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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 1 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God, who sits on a lofty throne, we acknowledge Your sovereignty over our Nation and world. Keep us from becoming so desensitized to falsehoods that we abort Your plan for our lives.

Lord, we are unworthy to approach Your throne, for we are merely sinners saved by Your loving grace. Remove our guilt and forgive our sins. May we respond to Your forgiveness by obeying Your command for us to pray for our Nation.

Lord, use our Senators today as messengers of truth, unity, and peace. Inspire them to stand for right regardless of the consequences.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Today, the Senate will vote on moving forward with relief for Americans. That relief is necessary because of COVID-19.

The bill contains new funds for testing and contact tracing, aid for schools and colleges to keep our kids safe, and it also includes childcare assistance. It has more money for developing the coronavirus vaccine and treatments, funding for the Postal Service, and help for farmers. It allows for small businesses to access more Paycheck Protection Program funds with more flexibility and provides for enhanced unemployment benefits.

Now, surely these are items we can all agree on and ought to agree on right now. We know how to work together to produce results for Americans. We saw that in March when we successfully passed the CARES Act. That is a good model to follow now.

Back in March, Republicans in the Senate proposed a framework, then worked across party lines through the relevant committees to produce a consensus product that received overwhelming support in the Senate. I was glad to lead the bipartisan negotiations on the part of the Senate Finance Committee for that CARES package and have been standing ready to repeat the process if Democratic leaders would just agree to agree. Why can't we repeat the same process now?

Democrats seem to think that they can hold out until Republicans either agree to their partisan wishes or Republicans take the blame for the lack of relief. If the Democrats are right, it would be a partisan win for their party,

but at the same time, it would be a tremendous loss for the American people.

Let's agree to move forward like we did last March.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

Mr. MCCONNELL. Nineteen years ago tomorrow, thousands of our fellow Americans were murdered by terrorists. National landmarks were burning. Brave first responders in New York City, Arlington, and Pennsylvania rushed into mortal danger, putting their lives on the line to save strangers.

As the dust settled and 3,000 American families grieved their loved ones far before their time, we quickly saw there was no going back. The old world we had woken up to that Tuesday morning was gone.

We had not gone overseas in search of these monsters. These monsters came to us. These enemies would not leave our Nation alone if we declined to confront them, so as we reflect on this anniversary tomorrow, we will remember the thousands of innocent Americans who died that day and the brave servicemen and women who went on to pay the ultimate sacrifice to do justice and to prevent more attacks.

My fellow Kentuckians and I cannot be prouder of the heroes stationed on

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



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our soil who have deployed throughout the War on Terror. The special operators of the 160th, the Night Stalkers, based at Fort Campbell, KY, handled the very first airborne insertion of Army troops in mid-October—a dangerous fight over the Hindu Kush mountains. The soldiers they carried were from the famed 5th Special Forces Group, also based at Fort Campbell, who formed the tip of the spear to unleash the might of America on the terrorists and their Taliban hosts. The famous 101st Airborne, also at Fort Campbell, became the first conventional unit on the ground just days later.

Fast-forward a decade, and the Night Stalkers were helicoptering over Afghanistan yet again. They inserted and extracted SEAL Team Six the night we took Osama bin Laden off the battlefield.

Thousands more servicemembers deployed from Kentucky's Fort Knox and Fort Campbell during the War on Terror, and more than 18,000 soldiers and airmen from the Kentucky National Guard had been mobilized to defend our Nation.

Fighting by our side for nearly 20 years now have been our friends and NATO allies. America's friends invoked article 5 right away and have fought alongside us to defeat this global threat.

That dark day occasioned brave contributions from so many—from the firefighters who sprinted through the smoke to the citizens who donated blood and flew our flag, to the young men and women who are stationed thousands of miles from home right now to help our Nation project power and protect our homeland.

We did what Americans do. We stayed strong. We stuck together. We rolled up our sleeves, and we rebuilt. Some rebuilt their lives. Others rebuilt buildings. Some put on the uniform and rebuilt peace and security with their own hands.

May we never fail to honor them, and may we never tire of the toughness, vigilance, and persistence it has taken—and will continue to take—to make our pledge, “Never Again,” a reality.

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Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on an entirely different matter, Congress has spent months talking—talking—about whether to give the American people more relief as they continue grappling with this pandemic.

Today we are going to vote.

Today we are going to vote. Every Senator will be counted. Should we move forward with the floor process to deliver hundreds of billions of dollars more for kids, jobs, and healthcare? Should we at least vote to move forward and have this debate out in the open? Or do our Democratic colleagues prefer to hide behind closed doors and refuse to help families before the election?

Well, we will find out in a couple of hours.

Republicans have tried repeatedly to build on the CARES Act and get more help out the door to American families. Democrats have blocked us at every turn. They have invented different excuses each time.

A few months ago, Speaker PELOSI wrote a massive multitrillion-dollar liberal wish list that even her own House Democratic Members said would never become law.

“The HEROES Act went too far.” A “political wish list.” These are quotes from House Democrats.

But in July, when the Senate Republicans put forward a serious offer, Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leader said they would not even talk—not even talk—unless we started with that unserious bill. No help for families unless they got to pass the absurd bill their own Democratic Members have ridiculed.

So, in August, Republicans tried something else. We proposed breaking off some of the most urgent, most bipartisan policies and agreeing wherever we could: unemployment insurance, the Paycheck Protection Program. But Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leader blocked that too. They said they didn't want to do anything “piecemeal.” “Piecemeal,” they said.

Then, just a few weeks later, Speaker PELOSI completely contradicted herself and rushed back to Washington to pass a total piecemeal bill that only helped the Postal Service and did nothing for working families—contradiction after contradiction, excuse after excuse, while working families have suffered and waited and wondered whether Washington Democrats really care more about hurting President Trump than helping them through this crisis.

My Democratic colleagues should stand up and tell the American people which elements of our multihundred-billion-dollar proposal they actually oppose.

Let me say that again. They should stand up and tell the American people which parts of the proposal we will vote on later today that they are actually against.

Today, we are going to vote to extend the Federal unemployment insurance. Will Democrats vote against that?

Thanks to Senator COLLINS and Chairman RUBIO, we are going to vote on a whole second round of the PPP for hard-hit businesses. Are the Democrats against that?

Thanks to colleagues such as Senators ERNST, DAINES, GARDNER, and SULLIVAN, we will be voting on help for small businesses like farms and fisheries. Thanks to Senator CORNYN, we will be voting on commonsense legal protections that universities and non-profits have been asking for. Who are the Democrats excited to vote against—the farmers or the university presidents?

Thanks to Chairman ALEXANDER and Senator BLUNT, we are going to vote on

an incredibly robust package for education and healthcare to get kids back in school safely and then defeat this virus through science. We will be voting on \$105 billion for education, more than House Democrats put on their bill; billions on testing and tracing; and even more support for vaccines.

Thanks to a number of our colleagues, including Senators ERNST and LOEFFLER, there is new support for childcare, plus other arrangements like homeschooling, thanks to Senator CRUZ.

Are Democrats going to vote against childcare and education during a pandemic because they are afraid the Republicans might get some credit? Really? They are going to vote against finding and distributing vaccines because they are afraid the breakthrough that our Nation is praying for might possibly help President Trump?

These are the policies that every one of us will be voting on in a couple of hours—these and many more.

Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leader can keep up their frantic political spin. They can keep trying to make this an abstract argument over leverage or an infinite set of things that aren't in the bill or whether the White House Chief of Staff has been polite to them or whatever new excuse they will settle on today. But none of that is what we are going to vote on. We are going to vote on policy.

Today, every Senator will either say they want to send families the relief we can agree to or they can send families nothing—nothing.

Reporters asked the Democratic leader yesterday if his stonewalling was making the perfect the enemy of the good. He replied—listen to this—“Republicans are the enemy of the good.” “Republicans are the enemy.” That is what he said.

We have all heard the saying that a gaffe is when a politician accidentally says what he really thinks. That is a Washington gaffe, when a politician actually says what he really thinks. Well, the Democratic leader just told us how poisonous his thinking has become.

The Americans we represent, however they vote, know that Republicans aren't our enemies and Democrats aren't our enemies. The coronavirus is the enemy. The coronavirus is the enemy.

My home State just passed a sad milestone yesterday. More than 1,000 Kentuckians have lost their lives to COVID-19. These families I represent are not burying their loved ones because Republicans or Democrats are the enemy. They are burying their loved ones because of this virus. That is what we are fighting. That is what families are dealing with. We are not each other's enemies. We are all in this together, just like we were back in March and April.

So, today, every Senator is going to vote. Every Senator is going to vote. Senators who share the Democratic leader's toxic attitude, who think the

real enemies are their political opponents, I assume, will follow his lead and vote no. They can tell American families they care more about politics than helping them.

But Senators who want to move forward will vote yes. They will vote to advance this process so we can shape it into a bipartisan product and make a law for the American people. That is what working families need. They need us to act. They need us to legislate. Today, they will see exactly who has their backs.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, once again this week, Republicans are bringing forward a proposal to provide additional coronavirus relief to help protect jobs, to get kids and teachers back in the classroom safely, and to provide funding for the treatments and vaccines we need to defeat this virus, and once again, Democrats are objecting. It is the same old song: Republicans' bill doesn't spend enough. Well, let's talk about that for a minute.

First of all, Republicans are not claiming that the bill we put on the floor this week contains the last dollars we will need to spend in response to the coronavirus. We may need to spend more. This bill is simply an attempt to direct relief funds to some of the biggest priorities right now, like helping the hardest hit small businesses weather this crisis and providing more resources for testing, treatment, and vaccines. These are areas we should all agree on.

Second of all, Democrats' coronavirus proposal—the \$3 trillion bill they proposed—is both unrealistic and irresponsible.

Our Nation is deeply, deeply in debt right now. Next year, our country will owe more than we produce for the first time since the end of World War II. That is a very bad place to be. That is getting toward the kind of debt-to-GDP ratio that helped bring about financial disaster in Greece. While the United States is not Greece, if we grow our debt enough, what happened to the Greek economy could happen here.

Being the United States of America does not exempt us from financial realities. In times of crisis, sometimes you have to borrow money, and that is what we had to do earlier this year with the CARES Act and other coronavirus relief legislation. But we have an absolute responsibility to every American, to every hard-working individual in this country to ensure that we are only borrowing what is absolutely necessary.

Democrats' proposal doesn't even come close to meeting the definition of "necessary spending." To give just one example, Democrats have proposed appropriating a staggering \$1 trillion for States even though the States still—still—haven't spent the money we provided for them in the original CARES Act. Now, it is certainly possible that at some point, we will have to provide some kind of additional assistance to States, but to create a trillion-dollar slush fund for States before they have even spent the money they have already been given would be an incredibly irresponsible use of taxpayer dollars. At least some of that money could be used for coronavirus relief.

Other money in the Democrats' bill would go to measures that have nothing—absolutely nothing—to do with the virus, things like diversity studies in the cannabis industry, a soil health study, federalizing elections, and tax cuts for millionaires in States like New York and California.

One of the biggest priorities in the wake of the coronavirus is helping Americans keep their jobs or to find new ones. It should be front and center in any relief bill. Yet Democrats' massive bill—over \$3 trillion in the Democrats' bill—manages to mention the word "cannabis" more often than the word "job." Diversity studies for marijuana are more important, evidently, than jobs—at least if you look at the Democrats' bill. That should tell you all you need to know about the seriousness of the Democrats' proposal. I would love for the Democratic leader to come down to the floor and explain how a bill that mentions the word "cannabis" more often than the word "job" is a serious coronavirus bill.

Of course, despite the unseriousness of the Democrats' proposal, Republicans have been willing to compromise on a coronavirus bill from the very beginning. We understand how negotiation works, and we knew that we would have to give some ground and that Democrats would have to give some ground. We were and are willing to do just that. But from the beginning,

Democrats have rejected serious negotiation. Sure, they sat in meetings, and they talked about a bill, but at the end of the day, Democrats refused to compromise. It was their bill or no bill, which means that so far, they have chosen no bill.

The only way to get a bill through the Senate and to the President's desk is to develop a compromise bill. Even if the majority leader puts Democrats' exact bill on the floor today, there is no way—no way—it would make it through the Senate, much less be signed into law by the President. So if the Democrats really want a bill, they are going to have to compromise, and that is something they have continued to refuse to do, which leads to the logical conclusion that Democrats don't want a bill at all.

If Democrats really wanted to get relief to Americans, they would work with Republicans to pass a compromise bill even if it didn't contain all the money Democrats want, because even if it were true that the Republican legislation is inadequate, some money is better than no money. If you can't get someone in need all the money you think they should have, you should get them what money you can.

If Democrats really thought it was of overwhelming importance that we deliver relief to Americans right now, they would be working with Republicans to get as much relief as they could through Congress. But, for Democrats, delivering relief to Americans is not really of overwhelming importance. What is of overwhelming importance to Democrats is keeping coronavirus alive as a political issue, and if that means no bill, well then Democrats are OK with that. They would rather have no bill, zero funding, and a political weapon than to have a bill and allow Republicans to say that we helped Americans. So all indications are that when we have a vote later today, they plan to filibuster this bill.

This is not the first time we have seen this. Think back to the end of June. In the wake of George Floyd's death at the knee of a police officer, Americans of all parties came together to push for police reform. Republicans put a police reform bill on the floor of the Senate for debate and amendment—a substantial bill that included 75 to 80 percent of what both Democrats and Republicans said they wanted, the product of years of research and work by Senator TIM SCOTT, who has personal experience on this issue.

