the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education, demonstrating strong advocacy to improve our public schools. She played an important role in building support necessary to pass a bond referendum in 2018 that directed needed additional needed funding to Saint Paul schools.

When Ms. Xiong became Chairwoman of the Board in January of this year, her leadership abilities became evident as she confronted dual crises of the district’s first ever teacher’s strike and the COVID–19 pandemic. Ms. Xiong worked respectfully and collaboratively with Superintendent Joe Gothard and labor leaders to reach a successful resolution to the strike in early March. Only a short time later, in response to the COVID–19 pandemic, she helped to steer the district’s unprecedented transition to distance learning for more than 37,000 students. It is heartbreaking that this pandemic has now taken one of our community’s rising leaders.

Ms. Xiong is survived by her parents, Mr. Zahoua Xiong and See Xiong, and her seven siblings: two sisters and five brothers, as well as two brothers-in-law, a sister-in-law, four nieces and nephews. Marny will be remembered as two brothers-in-law, a sister-in-law, four nieces and nephews. Marny will be remembered as a caring community organizer, a strong public school advocate, and a dedicated friend and mentor. She was a voice for the unheard. She was a caring community organizer, a strong public school advocate, and a dedicated friend and mentor.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Ms. Marny Xiong, Chairwoman of the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education who passed away from COVID–19 at the age of 31 on Sunday, June 7, 2020. Ms. Xiong was a trailblazing young activist, community leader, and a dedicated advocate for young people and strong public schools. Gender equity and racial justice were the core values that defined her public service.

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fierce fighter for all children and a selfless public servant. We mourn the loss of a young woman, a rising leader in our community. Her legacy is an inspiration to us all. Please join me to celebrate the life of Ms. Marny Xiong and her work to create a brighter future for all students.

HONORING IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, National Police Week is a time for Iowans and people across the U.S. to celebrate local law enforcement officers who serve and protect our communities, and to honor the fallen heroes who lost their lives in the line of duty. These brave men and women in uniform have dedicated their lives to essential public service, and some have given the ultimate sacrifice. The COVID–19 pandemic may delay public ceremonies to recognize these individuals, but we can still take this week to remember those we have lost, share our support for their loved ones, and thank those who continue to serve.

Law enforcement officers do far more than safeguard our lives and property. Today, community policing involves officers working in partnership with organizations and neighborhoods to create safer spaces. Not only are police responding to calls for help and providing support on the street, they’re also in our schools teaching kids how to make good choices so they can continue on a path toward success. There is no shortage of stories of officers from my district going above and beyond the job.

In late March as the community closed up shop to slow the spread of COVID–19, the Creston Police Department covered its front doors and windows in a display of colorful paper hearts as a symbol of hope for Iowans during this trying time. Earlier this month Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Parizek spent National Teacher Appreciation Week visiting multiple educators and school support staff at home and at work to thank them for their service to our kids. During the same stretch of time, Sgt. Andrew Phipps from Des Moines PD visited 90-year-old Earl, a fellow veteran, on his birthday to share in the socially distanced celebration.

Waukee Police Department’s Sgt. Hector Arias and Officer Gilchrist have been lending a helping hand passing out free Waukee Community School District Grab & Go Meals and devices to help students participate in virtual learning from home. Just before schools moved to distance learning this spring, Council Bluffs Police Chief Tim Carmody visited Mrs. Nickerson’s class of first graders at Rue Elementary School to participate in the Read Across America Program. Having recently welcomed Officer Deana Roth and Officer Meghan Thomson to the force, Chief Carmody is now leading his team in important efforts like educating the public on how to identify and avoid door-to-door sales scams during the Coronavirus outbreak.

Our police officers’ contributions to our community don’t end at handing out meals and spending time in the classroom. Faced with the additional health risks presented by this pandemic, our police officers continue to exhibit honor and bravery by serving their neighbors. They go to work knowing they could come face-to-face with Coronavirus, and that it is only one of the challenges they encounter while on duty. Because of their dedication and sacrifice, it is my pleasure to honor members of central and southwest Iowa’s law enforcement community by nominating them as our Iowans of the Week.

HONORING JUAN RODRIGUEZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Juan has invested 19 years working in the HIV arena. In 2001, he promised his partner, who was dying from AIDS, that he would devote his life to helping individuals infected with HIV and to eradicating the disease.

In 2016, under the guidance and direction of Dr. Roberto Ortiz, Juan started Bliss CARES, a nonprofit organization in Orlando. The mission of Bliss CARES is to save lives by treating and preventing the spread of HIV, Hepatitis and STD’s. They strive to serve every person who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay. Bliss CARES has provided FREE HIV, STD and Hepatitis testing and services to more than 1987 clients and has spent over $1.8 million on their much-needed medical care.

While leading a caring, and results driven team, Juan has created 5 lifesaving programs for Central Florida. These include: TRANSformation, a 7-part conversational educational program to assist the Transgender community and sponsors name changes for transgender persons interested in the process; Sweet Dreams Emergency Housing, an innovative program created to help Transgender individuals have a safe place to sleep that includes services for mental health counseling and substance abuse; the Bliss Health Insurance Subsidy Program, which grants lifesaving medical care to STD positive individuals without insurance and the Bridge Program, which provides access to medical care, treatment, mental health, laboratory tests, vaccines, transportation, and grants copay assistance for medications and doctor’s visits. The program was designed to provide comprehensive medical care to the uninsured and underinsured populations who have a STD or need preventive care.

Last, but not least, Juan’s nonprofit grants free access to the PrEP and PEP-Program, one designed to provide immediate care for all individuals who believe they may have been exposed to the HIV virus. This program prevents HIV from entering the blood stream, thus reducing HIV cases in Central Florida.