And Democrats? Well, Democrats filibustered. That is right. In the face of a nationwide call for police reform legislation, Democrats refused to even move forward to debate the legislation. Why? Because agreeing to work with Republicans on legislation would have taken away much of Democrats' ability to exploit police reform as a political issue. So Democrats filibustered even though, remarkably, they were offered by Senator SCOTT and other supporters

of the bill numerous amendments—10 amendments, 20 amendments—votes, opportunities to improve the bill—at least improve the bill in their eyes into a form that they could pass it.

It is hard not to wonder if some of the violence that we have seen in our cities across the country in recent months could have been avoided if Democrats had not decided to attempt to exploit this issue for political gain.

There is not a lot Republicans can do if Democrats intend to keep prioritizing perceived political advantage over doing their jobs as legislators, but we are going to take this vote on the coronavirus relief bill this week, today, and we are going to keep offering opportunities for Democrats to work with Republicans to help the American people.

Maybe some of the Democratic rank and file will decide that they have had enough of their leaders playing politics and will work with us to resolve and to get some things done for the American people.

Republicans are ready to negotiate. We just need Democrats to come to the table.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today the Senate will take a rather pointless vote on the latest highly partisan, Republican, emaciated COVID relief bill.

Now, the Republican leader keeps claiming that his bill is an attempt at a bipartisan solution, but of course the bill was drafted solely by Republicans—no input from Democrats—and rushed to the floor.

Mr. Leader, go look up in the dictionary what bipartisanship is. It is both parties working together, not your party doing a bill and then saying it is bipartisan.

What the Republican leader has done is no one's idea of bipartisanship, not even his own Members'.

Let's go over history. He has done this trick before: COVID 2, COVID 3, COVID 3.5. In each case, Republicans came out—the leader came out saying he did his own bill, saying: This is the only bill that will pass. Democrats are blocking it.

Democrats held strong, and what happened? We got much better bills with many of the things we wanted. We got truly bipartisan bills once the leader determined that he had to negotiate with Democrats to pass something. That will happen again. There is a decent chance that will happen again. But this bill is not going to happen because it is so emaciated, so filled with poison pills, so partisanly designed—it was designed to fail.

Now, the Republican leader claims the vote this week will expose Democratic obstruction and delay—another one of these “Alice in Wonderland”-type statements—but, of course, Democrats weren't the ones who said: Let's put the Senate on pause. Who said that? Democrats didn't say: Let's wait and see. Who said that? Democrats didn't delay for 4 months while the Nation suffered. In fact, the House passed a bill with the broad support of Senate Democrats.

So while the President was lying to the American people about the coronavirus, Senate Republicans were following suit in spirit. The Republican leader himself talked about the lack of urgency in his caucus to address the problem. So the idea that Democrats, who passed a comprehensive relief package through the House nearly 4 months ago, are the cause of delay and obstruction is ridiculous. It has been the Republicans all along. The record shows it.

From the beginning, from way back in March after the CARES Act passed, Democrats have insisted on continuing a program of assistance to the American people. We proposed legislation to give hazard pay to essential workers, rental assistance, housing assistance, nutrition assistance, legislation to extend the enhanced unemployment benefits that kept nearly 12 million Americans out of poverty, money for rural broadband, money to help our restaurants and our hotels. We have proposed many different things, none of which are in the Republican bill.

House Democrats passed the Heroes Act through their Chamber. So far, it is the only major COVID relief bill since the CARES Act to pass either Chamber of Congress. Meanwhile, as the spring turned into summer and as summer approached fall, Republicans dithered and delayed. They pushed their chips in with President Trump's lie and hoped the virus would miraculously disappear and everything would be all better. Rather than use the power of the Federal Government to help our citizens during a once-in-a-lifetime crisis, Senate Republicans closed their eyes and crossed their fingers, hoping they wouldn't have to do anything. Sound familiar? It is just what President Trump tried to do as well.

Here now, in September, Republicans finally felt the public pressure to support a bill, but instead of working with Democrats on something that could pass, our friends on the other side tried to find the bare minimum that Senate Republicans could support. They had 20 Republican Senators—in the words of the leader—who wanted to spend no money. The greatest economic crisis since the Depression, the greatest health crisis since the Spanish flu just about a century ago, and 20 Republicans want to spend nothing. They are the tail wagging the Republican dog.

So the Republican leader didn't know what to do. He proposed a meager bill,

a skinny bill of \$1 trillion, but even that wasn't good enough for the hard right—the large hard right—in his caucus. So he put together, with spit and polish, an emaciated bill that hardly does a thing—that leaves out so many Americans, it doesn't come close to meeting the moment—so he might say he might be able to bring something on the floor with a modicum of support in his caucus.

It is insufficient. It is completely inadequate. It does not help renters keep a roof over their heads or American families put food on the table. It short-changes healthcare and education. It does not provide a dime to protect essential State and local services. It is laden with poison pills, provisions our colleagues know Democrats would never support, to guarantee the bill's failure.

The truth is, the Republicans and the Republican leader don't want to pass a bill. Too many on the hard right—in the Senate and outside it—would be angry if they actually put together a bill that could pass.

So Leader MCCONNELL, this morning, demanded that Democrats name exactly what we oppose in their bill, like it was some kind of challenge. How about the broad immunity provisions? From the day he announced them, he knew that it wouldn't get Democratic support. How about the Betsy DeVos school choice plan that would funnel money into private schools while he neglected the real needs of our public schools? Of course Democrats would oppose that. He knew that. He knows that.

The truth is, this emaciated bill is not a serious attempt at legislation or solving the real problems in our country. It is a shame. It is one of the most cynical moves I have seen, a fairly transparent attempt to show that the Republicans are doing something, when, in fact, they want to do nothing, in reality.

We are in the middle of a pandemic, historic unemployment, industries struggling from one end of America to the other, and Leader MCCONNELL isn't searching for bipartisan progress; he seems to be looking for political cover. Once this bill goes down, we will be right where we started at the start of the week: waiting for our Republican colleagues to wake up to the size of the crisis in our country and work with us on a bill that actually makes sense.

We want to work on a bipartisan bill. The Speaker and I have come down \$1 trillion off our initial request, which was based on the real needs of the American people during this pandemic crisis. Our Republican colleagues—both the President's minions and the Republican Senate—have refused to budge.

I still have some hope, once this bill is defeated. If past is prologue, there is actually a significant chance that the public heat on many Republican Senators, as they go back home, will have them come to their senses and they will start negotiating with us in a serious way. That happened on COVID 2. It

happened on COVID 3. It happened on COVID 3.5. I pray and plead, for the sake of our country and the people who are suffering, that it will happen again and that Republicans, once they see they can't pass this emaciated, terribly insufficient, and poison-pill-pocked proposal, will start negotiating in reality with us—something they have not done as of yet.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Madam President, now on President Trump, yesterday it was reported that, in taped interviews with Bob Woodward, President Trump acknowledged that he knew the danger posed by COVID-19 way back in February but he deliberately—deliberately—downplayed the threat to the American people. We now know that the President wasn't ill-informed. He wasn't being overly optimistic. He was lying to the American people. He was deliberately downplaying the virus to the American people at a time when early and forceful action could have saved so many lives.

Look, when the house is on fire—a five-alarm fire—you have an obligation to let people know. If you don't, they are going to burn, and they are going to die.

When we look at the rest of the world and see why they are doing better than we are in fighting this disease, the reason is simple: They had some leadership. We have had none from the White House—none. We have had lying. We have had ignoring the problem. We have had misleading the American people but no leadership at a time when we desperately need it.

Other leaders around the world were clear about science. They faced up to the problem and worked hard to solve it. They instituted policies to test, trace, and isolate. We had a President who simply lied about the dangers of the disease and suggested that Americans inject bleach. Other leaders took responsibility and ownership. We had a President who said: "It is what it is." In the annals of history, this will be one of the five greatest examples of lack of leadership in American history.

President Trump, the history books are not going to regard you kindly. They are not going to regard you kindly.

The President is coming up with great excuses now for his perfidious lies. This time, he said he didn't want to tell the truth about COVID because it might cause panic. Really? Is this the same President who is busy panicking America right now, telling women in the suburbs that their safety is at risk when the suburbs are not at risk at all? Is this the same President who invented a caravan of migrants in an attempt to panic Americans before the last election? This President always uses panic as a tool when he thinks it serves his interest, so the idea that he did it because he didn't want to panic Americans does not ring true. It seems like an *ex post facto* excuse for the President's perfidious lies.

President Trump doesn't mind panicking people when it serves his interest. What is worse is that he will not tell the truth when it hurts his interest, even if lives are at stake.

The President's comments in this interview were despicable. It should serve as a warning to all Americans about who this man is and his total, complete abject failure to lead.

(Mr. SCOTT of Florida assumed the Chair.)

TRANSIT

Mr. President, finally, on transit, COVID-19 has changed nearly every aspect of American life, but Senate Republicans and the White House only want to address the barest sliver of the problems in our country, so this week I have been pointing out many of the things that the Republican proposal leaves out.

Yesterday, I spoke about the plight of live venues and the need to save that essential part of our culture and our economy. Today I want to address another topic that has received far too little attention from the Senate Republicans: transit.

Public transportation systems are the lifeblood of great American cities. Regional networks connect workers to jobs and consumers and businesses. As anyone can imagine, during the pandemic, while transit authorities like the MTA have continued round-the-clock operations to serve the people, ridership on public transportation has plummeted, leaving them in a state of crisis. God forbid if public transportation were forced to shutter or drastically reduce operations, like on Long Island, where they rely on the Long Island Rail Road. The damage to regional economies and to the national economy would be severe. But there is not a penny—not one single penny—in the Republican bill to help public transit systems or even help State and local governments, which fund a lot of the transit systems—not a penny.

My Republican friends seem to look at this crisis through a narrow lens. Some of my colleagues have criticized Democrats for the outrageous idea of wanting to help our State governments and the essential public services they provide.

I have news for our colleagues. These regional transit systems are mission critical to the national economy. It is not just a New York problem or a New Jersey problem or an Illinois problem, it is a national crisis.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority alone carries about 40 percent of the Nation's transit riders and drives as much as 10 percent of the national GDP—10 percent. The facts argue for heavy investment in public transportation systems to stanch the bleeding and jump-start the economy when the pandemic wanes. The lack of investment in transit systems in the Republican legislation is unacceptable.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. President, finally, according to a whistleblower complaint filed by a

former senior official in the Office of Intelligence and Analysis at the Department of Homeland Security, political leaders at DHS told him to refrain from sharing reports about Putin's efforts to interfere with our elections because "they make the President look bad." And this DHS whistleblower goes on to allege a broader pattern by Trump and his lieutenants of politicizing and misrepresenting intelligence, altering the information to fit the President's way of thinking, what the President thinks makes him look good.

We know this President doesn't like to hear the truth. He literally can't handle it. But what is even more alarming is that former DNI Director Dan Coats, according to Bob Woodward's new book, could not shake his "deep suspicions" that Vladimir Putin "had something" on the President.

Many Americans believe what Coats said; that the reason Donald Trump bows down in obeisance to Putin is that Putin knows something that the President doesn't want made public.

That is how egregious the pattern of President Trump's behavior has been. It cries out for an explanation, and there is no logical one. There is no honorable one. President Trump's pattern of downplaying the threat from Putin, placating the dictator, and pursuing policies that have long been the goal of Moscow asks an enormous question: What does President Putin know that President Trump is so afraid of?

Here is what needs to happen. Before we leave for the election, there has to be an all-Senators briefing on the threat from Putin to our election. Every Senator—Democratic, Republican, liberal, conservative, North, South, East, and West—has an obligation to our constituents and the country we all love to find out what exactly Putin is up to.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. I want to thank my colleague from New York for his comments this morning. He is right. We have seen this play before. We know how it ends. Senator McCONNELL, the Republican leader, comes to the floor and proclaims that his latest creation is bipartisan; the Democrats have a choice to vote yes or no; take it or leave it; we are done.

We have been through this over and over again. That is not how Congress or human activity works. We have a split government between Democrats and Republicans. When we sit down together and compromise, good things can happen. We proved it March 26. The vote was 96 to 0 for the CARES Act, a \$3 trillion bill early on to address the coronavirus pandemic and to deal with the serious challenges to our economy.

Thank goodness we did it. It gave \$600 a week in additional Federal supplements and unemployment to families who were facing layoffs and closures of their businesses. We helped

small businesses injecting billions of dollars back into protecting their payroll and keeping the lights on for the day when they can return.

It worked, and it worked on a bipartisan basis, but where we are today reflects a failure and a repetition on the Republican side.

Explain to me this: Why did the Republican Senate leader refuse to physically present himself at any stage of the negotiation since March 26 for relief from this coronavirus pandemic? That is right. Senator MCCONNELL refuses to enter the room where representatives of the White House and Democratic congressional leaders were meeting to discuss a bipartisan compromise. We can't reach a compromise unless we clearly have all the parties at the table. When the Republican congressional leaders—MCCONNELL, MCCARTHY of California on the House side—boycott these meetings for negotiations, nothing happens.

I can't tell you how many times back in Illinois during the August recess I was asked, so are you going back to Washington?

I said: Yes, we are planning on going back the first week in September.

What are you going to go?

I said: I don't know.

At this point, there has been no negotiation and compromise. Today we have a vote. We have been through this before. It is a McConnell proposal that was not put to any kind of bipartisan negotiation. It is a one-sided offering. It fails in so many respects.

Think if you are unemployed, trying to make your mortgage payments, car payments, medical bill payments, credit card payments, put food on the table, make sure the kids are ready to go back to school, and Senator MCCONNELL announces, well, we are going to cut that check you have been receiving for unemployment benefits in half. It will not be \$600 a week; it will be \$300 a week.

Why? For that family, their needs and their bills are still the same. The economy is still hurting, with 30 million-plus Americans out of work, 800,000 in Illinois receiving unemployment benefits, I am sure thousands in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. And yet the reality is, what is going to be proposed by Senator MCCONNELL today will create a hardship on these families they never envisioned.

Is there any money in there to protect these families from being evicted? No. Wait a minute. How about food stamps and SNAP? Many of these families are struggling to put food on the table. Any help in this bill for them? No. How about money for testing so that we can find out if people have positive results and should quarantine themselves and stay away from others? No, not the kind of investment that is needed at this moment in history.

Time and again, what this Senator from Kentucky has given us is just an effort to say we tried. But he didn't. He didn't present himself at one of the negotiations to make a bipartisan bill.

There is one provision I just want to spend a minute on here that really is troubling. Senator MCCONNELL has announced for months that nothing will move, nothing will help Americans unemployed or small businesses until he gets what he called his redline proposal on liability immunity.

Basically, what they have done is to write a provision in this bill which absolves businesses from their responsibility to the public and to their employees when it comes to safety in the workplace and the marketplace. They have argued they have to do it because of the tsunami of frivolous lawsuits they anticipate because of COVID-19.

It turns out that that so-called tsunami has never materialized. The lawsuits that are being filed are primarily by businesses against insurance companies to decide coverage under insurance policies and by inmates in prisons who are protesting what they consider to be inhumane conditions in the midst of a pandemic. It is only a handful of lawsuits that have been filed against businesses or malpractice suits related to COVID-19 infections.

Here is the bottom line: Conscientious businesspeople in Illinois and across America are prepared to make their business place safe for the people who work there in the marketplace.

What they need is a rational, clear statement of public health experts as to what they must do. I heard this over and over again. They said to me: Senator, give me the standards on social distancing and labeling and sanitizers and masks, and we will live up to them.

We can never guarantee that someone will not file a frivolous lawsuit, but we should be able to say to people, if you will follow the public health experts with a real standard of care, then your motion to dismiss is going to prevail in that lawsuit, and that will be the end of it.

But Senator MCCONNELL thinks there is a better way to really absolve them from meeting any standard when it comes to public health. In fact, what he proposes today basically says: If you try to comply with any local ordinance, good enough; enough said; it doesn't have to be any standard of public health that is credible.

This doesn't keep America safe. What it is going to do is encourage the bad actors to do little or nothing. If we are going to deal with this pandemic, everyone has to be serious about it—from wearing these masks to social distancing, to putting up with what has become a tedious responsibility of staying away from friends and family when you want to be with them to get this behind us.

When it comes to the business and marketplace, the same thing applies. They are going to have to pitch in, if they want to reopen—and I wish they could today or tomorrow—but if I, they went to reopen, they have to pitch in with a good-faith effort to meet a good public standard. I will stand by them, and everyone else will too.

Senator MCCONNELL's approach absolves them from responsibility. It is liability immunity and an invitation for bad actors to do little or nothing in protecting innocent people, including their own employees.

I am going to yield the floor at this point and say that we can do better than what Senator MCCONNELL is offering the Senate today. We can gather on a bipartisan basis and reach a compromise if he will attend the negotiations.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have listened to the minority whip here. I would say that I agree with him. This bill that we will have an opportunity to vote on later this afternoon does not have everything in it. I think almost—I think every one of us would agree, it doesn't have everything that we would like. It certainly doesn't have everything that I would like. In fact, it has a few things in there that I would have just as soon be jettisoned.

What we will have an opportunity to vote on today is a targeted relief measure. It is targeted toward our small business men and women who have been feeling the kick to the gut on a daily basis in my State and certainly in a State like Florida that relies on tourism. It is targeted relief that is designed to help our kids get back into school and teachers to be able to be in a safe environment. It is targeted relief that is designed to help provide additional childcare resources. It is targeted relief to help us advance to a vaccine that is readable and traceable and affordable to all Americans. It is targeted relief that will help us with additional testing.

I think we recognize that more testing is going to be better than less testing. There is assistance for the U.S. Postal Service. It is not enough, in my view. I would like to see it increased significantly, but that is not in there. But there is some targeted relief for our Postal Service as well.

The minority whip mentions the liability protection that is included within this measure. It has been no secret that that has been a priority not only of the majority leader but of a majority of so many of us who have looked at and heard from those in our communities, our school districts that are concerned about their liability, our small businesses that are concerned about reopening with no liability. This is not a "get out of jail free" card. This is designed that if you have followed the protocols, if you have followed the requirements that have been set out there, that you are not going to lose that business. Your school district is not going to be, really in terms of their funding, eroded because of litigation. Again, it does not absolve if you have been negligent in any way here.

What I want to reinforce is, we will have an opportunity here to vote on a measure today that is not everything

to everybody. We couldn't get there. Negotiations—I think it is fair to say we all wish that there had been greater success with broader bipartisan negotiation. We haven't gotten to this place.

We are at a place where we do have an opportunity to put a measure out there that is more directed in its targeted relief; that does leave out certain areas; that, in my view, does include some things that should not be in here, but it is where we are today.

We either have an opportunity to do some incremental steps to build on what we put in place with the CARES Act several months ago or to do nothing for an indeterminate period of time.

I can tell you that in my State, I have small businesses for whom the PPP was a lifesaver. But I come from a State where we are pretty seasonally focused with our economy, and the relief they were able to get for those few months in the summertime, that allowed them to stay open.

When you don't have your tourists come to town and when you really don't have your economy kick into gear during the summer—believe it or not, folks—it doesn't happen in the wintertime in Alaska. We don't have those people coming to visit us. We don't have the cruise ships. We don't have the airplanes that are filled with people willing to come and spend their money. So we have to wait until at least next May. Alaskans, right now, are hoping and praying that they can hold on until May.

There are some things in this targeted relief package that directly helps them. There is an opportunity for a second round, an opportunity that is focused on our smaller businesses, an opportunity for an extension of time within which to pay down those CARES Act monies. The thing I have heard more often than anything else is this: Give us more time to spend this because we don't want to spend it on things that we don't need right now because we know that the winter is going to be long and dark and tough. Give us that ability. We didn't get the flexibility that we had asked for. That would have been important.

The time extension will be important. The loan forgiveness piece for the smaller loans will be important. The extension of the additional UI will be important. No, it is not a full \$600, but it does allow for additional support for those who are suffering most.

Again, what we are trying to do is to target the relief and not put it all out there in areas where some didn't need it, some did, and hope we get it right. Again, this is a measure that many will say is a half measure, but I am talking to folks back home who are saying: Give us something. We need to have something now because otherwise we don't know how long we can hold on.

This is something that I am going to be supporting later this afternoon, de-

spite what I point to as the flaws in it. I am not going to spend my time here today to talk about why I disagree with some of the school choice provisions that are in here. I think my position on that is relatively well known. But I am going to vote for this regardless of the fact that those provisions are in there because there are provisions that are going to help our fishermen, that are going to help our small businesses, that are going to help our schools, and that are going to help us help those who need this additional unemployment insurance.

There is a measure in this bill, though, that has evoked an interesting bit of controversy. It is in an area that I offered. This comes from the text of my American Mineral Security Act. This is a bill that we reported from the Energy Committee last year. The portion of the bill that is in controversy right now, according to my friends on the other side of the aisle, is actually text from a bipartisan bill that my friend and the ranking member on the Energy Committee inserted himself. I cosponsored it. It would effectively authorize the Department of Energy to conduct research to develop advanced processes to help recover rare earth elements from coal and coal byproducts. It authorizes. It doesn't appropriate. It authorizes \$23 million a year for 7 fiscal years.

We saw that this was a particularly worthy provision to advance. We know that we import almost all of our rare earths from abroad, primarily from China. We know the supply is precarious. China has already demonstrated its willingness to cut off another country when it feels like it. And we know we need this, whether it is for iPhones, flat screens, jet engines, satellites. It is all about supply chain.

I was a little bit bemused, I guess, when I saw that this particular provision was the object of partisan scorn. It was actually the Obama administration that helped fund the research to examine the potential of these technologies. NETL, the National Energy Technology Lab, has been working on this, as have a number of universities. When you think about what we are doing here, we are seeking to recover rare earths from coal waste. It is a little bit like turning your trash into treasure. It is the ultimate in recycling. You have already disturbed the earth. That has already happened. What we are doing now is we are going through that and trying to determine if we can't utilize some of that waste for something of great value—rare earths. It could ironically add to our domestic supplies without necessitating new mines. You would think that those on the other side of the aisle who don't like mining would agree that recycling that waste is a strong and a positive thing to do.

Some have said: Why is this American Mineral Security Act or any of the provisions in this bill at all? I think one of the things we learned from this

pandemic is that supply chains really matter, whether it is supply chains in the pharmaceutical end or supply chains when it comes to these minerals. They are so essential to everything that we do.

There have been some interesting attacks on this bipartisan provision. One of my Democratic colleagues declared that it could "fast-track coal mines." One said it is "targeted to corporate donors." Another said on Twitter that this amounts to "corporate welfare to the coal industry during a climate emergency." It is so wrong on so many levels that you don't know where to begin to rebut that.

Let me just cite a couple. For a starting point, the Department of Energy has a research mission. DOE does not permit coal mines. So there is no fast-tracking under the provision because there is no authority within the DOE to do so. It doesn't exist. We are not putting labs in charge of the review process. You are not going to see one of your National Labs now become a permitting office.

I have also been surprised to hear that research grants from the Department of Energy are somehow or another corporate welfare now. I have a great deal of respect for the work that goes on within DOE. I think that they are the ultimate engine for innovation, leading to good jobs, economic growth, cleaner air, cleaner water. These grants are not just directed to industry. Many of our universities will be among the likely recipients.

It is important, I think, to recognize that what we are establishing within this measure is something that would benefit our economy, benefit jobs, and benefit the environment. I mentioned that this provision is an authorization of appropriations. It doesn't allocate any taxpayer dollars. It simply creates a new option for those of us who serve as appropriators to choose as part of our normal budgeting process. We have seen a lot of accusations—misleading attacks over different things that are in this bill or perhaps some things that are not in the measure.

I think, again, what we have in front of us is an opportunity to provide targeted relief to Americans at a time when they are in need. What we do today, how we do it today, I think, is important. I think it is unfortunate that we will likely see this as a wholly partisan exercise. I would like to think that we would have a different outcome. I would like to think that each of us can look at these provisions and say: Well, it might not be as much as I would like for my constituents in Florida or Alaska, but it does allow us to advance one step further.

My hope is that we will continue aggressive negotiations because I continue to hear from people in my State who are still reeling from the impacts of this pandemic. They do not see the upcoming months giving them notable relief from an economic perspective. They want to know that their Federal

Government will be a partner with them in aiding them in the recovery.

We will have an opportunity to vote on this later. I would certainly hope all Members look at where we are today with the offering that is in front of us. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote scheduled for 11:30 begin now.

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

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

Mr. GARDNER. 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 senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 83, nays 15, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 165 Ex.]

YEAS—83

Alexander	Fischer	Peters
Baldwin	Gardner	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Bennet	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Heinrich	Rosen
Braun	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Carper	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Casey	Jones	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kaine	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sinema
Coons	King	Smith
Cornyn	Lankford	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Tester
Cramer	Loeffler	Thune
Crapo	Manchin	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	McSally	Udall
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Enzi	Murphy	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Wyden
Feinstein	Perdue	Young

NAYS—15

Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Sanders
Booker	Markey	Schatz
Brown	Menendez	Schumer
Cantwell	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—2

Harris	Warren
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The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Cullen nomination?

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 166 Ex.]

YEAS—79

Alexander	Feinstein	Peters
Baldwin	Fischer	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Reed
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hassan	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Brown	Hoeven	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cardin	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Carper	Jones	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kaine	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Leahy	Tester
Cortez Masto	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Loeffler	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Van Hollen
Cruz	McSally	Warner
Daines	Moran	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murkowski	Wicker
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Enzi	Paul	Young
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—19

Bennet	Klobuchar	Schumer
Blumenthal	Markey	Smith
Booker	Menendez	Stabenow
Cantwell	Merkley	Udall
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Heinrich	Sanders	
Hirono	Schatz	

NOT VOTING—2

Harris	Warren
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The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the next nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

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

Mr. BURR. Madam 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 167 Ex.]

YEAS—99

Alexander	Gardner	Peters
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Bennet	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Roberts
Blumenthal	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Heinrich	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Brown	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Jones	Schumer
Capito	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cassidy	Lankford	Sinema
Collins	Leahy	Smith
Coons	Lee	Stabenow
Cornyn	Loeffler	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	Markey	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Toomey
Cruz	Menendez	Udall
Daines	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Enzi	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murray	Wicker
Feinstein	Paul	Wyden
Fischer	Perdue	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Harris

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill 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 motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 178, a bill 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, with a further amendment No. 2652.