Please join me to celebrate the life of Ms. Marny Xiong and her work to create a brighter future for all students.
Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3073–S3111

Measures Introduced: Twenty-four bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3994–4017, and S. Res. 628–632. Pages S3101–02

Measures Reported:

S. 1069, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region. (S. Rept. No. 116–234)

Page S3100

Measures Passed:

Commemorating Otto Frederick Warmbier: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 623, commemorating Otto Frederick Warmbier and condemning the North Korean regime for their continued human rights abuses, and the resolution was then agreed to. Pages S3091–92

Women Veterans Appreciation Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 616, designating June 12, 2020, as “Women Veterans Appreciation Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S3110

American Eagle Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 650, designating June 20, 2020, as “American Eagle Day” and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States. Page S3110

Honoring the life of David Dorn: Senate agreed to S. Res. 651, honoring the life and service of David Dorn and expressing condolences to the family of David Dorn. Pages S3110–11

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaties:

- Extradition Treaty with the Republic of Croatia (Treaty Doc. No. 116–2);
- Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation (Treaty Doc. No. 116–3); and

The treaties were transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. Pages S3109–10

Wilson Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, June 18, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, June 22, 2020. Page S3094

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S3094

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S3094

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, June 22, 2020. Page S3111

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- By 51 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 123), Justin Reed Walker, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. Pages S3075–91, S3092–94
- Sethuraman Panchanathan, of Arizona, to be Director of the National Science Foundation for a term of six years.
William Zollars, of Kansas, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2022.

Vincent F. DeMarco, of New York, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of New York for the term of four years.

Donald Lee Moak, of Florida, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2022.

Peter M. McCoy, Jr., of South Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Caroline A. Crenshaw, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2024.

Bradley D. Hansell, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Kyle Hauptman, of Maine, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2025.

Cynthia Kierscht, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Geeta Pasi, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

James P. Arguelles, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Fred Joseph Federici III, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Brenda M. Saiz, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S3074, S3099

Executive Communications: Pages S3099–S3100

Petitions and Memorials: Page S3100

Additional Cosponsors: Page S3102

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S3102–08

Additional Statements: Page S3099

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S3108

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—123)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:03 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2020. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S3111.)

Committee Meetings

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Lieutenant General Daniel R. Hokanson, ARNG, to be general and Chief of the National Guard Bureau, who was introduced by Senator Wyden, and General Gustave F. Perna, USA, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief Operating Officer, Project Warp Speed, who was introduced by Senator Jones, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

COVID–19

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine COVID–19 and international pandemic preparedness, prevention, and response, including, S. 3829, to advance the global health security and diplomacy objectives of the United States, improve coordination among the relevant Federal departments and agencies implementing United States foreign assistance for global health security, and more effectively enable partner countries to strengthen and sustain resilient health systems and supply chains with the resources, capacity, and personnel required to prevent, detect, mitigate, and respond to infectious disease threats before they become pandemics, after receiving testimony from James Richardson, Director of Foreign Assistance, Department of State; Chris Milligan, Counselor, United States Agency for International Development; and Garrett Grigsby, Director, Office of Global Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 53 public bills, H.R. 7232–7284; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 1008–1011 were introduced. Pages H2403–06

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H2407–08

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4091, to amend the America COMPETES Act to reauthorize the ARPA–E program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–432); and

H.R. 5803, to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–433, Part 1). Page H2403

Announcement by the Speaker: The Speaker announced that, without objection, notwithstanding section 3 of House Resolution 981, further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 76, is postponed until the legislative day of June 26, 2020, and on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion. Page H2403

Senate Referrals: S. 712 was held at the desk. S. 3731 was held at the desk. Page H2401

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2401.

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 a.m. and adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Committee Meetings

CLIMBING AGAIN: STAKEHOLDER VIEWS ON RESUMING AIR TRAVEL IN THE COVID–19 ERA

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Climbing Again: Stakeholder Views on Resuming Air Travel in the COVID–19 Era”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing on H.R. 244, the “Advancing Conservation and Education Act”; H.R. 1267, the “B–47 Ridge Designation Act”; H.R. 2611, the “Public Lands Telecommunications Act”; H.R. 3682, the “Land Grand and Acerquia Traditional Use Recognition and Consultation Act”; H.R. 5040, the “Aerial Incursion Repercussion (AIR) Safety Act of 2019”; H.R. 7045, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on lands that could be included in a National Forest in Hawai’i, and for other purposes; and H.R. 7099, to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Coconino National Forest Land in the State of Arizona. Testimony was heard from Robert K. Masuda, First Deputy, Hawai’i Department of Land and Natural Resources; and public witnesses.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT PANDEMIC: ADDRESSING AMERICA’S JOBS CRISIS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis held a hearing entitled “The Unemployment Pandemic: Addressing America’s Jobs Crisis”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 2, the “INVEST in America Act”. H.R. 2 was ordered reported, as amended.

TAX RELIEF TO SUPPORT WORKERS AND FAMILIES DURING THE COVID–19 RECESSION

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing entitled “Tax Relief to Support Workers and Families during the COVID–19 Recession”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EMERGING TRENDS IN ONLINE FOREIGN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS: SOCIAL MEDIA, COVID–19, AND ELECTION SECURITY

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Emerging Trends in Online Foreign Influence Operations: Social Media, COVID–19, and Election Security”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D505)

S. 3744, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and
harassment of these communities inside and outside China. Signed on June 17, 2020. (Public Law 116–145)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, June 19, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled “Repurposing Therapeutic Drugs for COVID–19: Research Challenges and Opportunities”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, June 22, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities, markup on H.R. 6395, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

June 22, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, markup on H.R. 6395, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Monday, June 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Cory T. Wilson, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 a.m., Monday, June 22

House Chamber

Program for Monday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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