Mitch McConnell, John Barrasso, Shelley Moore Capito, Marco Rubio, Lamar Alexander, Mike Crapo, Roy Blunt, James M. Inhofe, Kevin Cramer, Richard C. Shelby, Martha McSally, Pat Roberts, Tim Scott, James Lankford, Dan Sullivan, Todd Young, John Cornyn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment with amendment No. 2652 to S. 178, a bill 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, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 168 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Alexander	Fischer	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Risch
Blackburn	Graham	Roberts
Blunt	Grassley	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Loeffler	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Toomey
Cruz	McSally	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Enzi	Murkowski	
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—47

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Jones	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Udall
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Paul	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NOT VOTING—1

Harris

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 47.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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

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

S. RES. 685

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I come to the floor to first thank Senator DUCKWORTH for leading many of us to come to the floor this week to stand in solidarity with all of the military families around the country and throughout our Nation's history who have sacrificed so much in service to our country.

I hope we can all join together, not as Republicans and Democrats but as servants of the American people, in expressing outrage and disgust at the comments made by the President that were confirmed by multiple news outlets last week. A deep reverence for servicemembers, including the Presiding Officer, who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, has never before been a partisan issue in this body or in our country.

These Americans laid down their lives because they loved this country, and they loved what we stand for. They understood something that President Trump never will, which is the idea of service—the ethos of giving your all for something greater than yourself.

I know some of my colleagues will continue to bury their heads in the sand to pretend the President couldn't possibly have said those things, but if you don't believe it is within President Trump's character to denigrate our troops, you haven't been paying attention over the last 5 years.

President Trump called our former colleague and our friend Senator John McCain—an American war hero to every one of us—a loser. He denigrated all POWs and their families when he said he liked people who were not captured. He attacked a Gold Star family, whose son paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country, with anti-Muslim bigotry. He repeatedly attacked and retaliated against LTC Alexander Vindman, who spent his entire life serving our country.

Yet, as despicable and disrespectful as they are, it is not just President Trump's words—it is his actions. He diverted funding from our military bases to pay for his vanity project border wall.

He has made it easier for payday lenders to prey on our servicemembers by selling them predatory loans at exorbitant rates. In Dayton, go to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and look at the payday lenders that just crop up around our military bases.

The President handed out favors to foreign banks, like Santander, that illegally repossessed servicemembers' cars and illegally foreclosed on their homes while they were defending our country.

He ordered the closure of the military's newspaper, Stars and Stripes,

because it refused to serve as a propaganda machine for him. Under pressure, he is saying he is now going to bring it back.

Now he is failing to protect our troops and our veterans from this disease. His administration used them as guinea pigs this spring by prescribing them hydroxychloroquine tablets—an unproven COVID treatment. He did that this spring while he was not telling the country about the seriousness of this disease.

None of this should be partisan. I know my Republican colleagues and I disagree on a lot of things—taxes and budgets and healthcare policy—but I have never heard any of us disagree on the fact that Americans who serve our country are American heroes. Whether they fought during World War I or fought against fascists in World War II, like my father did, or are defending us today, we owe them and their families a debt of gratitude. Those who made the ultimate sacrifice were mothers and fathers and sons and daughters and aunts and uncles. They had hopes, and they had dreams of devoting careers to service.

All of my colleagues have spoken to the families of the fallen. We try to empathize with the unbearable pain they go through. Some of my colleagues have been those brothers or sisters or sons or daughters. All of our servicemembers and all of our veterans and all of their families deserve better.

I ask my colleagues to join me and Senator DUCKWORTH in standing in solidarity with all American servicemembers and veterans and their families.

We will never forget the debt we owe you. We are humbled by your commitment to service.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONFIRMATION OF HALA Y. JARBOU

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have two items I would like to speak for a few moments on today, but first I want to rise to say how pleased I am that the Senate voted to confirm Judge Hala Jarbou to serve as the Federal judge in the U.S. District Circuit for the Western District of Michigan.

Both Senator PETERS and I supported her, returned our blue slips, and were very pleased to support her confirmation. I think she will do an excellent job.

Her story, Judge Jarbou's story, is really an American story. She was born in Iraq and came to this country as a young girl. She was the first person in her family to earn her college degree from the University of Michigan and

her law degree from Wayne State University.

She is the first Chaldean judge to serve at the circuit court level in Oakland County, MI, and she is now the first Chaldean-American to serve on the Federal bench. So I am very, very pleased that she was confirmed today.

Judge Jarbou greatly values the opportunity she has been given, I know, and has worked to extend those opportunities to others during her career.

She is active in the Michigan legal community and in the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce and other cultural organizations.

She served as a mentor and has worked to increase the diversity of clerks in her own courtroom. Again, I am just very pleased that she was overwhelmingly confirmed by the U.S. Senate today.

HONORING MILITARY VETERANS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise now on behalf of the more than 19 million people in our Nation and half a million people in Michigan who show us every day what service and sacrifice and love of country is really all about.

These patriots landed on beaches in Normandy and the Pacific theater, crept through jungles in Korea, shed blood in Vietnam, survived attacks in Iraq, and fought terrorists in Afghanistan. These people are heroes. They love our Nation so much. They are willing to put their lives on the line for our democracy, our people, and our way of life.

That is why it is so incredibly shocking and infuriating to hear the President of the United States, the Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces, disparage our veterans. President Trump called them losers and suckers—losers and suckers. He said he couldn't understand why anyone would join the military because "What is in it for them?"

He said veterans who had lost limbs shouldn't be in parades. Why? Because he couldn't handle seeing them. He didn't think people would want to see them. People in Michigan want to see them and thank them and do so every day.

We all remember what he said about our former colleague and friend, the late Senator John McCain. President Trump said that he prefers veterans who didn't get captured.

My own dad served in the Navy during World War II. He signed up because he believed in a cause bigger than himself. Perhaps President Trump doesn't understand, but my dad was a sailor, not a sucker.

About one in four people who have served in our armed services now live with a service-connected disability. President Trump, these veterans are leaders; they aren't losers.

President Trump wonders what is in it for them. Well, maybe he should ask them because we all know what they would say. We all know what they

would say: pride, duty, honor, the feeling that comes from putting something or someone above yourself. It is becoming increasingly clear that these aren't feelings that the current occupant of the Oval Office understands.

My dad once told me something I have never forgotten. In fact, it has influenced my whole life as an elected official. He said that a veteran should never stand at the back of any line for a job, for healthcare, for education, or for the military recognitions they earned. My dad came home after World War II and went to school on the GI bill, and I don't know what would have happened to our family if he had not had that opportunity. So my dad said over and over again that a veteran should not stand at the back of any line. They certainly shouldn't be put at the end of the line by their own President. It is appalling that this even needs to be said, actually.

When I heard these comments and heard them verified over and over again in every media outlet from right to left, verifying that, in fact, these were his comments, it was stunning. It was appalling. It made me very angry.

Our veterans deserve a place of honor at the front of the line—at the front of the line. They deserve a Commander in Chief who respects them, who honors their service, and, frankly, who gets it. Thank goodness we have people who believe in things beyond themselves. Thank goodness we have people who are willing to stand up for all of us, to keep us safe and stand up for our values and our country.

So on behalf of the people of Michigan, I want to say thank you to everyone who has served and everyone who is currently serving our country in our armed services. We are truly grateful for your sacrifice and service and your willingness to stand up and support and defend our country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, thank you. I am on the floor today to talk about the coronavirus pandemic and what we can and should do here in the U.S. Senate and in Congress as a whole to actually address the ongoing problem.

We are not out of the woods yet. We still have a healthcare crisis and, of course, an economic crisis that is a consequence of that.

We have done some good bipartisan work over the past 6 months. In fact, not many people realize that we have

actually passed five or six bills with strong bipartisan majorities. The one people know about most is the biggest one, the CARES Act. I think it got 97 votes here on the floor of the Senate—97 to nothing.

We have in the past been able to figure out a way to come together as Republicans and Democrats and as Americans to be able to address this crisis. We need to do it again because we still do have a crisis. We still do have unacceptably high levels of people getting infected, hospitalized, being in the ICU, fatalities, and, of course, our economy is not where any of us would like to see it although it has improved significantly, in part because of the legislation we passed here.

I am convinced that we would be at over 10 percent unemployment still if not for the legislation we passed here. Instead, we are beginning to come down—8.4 percent last month. That is faster than anybody thought it could. Still, of course, it is unacceptably high.

So more help is needed, and we can't let the upcoming election and the politics around that keep us from getting together and continuing to do the work that we have to do. We haven't been able, in the last 5 or 6 weeks, to do that. Instead, we have been working kind of on opposite sides of the aisle on our own projects.

Today we voted on a bill that had a majority of the U.S. Senators supporting it. That is not how you pass something around here; there has to be a supermajority—60 votes. But a majority of the Senators in this Chamber just voted for legislation that has strong bipartisan appeal I would think because, as we will talk about in a second, almost every element is supported by the Democrats, Republicans, and, most importantly, by the American people.

What we have done is we have kind of fallen into camps. So the Democrats passed a bill in the House called the Heroes Act. It is a \$3.5 trillion bill. Remember, we have already spent about \$3.5 trillion, making this the largest deficit in the history of our country and making our debt now, for the first time since World War II, the size of our entire economy. That concerns all of us, and it should. I hope it concerns all of us because our fiscal situation going forward for our kids and grandkids is something we should be concerned about too.

Anyway, the \$3.5 trillion bill is a grab bag, to be honest. Some of it is related to COVID-19, but some of it is not. As an example, there is a provision in there that I hope would be a non-starter that changes our tax laws and repeals the State and local tax deduction cap that was put in place just recently. This gives a huge break to wealthy Americans. In fact, 40 percent of this benefit, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation, goes to the top 1 percent of wage earners. What does that have to do with the coronavirus? It will help millionaires

on both coasts a lot, but it really does not affect the crisis that we are in.

They also want to use this \$3.5 trillion package as a way to make changes in our immigration policy. Now, that is pretty controversial stuff as it stands, and that is going to make, of course, that bill hard to pass because of the immigration policy. People have strong views on it. It has no place in a COVID-19 bill.

One that also concerns those of us who are concerned about the election coming up is it puts Federal mandates in place on the States that are unprecedented with regard to their election system. Now, that is something we have always left to the province of the States, but, instead, it puts mandates in place on the electoral system. That is not, again, something that is going to help us in terms of the coronavirus.

So my hope is that those House Democrats who passed that bill can now see what we passed over here. This is a targeted bill that focuses on the coronavirus. It is less than \$500 billion, which used to be a lot of money around here, but as compared to the \$3.5 trillion. So it is obviously a lot less money, but it is also more targeted and more focused.

Again, I think so much of it is policy that can be supported by both sides of the aisle. It will really help to continue the efforts we started here to help address the healthcare crisis but also help with regard to the weak economic performance as a result of people being isolated from the economy.

I heard someone this week say we have a K-shaped recovery. What does that mean? Well, think of the letter "K." A lot of people say you want to have a V-shaped recovery, where you go down steeply through a recession and you come back up just as steeply. That is where I think a lot of America is. In other words, a lot of families and a lot of businesses have seen a pretty rapid recovery here in the past few months, but there are others who have not.

So the top part of the K is true for a lot of people and a lot of businesses—think of the businesses that provide food, the grocery stores; the businesses that are involved in construction, businesses like Home Depot or Lowe's that provide building products. They are doing well. They are at the top of the K. They are in the V.

But there are others that are in the bottom. That would include travel and hospitality. It would certainly include the airlines and bus companies. They are having a tough time. Many of our smaller retail businesses—certainly our bars, movie theaters, and bowling alleys—they are having a tough time. So there is a bottom end to that.

This is an uneven recovery, and we have to acknowledge that. Therefore, to my colleagues on my side of the aisle who might say, you know, we have done enough; the recovery is on; everything is good, unfortunately, that is not true. I wish it were. I wish we

had turned the corner on the economy and also begun to turn the corner on the virus. We can't say that yet. We have made progress. No question about it. I think we are on the right track, but we are in a K-shaped recovery, I believe.

By the way, it is the same thing with individuals. Think about it. If you own your own home, the value of your home has probably gone up. You are probably in pretty good shape, particularly if you are trying to sell your home right now. It is a good time to sell, I guess. If you invest it in the stock market, which a lot of the people who own their homes are, it has been darn good. The market increase has been substantial. I was on a program this morning where they were talking about how the Nasdaq was back up again, and the tech stocks, if you are in the tech world, are doing great.

But let's say you don't own your own home. Let's say you are a renter. Your rent is likely to start going up if it hasn't already, and then, you are not invested in the markets, so you are not taking advantage of that, and yet your job is at risk and may be gone. So, again, K-shaped isn't it. Some people are doing quite well, and others are still having a rough time and need help to be able to deal with the issue of the coronavirus and the economic fallout from that.

By the way, this K-shaped recovery, I believe, has increased inequality in terms of our income in this country, and income inequality was something we were making progress on. In February, we had the 19th straight month of wages increasing over 3 percent in this country just in February, not long ago. And, by the way, most of that increase was among lower and middle-income workers. Now, that was positive. That was where we wanted to head as a country. That is why so many of us pushed for tax reform and regulatory relief thinking that would get this economy moving and help those workers who are in the lower and middle-income bracket the most, and, guess what, it did.

That has changed now so we have to, here in Congress, in my view, continue to help, continue to do things that will help with the healthcare crisis and with regard to the underlying economic situation that is affected by it.

One thing that I think was very positive about today is that we were able to pass legislation that has many, many bipartisan elements to it. I think the vote we just had—again, where a majority of Senators in this Chamber voted for a targeted COVID-19 approach—I think this gives us a chance to reset, a chance to get back to the bargaining table, and a chance to say: OK. Now the Republicans have put forward a proposal that has a lot of very reasonable provisions in it.

The Presiding Officer here today was part of that. He put provisions into the bill that has to do with our schools. It is widely popular. There are other pro-

visions in there that I think there is very little disagreement on. Let me highlight a few of them.

One is on the healthcare response, particularly on our testing capacity. Republicans and Democrats alike know that testing is critical. We need it. In Ohio, we are looking for more funding for testing because we know that is how you stop the spread of the disease—testing, contact tracing, getting to the hotspots and trying to contain it. That way people will feel more comfortable returning to work, returning to shop, and returning to school. This is something that is in this legislation, \$16 billion alone for testing. The legislation that was voted on this afternoon in this Chamber was voted positively by a majority of the Senators.

Just last week, in Ohio, I visited The Health Collaborative, which is a multi-agency coalition approach to dealing with COVID-19. It includes hospitals, county commissioners, health commissioners, and even nursing homes. They are utilizing the \$19 million they have received through the CARES Act to fund and design and execute a testing strategy for people in the Southwest Ohio area. I am really pleased to see them take the funding and using it in this way because now more and more people are getting the opportunity to be tested, and, by the way, they are doing it on a no-needs basis. There is no need to pay for this testing with your insurance. If you don't have it, everybody is welcome to get a test.

These kinds of initiatives are a big help, and I am glad that in this legislation we voted on this afternoon, we added another \$45 billion in total to HHS to go toward testing and vaccine development to get this vaccine as quickly as possible, and distribution of the vaccine, helping on the antiviral medications. This "Shark Tank" concept that the Presiding Officer and others are involved in is brilliant because it sort of tells the private sector: Look, we are going to provide you the basic funding to go out there and compete to come up with a safe way to develop a vaccine or antiviral therapy, and that has encouraged competition in it, and in unprecedented speed, we are developing these alternatives—thank goodness—and we need them. Hopefully, by the end of this year, we will have them.

Second, I think we agree that Congress should double down on any COVID-19 policies in previous legislations that have worked well, and, one, of course, is what is called the Paycheck Protection Program. That is in this legislation we voted on today too. Back on August 8, it ended. So if you are a small business out there and you have not already taken advantage of the PPP program that many of your peers have and you have seen them be able to keep their doors open because of it, you are out of luck right now because the program is not accepting new applicants. So we need to extend that program. I think everybody agrees with that. I don't know a Senator in

this Chamber who doesn't have an experience back home of a small business saying: I couldn't have stayed open without this. I visited three or four businesses just in the past few weeks in Ohio, and all of them had the same story.

Different timing, different businesses, some in construction, some in the restaurant business, some in manufacturing, but what they all tell me is they needed that influx badly. It provided them a low interest loan—1 percent. They converted it into a grant, effectively, because the loan was forgiven if they used it for their salaries or for their utilities or for their mortgage or rent. They would have had to close their doors and let a lot of people go. They were able to hang on.

For some of these businesses, like the manufacturer I visited, thank goodness, because they would have let go 30 percent of their workforce. They didn't have to do that. They kept everybody on. Now they are going great guns. They are looking for people. By the way, they are having a tough time hiring people. They are looking for people. That is a good sign that you have businesses out there trying to pull people into the workforce. That is in this legislation.

My hope is that we are going to see Republicans and Democrats agree on this. I think they do agree. Reinstating the PPP for the foreseeable future so that more small businesses can take advantage of this smart loan program is a smart thing to do. It is more targeted, and it does require you to show a loss of revenue. That is OK. That is good. We want this to be targeted and focused. We don't want to waste money.

Third, the bill reflects that Members on both sides of the aisle recognize that Congress should give additional support to our schools. I mentioned this earlier, but \$105 billion in this bill goes to education—about \$70 billion to K-12, our primary and secondary schools and high schools, and that is needed right now. We are trying to reopen around the country, and many of these schools are telling me: ROB, I have got additional costs. I have got these Plexiglass shields I have to put up. I have to reconfigure the classroom. I have to hire more teachers because I want smaller classrooms so that if someone gets sick, it will be infecting a smaller group. There is funding that is needed for remote learning. So this is good for us to provide funding for these schools because that will enable them to reopen and reopen safely and stay open. That is in this legislation.

There is also funding in here for colleges and universities. I think there is about \$30 billion for that. Again, it is the same thing I am hearing back home from our colleges and universities, some of which are having a tough time staying open. They do need more help, more testing, more PPE, personal protective gear, so this is im-

portant too. Again, that is all in this legislation.

Interestingly, I mentioned the Heroes Act earlier, the \$3.5 trillion bill that the House Democrats passed not too long ago as kind of their alternative, that had funding for schools also. Guess what. This bill that was passed—well, not passed but voted on by a majority of Senators today in the U.S. Senate—actually has slightly more money than the Heroes Act has for education. What is the big issue here? Why can't we get together and figure this out?

There are so many opportunities here. Finally, I would just say that one thing that this bill does and one reason it is called a targeted bill is it repurposes funding that we have already appropriated here in the first four or five bills but that has not been used and is not likely to be needed. So isn't that smart? I mean, as taxpayers, don't you want to be sure that we are not just throwing money at this problem if it is not needed?

The Treasury Department, in particular, has been helpful in working with us, saying they have a bunch of money that they could use for a loan program that they haven't had much takeup on because, frankly, the commercial lending is going pretty well right now. People are able to get the money from their bank. They don't need to come to Treasury or the Fed as much as we thought they might, so there is money left over. We are talking hundreds of billions of dollars. So that should certainly be used to offset the cost of any new program. I think that is just a commonsense idea. I can't imagine anybody in this Chamber, if they think through this, would be against us repurposing the funds we have already appropriated toward new uses that are more targeted. That is in this legislation too.

I think those things all have bipartisan appeal, and it seems to me, again, this is a reset. Let's face it, the Democrats have been saying over the past several weeks: Well, fine, we have got our bill we passed, the Heroes Act. What have you guys put out showing that at least a majority of the Senate and pretty much every Republican can support? Now we have done that.

So we have our stake in the ground, and they have their stake in the ground. There is a lot of overlap. I just talked about four areas where there is considerable overlap, but there are many others as well. We should be able to figure this out on behalf of the American people.

We have a campaign ongoing for President, for Senators, and for Members of Congress. We have to look out for the interests of the American people here. We can do both. We can campaign and also be working on our legislation that is absolutely needed right now for the healthcare and economic future of our country.

By the way, only about one-third of the Senate is up for reelection, so for

two-thirds of us, we don't even have an election to worry about, and yet it seems like this place has become way too political too quickly. Let's focus on taking this bill that was voted on today where the majority of Senators supported it and figure out ways to work with Democrats to come up with a new approach that enables us to continue the effort to help with regard to this K-shaped recovery and to help with regard to the ongoing healthcare crisis we are facing.

I want to mention, if I could, three or four other things I would love to see in the final bill that did not make it into the so-called targeted bill. I understand why they didn't, and, in part, because we weren't looking to put a lot of tax provisions in there because it is not a tax vehicle, but I do think there are other things that have broad bipartisan support that we ought to include.

First, I think we would all agree it is important that the taxpayer-funded research that is supported by this legislation, research into antiviral medications and research into vaccines, is protected from other countries, in particular, China coming into our country and taking that research. This is taxpayer-funded research, and we know, from what the FBI has told us and what the Department of Justice has told us, that this is currently at risk. It is currently at risk.

With that in mind, we need to include legislation that safeguards our American innovation. This was actually in the legislation that was introduced by Senator MCCONNELL a few weeks ago called the Heals legislation, and the legislation that I am talking about is called the Safeguarding American Innovation Act. It stops this kind of theft of research and innovation at our research institutions, our colleges and our universities. That is one where Republicans and Democrats have come together. It is a bipartisan bill. It is the result of a committee process. It is the result of an investigation that took over a year. It is the result of a lot of hearings and a lot of work. It is solid legislation to encourage us to be able to protect the research we are doing, including on the coronavirus.

Second, for a while now, there has been a bipartisan consensus that a smart coronavirus response should include tax incentives to help our economy to not just open and reopen but to do so safely and effectively. Small business owners I have spoken to during this pandemic, especially in recent weeks, have told me they are eager to reopen, but they want to do it in a safe manner. And we want them to do it in a safe manner. Let's provide some incentives for that.

One example of how that process can be helped along is an expanded tax credit for new hiring called the work opportunity tax credit. It is already out there. It is legislation that passed years ago. It helps, let's say, veterans, returning citizens, who are looking for a second chance. It gives them the

chance to get a job because the employer gets a tax credit for a while, and then almost always that person ends up getting a job.

Let's include the COVID-19 unemployed in that—people who have lost their jobs because of COVID-19. That makes all the sense in the world to get people back to work.

There is also something that is in law now based on the CARES legislation called the employee retention tax credit. I think this is very important. Companies that couldn't access the PPP because they didn't qualify or didn't want to will have access to this program kind of as an alternative. It gives companies a tax credit against their payroll taxes—the employer side of the payroll taxes—if they keep people on or bring people on. Again, this makes all the sense in the world right now to encourage more hiring to ensure we can get this economy moving again and do so safely.

Speaking of safety, I have also introduced a new tax credit that was part of the HEALS legislation that was introduced a few weeks ago. It is called the healthy workplaces tax credit, which helps businesses pay for this protective equipment, like the plexiglass shields and like the PPE that they now need, which is expensive. Just the gowns and the masks and the gloves—those expenses add up, particularly for businesses that are having a tough time because of the weakening economy out there.

These credits will help them not just reopen again but reopen safely. I think getting these kinds of tax credits into the coronavirus legislation would be very smart. Again, these should be bipartisan efforts.

Third, while I am pleased we are revitalizing the successful PPP program, I think there are steps to improve it that we ought to take up in whatever our final package is.

For example, one oversight in the original PPP legislation is that people who have been convicted of a felony going back 5 years are not able to accept a PPP loan.

One day, I get a call from a guy back home. Troy Parker is his name. Troy said: I can't get a PPP loan. I am a guy who had a financial issue, a financial fraud issue. I had a felony conviction. I got out of incarceration, and I started my own business. I took my second chance.

He said: I did everything that you are always talking about, PORTMAN, which is that you want to encourage people to take that second chance. You want to give them that opportunity to get the training to be able to do that.

Then he went out and hired a bunch of other second-chance folks, and he started a cleaning business. It is quite successful. But obviously, with coronavirus, a lot of the offices he cleaned and others said: We can't have you come in. He lost his businesses. He was about to shut his doors. He couldn't get a PPP loan. Why? Because

within the last 5 years, he had a felony conviction.

That is not what we should be doing here. We shouldn't be penalizing people who have turned their lives around and have done all the right things and are hiring other second-chance individuals. We should be helping them to stay on their feet and to continue to do what they are doing for themselves, the community, and the workforce. So we worked with the Treasury Department, and to their credit, we got them to put forward a temporary solution, which was a change in the rule so that Troy could get his PPP loan and others like him around the country. We now need to make that permanent. That is an example of something we should do—totally bipartisan.

I worked with colleagues on the other side of the aisle on this issue, and I will continue to because this is one where, again, Republicans and Democrats alike, as Americans, would want this to be part of the legislation.

Fourth, while I am glad this bill reflects the bipartisan support for educational funding, I had hoped it would also reflect that Republicans and Democrats alike have come out for additional support and flexibility for State and local governments.

Ohio has been particularly hard hit here because our cities in Ohio, unlike your city—wherever you are in America, probably—can use income taxes as a revenue source. I think 90 percent of cities can't do that, but in Ohio, we can, and we do. Obviously, income taxes went down with this coronavirus, and the economy fell short, so they suddenly find themselves with less revenue coming in and then additional expenses: fire, police, EMS, coronavirus expenses for public health.

It has been tough for a lot of our cities in Ohio, so I have been pushing for not just more funding on a targeted basis, showing need, but also more flexibility to be able to use the funding for closing that revenue gap, which is caused by the weak economy, which is caused by the coronavirus. So it is related. Certainly, we ought to be able to do that on a bipartisan basis. That is what a lot of Democrats have said they would like to do. I am not the only Republican who wants to work with Democrats on that. We could get that into a final bill, and that would help all of our cities. Let's move forward on this.

Finally, I think all of us agree that we need to have better access to telehealth. Telehealth medicine has been one of the few silver linings in this dark cloud. A lot more of my constituents are using telehealth. One way they are using it is for behavioral health, mental health services, and another is for addiction services, but also, just generally, telehealth has been something that has been very helpful.

A lot of people say that in the last few months, we have gone 5 years ahead of where we would have been in terms of telehealth. I think the same is

true with regard to teleworking and with regard to telelearning. But with regard to telehealth, based on a poll I recently saw—a survey by Morning Consult—one in every four adults—25 percent—has used telehealth recently during the pandemic. It has been a lifeline for so many people, particularly for some people who are fighting addiction and can't get in-person care to help their recovery or people who have mental health challenges and are able to access telehealth to help them.

I have worked with the Trump administration to expand telehealth and delivery options, which in some instances has, for instance, allowed addiction specialists to reach new patients they hadn't been able to reach before.

There have been some positives here, but these reforms are only temporary. We need to make these permanent as well. We don't want to lose ground on this issue, so Senator WHITEHOUSE, on the other side of the aisle, and I have introduced legislation called the TREATS Act. We want that to be part of the final legislation as well.

We have an opportunity to help with telehealth by expanding broadband access as well so that more Americans can access these services from home. This also relates, of course, to education when schools are telling us they are going to go to partly in-person classrooms, partly remote, and some altogether remote. If you live in a rural area of America, you may not have access to broadband, and you are at a disadvantage. Also, in a lot of our urban school districts, there may be the infrastructure for broadband, but it is not in the home.

We need to help more in terms of broadband. I am the Senate sponsor of a bipartisan, bicameral bill called the Rural Broadband Acceleration Act, which basically speeds up the FCC's distribution they were going to make anyway of \$20 billion in rural digital funds to go toward the building of broadband networks. This will help spread high-speed internet over more than 400,000 miles of internet fiber cables, bringing about 3 million new households online immediately if we can get this done. By the way, it employs thousands of workers as well. I think it is a great investment in infrastructure that is needed right now. So people talking about infrastructure—this is one we could do right now that helps with regard to telehealth, telemedicine, telelearning, and teleworking.

The Nation will be looking to Congress in the coming weeks to work together to make sure that we can improve our response to the coronavirus and to help get this economy through a tough time. Now more than ever, we cannot revert to the norm, which is partisanship these days. We cannot do that with regard to this issue.

Using this new targeted bill as a base—the one that, again, got a majority of Senators in this Chamber to vote

on today—and voting on some of the areas of agreement I have outlined today, we need to come up with an appropriate and effective bill that responds to the challenge.

I am going to continue to work with Republicans and Democrats alike to insist we put the partisanship aside and work on behalf of our constituents to take the necessary steps to get us through this unprecedented healthcare crisis and to get us on the other side of the economic crisis. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work together to do the same.

Thank you.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 589.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 Mark C. Scarsi, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Tom Cotton, Rob Portman, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, Roy Blunt, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, John Cornyn, Lamar Alexander, John Thune, Steve Daines, James Lankford.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 590.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 Stanley Blumenfeld, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Tom Cotton, John Cornyn, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, Roy Blunt, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Richard Burr, Mike Crapo, Roger F. Wicker, Rob Portman, Lamar Alexander, John Thune, Steve Daines, James Lankford.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 773.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John W. Holcomb, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 John W. Holcomb, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Pat Roberts,

Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Thune, Kevin Cramer, Thom Tillis, Michael B. Enzi, James Lankford, John Barrasso, Joni Ernst, Lamar Alexander, Rob Portman, Tim Scott, Steve Daines.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 774.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 Todd Wallace Robinson, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Thune, Kevin Cramer, Thom Tillis, Michael B. Enzi, James Lankford, John Barrasso, Joni Ernst, Lamar Alexander, Rob Portman, Tim Scott, Steve Daines.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 812.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David W.

Dugan, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 David W. Dugan, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tom Cotton, Marsha Blackburn, Kevin Cramer, Jerry Moran, James E. Risch, Michael B. Enzi, Tim Scott, John Barrasso, Richard Burr, Deb Fischer, James Lankford, John Thune, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, John Hoeven.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 813.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen P. McGlynn, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 Stephen P. McGlynn, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Mitch McConnell, Roger F. Wicker, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Todd Young, Joni Ernst, Roy Blunt, Shelley Moore Capito, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Deb Fischer, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Thom Tillis.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 814.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

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

The senior assistant 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 Iain D. Johnston, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mitch McConnell, Roger F. Wicker, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Todd Young, Joni Ernst, Roy Blunt, Shelley Moore Capito, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Deb Fischer, Mike Crapo, John Thune, Richard Burr, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, Tim Scott, Thom Tillis.

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 was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 816.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented

under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant 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 Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Mike Braun, Joni Ernst, Marco Rubio, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, Richard Burr, Richard C. Shelby, Roy Blunt, James E. Risch, John Hoeven, Pat Roberts, Thom Tillis, David Perdue.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

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

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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, actions speak louder than words, and by their actions it is clear that the majority leader and Senate Republicans have not been serious about passing another COVID relief bill that matches the urgency of this moment.

First, the majority leader wanted to take a pause, and then he sat on the Housed-passed Heroes Act for months. Then in July, he introduced a series of inadequate piecemeal bills that went absolutely nowhere. Now the majority leader and Senate Republicans showed their priorities yet again by rushing to confirm five more Trump judges and offering an anemic, weak COVID bill aimed at appeasing the most conservative Members of their caucus. And we just voted on that bill.

While Senate Republicans have been "waiting for Godot" on the next COVID bill, Senate Democrats have been listening to our constituents, and we have a sense of urgency. We have had this sense of urgency for the 4 months that we have been waiting for Congress to deal with the Heroes Act. We have been waiting for over 4 months, as I mentioned, for the majority leader to stop taking a pause.

American workers and families couldn't afford a pause for 4 months, and they certainly can't afford to take a pause now. In fact, things have gotten worse. While Republicans sat on their hands, our country was facing and continues to face a grim reality.

In the coming days, we are certain to pass the almost unthinkable milestone of 200,000 deaths from COVID-19. On March 29, when Dr. Fauci warned us

that America could reach this milestone as an almost worst-case scenario, 2,300 Americans had died. And because Donald Trump has provided no national leadership, Dr. Fauci's warning will, more than sadly, soon come to pass.

Over 6 million Americans have contracted coronavirus. Tens of millions of Americans remain out of work. Millions of Americans have lost their healthcare. Colleges and universities have started their fall sessions with students back on campus and are experiencing significant outbreaks. Millions of parents are facing the agonizing choice of sending their children to schools that aren't safe or dealing with the challenge of distance learning and childcare needs. And State after State, long abandoned by the Trump administration's failure to lead during the pandemic, are left on their own to deal with billions in budget deficits as a result of the pandemic and to make difficult decisions about how to confront new outbreaks.

In Hawaii, new cases have been rising since July. The severity of our outbreak, particularly on Oahu, led the mayor of the city and county of Honolulu to issue a 2-week stay-at-home order on August 27. Yesterday, he extended this order for another 2 weeks. This order and the outbreak that preceded it offer a grim reminder that constant vigilance is necessary in the fight against COVID-19. It is a reminder that even States like Hawaii, which for months was lauded as a coronavirus success story, can become home to one of the fastest growing outbreaks in the country.

At the end of July, Hawaii had barely over 2,000 cases of COVID-19. Yesterday, Hawaii crossed the grim milestone of 10,000 cases. Like in many other States, our outbreak has hit certain communities and populations the hardest. Our thriving, dynamic, and vital Pacific Islander community represents a mere 4 percent of our population but nearly one-third of our total cases. More than a dozen long-term care homes across our State are experiencing significant outbreaks that put our kupuna—our seniors—at heightened risk.

The Oahu Community Correctional Center has seen the 299 inmates and 76 staff members infected with COVID-19. The rising caseload on Oahu is putting pressure on Hawaii's already understaffed medical system, where existing provider shortages are straining the capacity of our hospitals.

Although Hawaii's outbreak is centered on Oahu, we are seeing troubling signs on the Neighbor Islands, as well, with serious outbreaks at the Yuko Okutsu State Veterans Home in Hilo and the Maui Memorial Medical Center in Kahului.

As we analyze and assess what is happening in Hawaii, the most important thing our State can do is learn from our experience and not to repeat the same mistakes. We have to explain

things clearly and plainly, and we have to be accountable and transparent in our decision making.

Our States certainly should have done a better job conducting outreach to at-risk communities, expanding our testing capacity, developing an effective contact tracing system, and establishing a clearer chain of command. But we don't have the luxury of simply pointing fingers, assigning blame, and moving on. In other words, we cannot be like the President.

Instead, we need to work together to get our outbreak under control and support the hundreds of thousands of Hawaii residents who have suffered from this unprecedented public health and economic crisis.

The Senate must do its part by passing a real comprehensive COVID relief bill that would help States like Hawaii confront their outbreaks and help the millions of Americans who are suffering right now. While the majority leader struggles to unite his caucus even around an emaciated, weak bill, like the one we voted on today, Democrats are united behind passing the Heroes Act because that bill's scope matches the urgency and severity of this moment.

I certainly understand and appreciate the need to negotiate and compromise to get something done, but we cannot lose sight of whom we are fighting for. Unlike the majority leader and Senate Republicans, who are fighting tooth and nail for corporate interests in the next COVID bill, I am fighting for the workers, families, and small businesses that are getting screwed.

I am fighting for Hawaii's small business owners, like Laura Andersland, who runs Salty Wahine on Kauai. Laura is one of the favorites on the Hill, where many of my colleagues, including those on the other side of the aisle, line up to sample Salty Wahine's Hawaiian salts. Laura's products are incredible, and her success over the years reflects the hard work she has put into building and growing her business. But Laura and Salty Wahine have been devastated by the pandemic. Although she was able to take advantage of past relief programs that we passed, Laura is struggling. She needs more help right now to pay the rent and rehire her employees.

Alongside congressional Democrats, I am fighting for hundreds of billions in new assistance for small businesses like Laura's. I am fighting for the homeowners and renters who have lost their jobs and are terrified to think of what might happen to them if the Federal protections that have prevented their foreclosure or evictions expire.

I am grateful that organizations like the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii are stepping in to help people worried that they will lose their homes. Legal Aid's executive director Nalani Fujimori Kaina told me that doing this work during a pandemic is like playing 3D chess on a Tilt-A-Whirl. In other words, it is mighty hard.

The Senate needs to step up and provide the \$100 billion-plus in housing and rental assistance needed to make a dent in this crisis. I am fighting for parents, teachers, and students who are struggling to adapt to the new normal of hybrid and distance learning: grandmothers, like a retired educator I spoke with last week—she is concerned about learning loss and her 5-year-old grandson struggling to sit and learn, sitting behind a computer screen for hours a day; women like the restaurant owner of Kauai I spoke with—she is worried about how to balance running her struggling business with tutoring her high school-age children; and the many students I have spoken with over the past few months—they are struggling with learning loss, finding a quiet place to study from home, hunting down reliable internet at Starbucks, or having trouble concentrating—all because Republican Senators can't get their acts together.

We need to increase our support for public schools so they can create safer environments for students once they are back in school. We can do this by investing billions of dollars to help States get their outbreaks under control through testing and contact tracing so we can get our kids back to school safely. The operative word is "safely." We all want our kids to go back to school. They need to go back in a safe environment.

The bill our Republican colleagues offered today was anemic and weak, at best. It does more to help their corporate benefactors than to address the pain so many Americans are feeling right now.

After today's vote, I am left wondering: How much more pain do the American people have to endure before Senate Republicans get serious and act? How many more Americans have to die? How many more Americans have to lose their jobs? How many more businesses have to close? How many more children have to go hungry during this pandemic? How many more people have to lose their health insurance? The list goes on.

I say to the majority leader: What is it going to take for you to finally do your job?

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

S. RES. 685

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for my colleague Senator DUCKWORTH's resolution honoring the service and sacrifices of members of the U.S. Armed Forces and our veterans. The resolution rightly criticizes President Trump for a series of statements and actions which

have denigrated our men and women in uniform, our veterans, and our institutions.

Service and sacrifice run deep among my constituents in the Commonwealth of Virginia. With 130,000 Active-Duty members living in Virginia, the Commonwealth has one of the highest populations of military personnel in the Nation. Virginia is home to more than 700,000 veterans, men and women who have displayed the highest level of selfless service while defending this country and who have endured hardship and have put country above self.

I am proud to call these American heroes my constituents, as well as my neighbors, and I am humbled to represent and serve them in Congress. I am thankful to them for protecting this great country.

President Trump, though, again and again, has made disrespectful remarks about servicemembers, veterans, and military leaders despite being Commander in Chief. His name-calling and disdain for the value of service is divisive and dangerous.

Remember how President Trump ridiculed the Gold Star parents of Army CPT Humayun Khan, who died in June 2004 from an IED in Iraq. Mr. and Mrs. Khan are residents of Virginia.

Remember his comments questioning whether Senator John McCain should be called a hero and remember his recent comments, even after the reports of his comments in *The Atlantic* article came out—his recent comments that our top officials at DOD want to continue fighting wars to make defense contractors happy.

Whether it is pardoning and excusing those in uniform who commit crimes or not standing up to President Putin in defense of our troops when reports emerged that bounties have been offered for killing members of our Armed forces, whether it is deploying our military in response to peaceful protests, threatening to politicize and divide our military from civilian society, the President, on each of these occasions, is on the wrong side of honoring our servicemembers. These actions and statements are an affront to everyone who serves or has served. They are unacceptable and un-Presidential.

Instead, let's stay focused on what matters in this country. Let's stay united. We need to ensure that we are expressing each and every day how thankful we are to those who serve for protecting the freedoms we hold dear.

I want to thank Senator DUCKWORTH for the introduction of this resolution and, more so, I thank her for her dedicated and exemplary military service to our country.

It is my hope that all my colleagues in the Senate will recognize the mistakes made by our Commander in Chief when addressing the heroes of our military and our Nation's veterans.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the world today is in the clutches of a pandemic disease that touches directly or indirectly pretty much every human being on the face of the planet. It is costing us in lives, in money, and in immeasurable human pain.

It didn't have to be this way. We could have been better prepared. President Trump was left a detailed playbook from his predecessor, but he ignored it. Trump did away with key safety systems like the National Security Council's pandemic response unit. Once the pandemic struck, Trump and his team assured us it would all go away in time—no urgency.

It is a cautionary tale, it is a lesson, and it brings me today for the 270th time to call this Chamber to action on the issue of climate change. We cannot wait flat-footed for the next foreseeable crisis to engulf us. Climate change is a foreseeable crisis. It was indeed a foreseen crisis—indeed, even foreseen by Big Oil—and it is an actual crisis right now. It is a crisis we maybe can manage if we act swiftly and decisively, but if we fail to heed the warnings our natural world is screaming at us, we will be lost.

The fossil fuel industry runs a massive dark-money influence campaign to foment fake uncertainty about climate change, but the evidence—the evidence—is overwhelming. We see climate effects in harsher wildfires, more frequent and intense storms, and more extreme heat waves. Mother Nature's warnings grow clearer and louder every day. It is the ocean—the ocean—that signals some of the strongest warnings.

The changes in our marine world are clear. Oceans are acidifying, oceans are warming, and oceans are rising against our shores. These changes are measured; they are not hypotheticals. They are measured with thermometers, with tide gauges, with simple pH tests.

The tide gauges in Rhode Island don't lie about sea level rise. Sea levels are up nearly a foot over the last century. In other areas of the globe, sea levels have risen even higher, and the rate of sea level rise is accelerating.

We just learned more about Greenland, whose melting ice sheet is an enormous contributor to global sea level rise. Over a fifth of global sea level rise since 2005 is Greenland ice melt. Last month, Greenland broke its previous record for ice loss. Again, the pace of the melting is accelerating.

A team at Ohio State University just released a new study of the Greenland ice sheet based on 4 years of satellite data. The data showed that Greenland poured an average of 300 billion tons of melted glacier into our oceans every year across that period. But over the

last two decades, that rate of melting—that glacial collapse, as the scientists put it—is up sevenfold from the earliest years they studied. The rate is accelerating. That means that Greenland's ice is now melting so quickly that winter snows that typically replenish these glaciers won't keep up. We are now on course for the entire Greenland ice sheet to disappear.

“Glacial retreat has knocked the dynamics of the whole ice sheet into a constant state of loss,” said Ohio State's Ian Howat.

Greenland's glacial collapse portends dramatic and destructive sea level rise. Scientists reckon Greenland holds enough water to raise sea levels by about 20 feet. That puts my capital city of Providence and Florida's major cities underwater. Antarctica holds enough ice to melt and raise sea water levels 60 feet. So it is not hard to see the problem—total coastal inundation.

But well before total coastal inundation, coastal property values would plummet. Financial experts have been following the sea level economic threat for years because a coastal property values crash would radiate quickly through the rest of the economy. That crash creates what financial experts call systemic risk—a threat to the entire economic system. In 2016, the top economists for mortgage giant Freddie Mac—which is no liberal environmental group—warned that climate-driven flooding along U.S. coasts will lead to economic losses “greater . . . than those experienced in the housing crisis and Great Recession.”

It is not just Rhode Island. Pulitzer Prize-winning outdoors reporter Bob Marshall has warned of losing essentially all of Louisiana south of I-10. He said: “Voting for congressmen who oppose emissions regulations is a vote to drown this coast.”

It is not even just coasts. A new study out of the University of Arkansas shows sea level rise could push inland water tables higher, flooding communities many miles from the sea. We already see this phenomenon in inland Florida.

Last, there is really no dispute about the data. A tide gauge is a simple and ancient measure. But we see this and do nothing.

Another alarm bell is ringing in the ocean, and that is temperature. Oceans are warming, and the warming is accelerating. The rate of ocean warming has already doubled, and the ocean is projected to absorb up to five to seven times more heat by 2100. Why? Because the oceans regulate our planet's temperature by absorbing atmospheric heat. The oceans indeed have absorbed over 90 percent of the excess atmospheric heat fossil fuels have caused. If you think things are bad right now, we are actually only experiencing 10 percent of the global warming we have caused. The other 90 percent has been absorbed by the ocean. It is a lot of heat. By one example, our oceans are

warming at the rate of multiple Hiroshima explosions worth of heat per second—per second. There is not a lot of dispute here either, unless you want to argue with a thermometer.

Ocean warming displaces fisheries, disrupts ocean currents, destroys coral reefs, and depletes the oxygen levels and carrying capacity of the sea. These are the kinds of changes that usually transpire across geologic time. They are happening now.

Ocean warming sends its dangers ashore because that ocean heat energy powers up storm systems. They power up into stronger storms, and they power up faster. We just watched Tropical Storm Laura spin up into category 4 Hurricane Laura in less than 24 hours. As Bob Marshall, the Pulitzer Prize-winning Louisiana writer put it: “High water temperature [is] the crystal-meth of hurricane intensity.”

Warmer seas power up stronger storms, and they power up more storms. The Atlantic has already generated a typical full year’s worth of storms, pumping out about 55 percent more energy than usual into tropical storms and hurricanes. This year delivered the earliest ever C-, E-, F-, G-, H-, I-, J-, K-, L-, and M-named storms—every single one, the earliest of its name.

In 2019, 14 separate billion-dollar disasters struck the United States, and the majority of them were hurricanes. In 2018 and 2019, Dorian, Florence, and Michael slammed into our coasts. Year 2017 brought Harvey, the most significant tropical cyclone rainfall event ever recorded; and Irma, the strongest storm ever recorded outside of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean, with sustained winds reaching 185 miles per hour; and Hurricane Maria, killing nearly 3,000 Americans in Puerto Rico and laying waste to the island.

Ocean warming is altering basic operating systems of our planet. Physical systems are altered; biological systems are altered; basic features of the ocean are altered; and the change has just begun. Many of these changes are oceanic, but some come ashore. We need to buckle up.

The third ocean alarm bell is acidification. Oceans absorb not just 90 percent of the excess heat; they absorb about 30 percent of the carbon pollution—the excess carbon dioxide from fossil fuel emissions, and they have sucked up a lot of excess carbon. Since the Industrial Revolution, oceans have absorbed about 525 billion tons of CO₂—22 million tons per day. That added carbon dioxide chemically changes the ocean’s pH, making oceans more acidic. It looks like the oceans are acidifying at their fastest rate in at least 50 million years. As with warming and sea level rise, the rate of acidification is accelerating. Again, there is no real dispute; pH testing is pretty reliable stuff.

A new Texas A&M study shows carbon dioxide levels rising at alarming rates in the Gulf of Mexico—bad news

for shrimp, coral, and other marine life that are highly sensitive to acidity. Texas A&M warns of the acidification threat to the gulf’s commercial fisheries, worth roughly \$1 billion per year.

The Woods Hole Institute made startling findings about acidification of coral reefs triggering a kind of osteoporosis for coral, hampering the organism’s ability to grow skeletons. Reefs, of course, are the nurseries of the sea. Without coral reefs, marine biodiversity plummets and our oceans become unrecognizable.

The University of Alaska has an entire ocean acidification research center because of the dangers to Alaskan fisheries. The lowly pteropod is a base species along the northern Pacific coast. It is damaged in acidified seas, and no one quite knows what becomes of that ocean food chain when a foundation species like the pteropod collapses. We know it is not good.

All of these warnings are stark. Our oceans are in crisis. Our natural world hurdles toward a point of no return. Meanwhile, the fossil fuel industry keeps deploying lies and political influence in a carefully orchestrated covert operation run against our own government.

The fossil fuel industry’s menacing climate denial apparatus has captured one of America’s major political parties. In the wake of Citizens United, fossil fuel dark money has so thoroughly corrupted American politics that Congress has lost an entire decade—the lost decade—to industry mischief. Even today, we still fritter and dawdle.

Eventually, we will see the full contours of the covert operation the fossil fuel industry has run against us as if we were an enemy nation. One day will come a full accounting of this industry’s wanton deception of the American people. One day we will see just how much money this industry paid for its malign influence and who accepted that money and denied the science and ignored the problem. History will judge those involved harshly, and deservedly so. It is a crime in progress against our own children and the world they will inhabit.

After the lost decade of Citizens United, time is short to heed the warnings of our oceans and end the fossil fuel pollution that threatens them. It is truly getting to be now or never.

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. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

REMEMBERING JIM THOMPSON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in 1978, I was the Democratic nominee for Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, running with Michael Bakalis, the Democratic nominee for governor. We squared off against a ticket headed by six-foot-six Governor Big Jim Thompson. Big Jim was 40 years old and a relatively new Governor, only elected 2 years earlier. Bakalis and I were underdogs, but we were hopeful. We shouldn’t have been.

Our fate was sealed when Jim and Jayne were joined by their beautiful daughter Samantha right after Labor Day. Election day came, and we were clobbered. We found out what many Democrats would learn over the years. Big Jim was hard as hell to beat. Why? He may have campaigned as a partisan, but he governed in bipartisanship. His talent for working to get things done helped make him the longest serving Governor in Illinois history.

Last month, Jim passed away. I was honored to call him a friend and, today, I would like to pay tribute to his life.

James Robert Thompson, Jr. was born on the West Side of Chicago in 1936. Jim was known to be shy but ambitious. He listed his ambition as “President-Politician” in his yearbook. In one classmate’s yearbook, he wrote “Jim Thompson, Pres. of U.S. 1984–1992.”

Jim attended the University of Illinois at its campus on Navy Pier in Chicago. He transferred to Washington University in St. Louis in his junior year and attended law school at Northwestern in 1959.

In 1961, Jim worked for the Cook County State’s attorney and argued two cases before the United States Supreme Court. He also joined Northwestern University Law School as an assistant professor.

For 5 years, Jim taught at Northwestern, inspiring many students to pursue criminal law. In 1969, he became the head of the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney’s office. As fate would have it, he was the lecturer on criminal procedure in my bar review course. In 1971, President Richard Nixon appointed him to be the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

At the age of 35, Jim was a crusader against corruption in both parties, leading investigations against Chicago aldermen and Vice President Spiro Agnew. His efforts made him look like a political outsider—just what Illinois

was looking for in a Governor. Jim decided to run for Governor in the 1976 election. During that campaign, he married his wife Jayne.

He won the gubernatorial race as the first candidate in the State ever to garner 3 million votes. Though he would have a close election in 1982, Big Jim never lost a race.

As Governor, he accomplished a lot of good for the State of Illinois. He spurred the construction of more highways than any other Governor. His "Build Illinois" plan launched a \$2.3 billion infrastructure effort that helped turn the State into a national leader in economic development, historic preservation, and environmental protection.

There are too many projects to name that Jim championed through the State legislature. He helped bring about Navy Pier's renovation, making it the State's top tourist destination. When the Chicago White Sox were on the verge of leaving Chicago for Florida, he fought hard to keep them. Jim was working the votes well into the night, and the White Sox got their new stadium. He supported the legislation that paved the way for the Chicago Bulls' arena, the United Center.

When Republicans in the Illinois House sought to make Illinois a right-to-work State, Jim called local beer distributors in Springfield and had them set up on the lawn of the Governor's mansion, where he invited protesting labor members to have a drink. The right-to-work legislation never passed.

In 1989, Jim decided against running for a fifth term. He had guided the State through a recession and helped rebuild it. He made countless deals with people of both parties. Jim could have coasted on the reputation he had built, but he didn't. He joined the law firm Winston & Strawn, and within 2 years, he was chairman and had made the firm a powerhouse. Jim also continued to serve his country as he was part of the 9/11 Commission, he chaired the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority, and he argued several cases before the Illinois Supreme Court. He retired in 2015.

Jim Thompson never hesitated to work with the other side for a greater good. We were political adversaries, yet we also were personal friends. Sure, we disagreed on quite a bit, but we always worked together for the State of Illinois. Loretta and I send our thoughts and prayers to Jayne and their daughter Samantha.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for September 2020. This is my third scorekeeping report since I filed the deemed budget resolution for fiscal year 2021 on May 4, 2020, as required by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, BBA19. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts agreed

to in BBA19. In the Senate, this information is used to determine whether budgetary points of order lie against pending legislation. The Republican staff of the Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office prepared this report pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act. The information included in this report is current through September 4, 2020.

Since I filed the last scorekeeping report on July 23, 2020, two measures with significant enforceable budgetary effects have been enacted. The first measure, the Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152, established a National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address deferred maintenance on Federal lands and provided \$900 million per year in permanent, mandatory funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. CBO estimated this legislation, which passed the Senate by a vote of 73-25, would increase the deficit by \$17.3 billion over the fiscal year 2021-2030 period. The second measure, the Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019, P.L. 116-154, modified certain veteran housing and education benefits. CBO estimated that this legislation would increase direct spending in the near term but would ultimately be offset over the fiscal year 2020-2030 window.

Budget Committee Republican staff prepared Tables A-G.

Table A provides the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee exceeds or falls below its allocations for budget authority and outlays under the fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2021 deemed budget resolutions. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the CBA. Compliance remains substantively unchanged since my last report, with the exception of the Energy and Natural Resources and Veterans' Affairs Committees. The enactment of the Great American Outdoors Act has caused significant violations of ENR's allocations provided in the fiscal year 2021 deemed budget. Enactment of P.L. 116-154 caused violations in the fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2021 windows for the Veterans' Affairs Committee, which were then mitigated by deficit reduction in the out-years.

Tables B-G, which track spending related to the appropriations process, remain unchanged from my last report.

In addition to the tables provided by Budget Committee Republican staff, I am submitting CBO tables which I will use to enforce budget totals approved by Congress.

Because legislation can still be enacted that would have an effect on fiscal year 2020, CBO provided spending and revenue reports for both fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2021. This information is used to enforce aggregate spending levels in budget resolutions under CBA section 311. CBO's estimates show that current levels of spending for fiscal year 2020 exceed amounts in last

year's budget resolution by \$68.6 billion in budget authority and \$55.1 billion in outlays 2020—Tables 1-2. Revenues are \$114.8 billion below the revenue floor. Additionally, Social Security outlays are at the levels assumed for 2020, while Social Security revenues are \$16 million above the levels assumed in budget.

For fiscal year 2021, the current law levels are \$1,177.1 billion and \$667.5 billion in budget authority and outlays, respectively, below allowable levels—2021, Tables 1-2. This spending room will be spent down as regular appropriations bills are enacted for fiscal year 2021. Revenues and Social Security levels are at the levels assumed by the fiscal year 2021 deemed budget for this budget year. Over the fiscal year 2021-2025 and 2021-2030 period, revenues are \$5 million and \$28 million, respectively, greater than revenue levels assumed in the deemed budget resolution.

CBO's report also provides information needed to enforce the Senate Pay-As-You-Go—PAYGO—rule—2021, Table 3. This rule is enforced under section 4106 of the 2018 budget resolution. The Senate PAYGO scorecard currently shows enacted deficit increases in every enforceable window. The largest debit on the scorecard is \$17.3 billion over the fiscal year 2020-2030 period.

This submission also includes a table tracking the Senate's budget enforcement activity on the floor since the enforcement filing on May 4, 2020. No points of order have been raised since my July report.

An years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables be printed in the RECORD.

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

TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—Enacted Direct Spending Above (+) or Below (-) Budget Resolutions

	[In millions of dollars]			
	2020	2021	2021-2025	2021-2030
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry				
Budget Authority	10,430	0	0	0
Outlays	10,430	0	0	0
Armed Services				
Budget Authority	32	0	0	0
Outlays	35	0	0	0
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs				
Budget Authority	169	0	4	21
Outlays	169	0	4	21
Commerce, Science, and Transportation				
Budget Authority	7	0	0	0
Outlays	7	0	0	0
Energy and Natural Resources				
Budget Authority	0	2,820	14,420	19,410
Outlays	0	310	5,870	17,280
Environment and Public Works				
Budget Authority	8,058	0	0	0
Outlays	415	0	0	0
Finance				
Budget Authority	50,913	0	0	0
Outlays	49,452	0	0	0
Foreign Relations				
Budget Authority	2	0	0	0
Outlays	37	0	0	0
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs				
Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0	0
Judiciary				
Budget Authority	12	0	0	0

TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—Enacted Direct Spending Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolutions—Continued

[In millions of dollars]				
	2020	2021	2021–2025	2021–2030
Outlays	12	0	0	0
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions				
Budget Authority	–720	0	0	0
Outlays	–997	0	0	0
Rules and Administration				
Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0	0
Intelligence				
Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0	0
Veterans' Affairs				
Budget Authority	1	11	–94	–1
Outlays	0	11	–94	–1
Indian Affairs				
Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0	0
Small Business				
Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0	0
Total				
Budget Authority	68,904	2,831	14,330	19,430
Outlays	59,561	321	5,780	17,300

This table is current through September 4, 2020. This table tracks the spending effects of legislation enacted compared to allowable levels. Each authorizing committee's initial 2020 allocation can be found in the Senate Budget Committee Chairman's Congressional Record filing on September 9, 2019. Initial allocations for the 2021, 2021–2025, and 2021–2030 periods can be found in the Chairman's May 4, 2020 filing.

TABLE B.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS ¹

[Budget authority, in millions of dollars]			
	2020		
	Security ²	Nonsecurity ²	
Statutory Discretionary Limits	666,500	621,500	
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee			
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0	23,493	
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	5,695	64,980	
Defense	622,522	143	
Energy and Water Development	24,250	24,093	
Financial Services and General Government	35	23,793	
Homeland Security	2,383	48,085	
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0	35,989	
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies	0	183,042	
Legislative Branch	0	5,049	
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	11,315	92,171	

TABLE F.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED EMERGENCY AND OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS SPENDING

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]				
Emergency and Overseas Contingency Operations Designated Spending				
2020				
Emergency		Overseas Contingency Operations		
Security ¹	Nonsecurity ¹	Security ¹	Nonsecurity ¹	
Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (P.L. 116–20) ²	0	8	0	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116–93)	1,771	0	70,855	0
Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116–94)	6,229	535	645	8,000
United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (P.L. 116–113)	0	843	0	0
Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116–127)	82	2,389	0	0
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116–136)	10,525	319,158	0	0
Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116–139)	0	162,100	0	0
Current Level Total	18,607	485,033	71,500	8,000

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

¹ Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

² The Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 was enacted after the publication of CBO's May 2019 baseline but before the Senate Budget Committee Chairman published the deemed budget resolution for 2020 in the Congressional Record. Pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, the budgetary effects of this legislation have been incorporated into the current level as previously enacted funds.

TABLE G.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED EMERGENCY AND OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS SPENDING

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]				
Emergency and Overseas Contingency Operations Designated Spending				
2021				
Emergency		Overseas Contingency Operations		
Security ¹	Nonsecurity ¹	Security ¹	Nonsecurity ¹	
Current Level Total	0	0	0	0

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

¹ Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE B.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS ¹—Continued

[Budget authority, in millions of dollars]		
	2020	
	Security ²	Nonsecurity ²
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0	46,685
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	300	73,977
Current Level Total	666,500	621,500
Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (–) Statutory Limits	0	0

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

¹ This table excludes spending pursuant to adjustments to the discretionary spending limits. These adjustments are allowed for certain purposes in section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA.

² Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE C.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS ¹

[Budget authority, in millions of dollars]		
	2021	
	Security ²	Nonsecurity ²
Statutory Discretionary Limits	671,500	626,500
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0	7
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	0	0
Defense	45	0
Energy and Water Development	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	0	0
Homeland Security	0	9
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies	0	24,679
Legislative Branch	0	1
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0	83,233
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0	4,400
Current Level Total	45	112,329
Total Enacted Above(+) or Below(–) Statutory Limits	–671,455	–514,171

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

¹ This table excludes spending pursuant to adjustments to the discretionary spending limits. These adjustments are allowed for certain purposes in section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA.

² Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE D.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]	
	2020
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2020	15,000
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	5,737
Defense	0
Energy and Water Development	0
Financial Services and General Government	0
Homeland Security	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies	9,263
Legislative Branch	0
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0
Current Level Total	15,000
Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution	0

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

TABLE E.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]	
	2021
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2021	15,000
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	0
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	0
Defense	0
Energy and Water Development	0
Financial Services and General Government	0
Homeland Security	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies	0
Legislative Branch	0
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0
Current Level Total	0
Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution	–15,000

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2020.
Hon. MIKE ENZI,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2020 budget and is current through September 4, 2020. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of

section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on September 9, 2019, pursuant to section 204 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-37).

Since our last letter dated July 23, 2020, the Congress has cleared and the President

has signed the following legislation that has significant effects on budget authority, outlays, or revenues in fiscal year 2020: The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-154).

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

[In billions of dollars]

	Budget Resolution	Current Level	Current Level Over/Under(—) Resolution
On-Budget			
Budget Authority	4,318.8	4,387.4	68.6
Outlays	3,947.1	4,002.2	55.1
Revenues	2,740.5	2,625.7	— 114.8
Off-Budget			
Social Security Outlays ^a	961.2	961.2	0.0
Social Security Revenues	940.4	940.4	0.0

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

^a Excludes administrative expenses paid from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted ^{a, b}			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,740,538
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,397,769	2,309,887	n.a.
Authorizing and Appropriation legislation	0	595,528	0
Offsetting receipts	— 954,573	— 954,573	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,443,196	1,950,842	2,740,538
Enacted Legislation			
Authorizing Legislation			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Div. B, P.L. 116-59)	693	667	0
Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Further Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Div. B, P.L. 116-59)	8,058	415	0
Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 116-71)	— 2	— 2	0
Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education Act (P.L. 116-91)	— 720	— 997	0
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (P.L. 116-92)	32	35	1
Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. I-K, M-Q, P.L. 116-94)	8,360	6,720	— 34,449
United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (P.L. 116-113)	— 19	— 9	10
Coronavirus Preparedness & Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-123)	110	110	0
Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127)	53,072	53,276	— 80,388
A bill to make technical corrections to the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act (P.L. 116-132)	12	12	0
Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-142) ^c	—	—	—
Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116-148) ^c	—	—	—
The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-154)	1	1	0
Subtotal, Authorizing Legislation	69,597	60,228	— 114,826
Appropriation Legislation ^{a, b}			
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Div. A, P.L. 116-59) ^d	0	128	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)	884,979	530,980	0
Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. A-H, P.L. 116-94) ^c	1,585,345	1,239,739	0
United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (Title IX, P.L. 116-113)	843	334	0
Coronavirus Preparedness & Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-123)	7,767	1,041	0
Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127)	2,471	843	0
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-136)	329,501	98,680	0
Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116-139)	162,100	113,132	0
Subtotal, Appropriation Legislation	2,973,006	1,984,877	0
Total, Enacted Legislation ^c	3,042,603	2,045,105	— 114,826
Entitlements and Mandatories			
Total Current Level ^{b, c}	— 98,431	6,242	0
Total Senate Resolution ^f	4,387,368	4,002,189	2,625,712
	4,318,804	3,947,105	2,740,538
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	68,564	55,084	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	114,826

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law; — = excluded from current level.

^a Sections 1001–1004 of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114–255) require that certain funding provided for 2017 through 2026 to the Department of Health and Human Services—in particular the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health—be excluded from estimates for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Deficit Control Act) and the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Congressional Budget Act). Therefore, the amounts shown in this report do not include \$567 million in budget authority and \$798 million in estimated outlays.

^b For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the aggregate spending and revenue levels for 2020 published in the Congressional Record on September 9, 2019, by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget pursuant to section 204 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (P.L. 116–37) do not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.

^c Spending and revenue effects designated as an emergency pursuant to Section 4112 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, do not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes in the Senate. These amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-136)	1,442,111	927,876	— 568,425
Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116-139)	321,335	321,335	0
Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-140)	5	5	0
Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-142)	0	0	— 9,498
Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116-148)	1	1	0
Total	1,763,452	1,249,217	— 577,923

^d Section 124 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020 (division A of P.L. 116–59), appropriated funding for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Defense) and designated those amounts as funding for overseas contingency operations. That provision took effect upon enactment on September 27, 2019.

^e In consultation with the House and Senate Committees on the Budget and the Office of Management and Budget, rescissions of emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes. These amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Division H, P.L. 116–94)	–7	0	0
^c Section 204 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 requires the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget to publish the aggregate spending and revenue levels for fiscal year 2020; those aggregate levels were first published in the Congressional Record on September 9, 2019. The Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget has the authority to revise the budgetary aggregates for the budgetary effects of certain revenue and spending measures pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, as updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019.			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Aggregates printed on September 9, 2019:	3,703,553	3,680,696	2,740,538
Revisions:			
Adjustment for P.L. 116–59, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019	693	795	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116–69, Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Further Health Extenders Act of 2019	4,750	4,050	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116–93, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, and P.L. 116–94, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020	107,126	47,534	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116–113, United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act	843	334	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116–123, Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020	7,767	1,041	0
Adjustment for P.L. 116–127, Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and P.L. 116–136, the CARES Act, and P.L. 116–139, Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act	494,072	212,655	0
Revised Senate Resolution	4,318,804	3,947,105	2,740,538

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 10, 2020.
Hon. MIKE ENZI,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2021 budget and is current through September 4, 2020. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2020, pursuant to section 205 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–37).

Since our last current level dated July 23, 2020, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following legislation that has significant effects on budget authority, outlays, or revenues in fiscal year 2021: Great American Outdoors Act (Public Law 116–152); and The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–154).

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

(In billions of dollars)			
	Budget Resolution	Current Level	Current Level Over/Under (–) Resolution
ON-BUDGET			
Budget Authority	3,832.2	2,655.1	–1,177.1
Outlays	4,008.7	3,341.2	–667.5
Revenues	2,800.4	2,800.4	0.0
OFF-BUDGET			
Social Security Outlays ^a	1,016.3	1,016.3	0.0
Social Security Revenues	1,001.1	1,001.1	0.0

^aExcludes administrative expenses paid from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.
Source: Congressional Budget Office.

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted ^{a b c}			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,800,378
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,509,325	2,416,968	n.a.
Authorizing and Appropriation legislation	0	811,012	0
Offsetting receipts	–1,029,908	–1,030,145	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,479,417	2,197,835	2,800,378
Enacted Legislation			
Authorizing Legislation			
Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116–142) ^c	—	—	—
Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116–148) ^c	—	—	—
Great American Outdoors Act (P.L. 116–152)	2,820	310	—
The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (P.L. 116–154)	11	11	—
Total, Enacted Legislation	2,831	321	0
Entitlements and Mandatories	1,172,808	1,143,371	0
Total Current Level ^{b, c}	2,655,056	3,341,206	2,800,378
Total Senate Resolution ^d	3,832,200	4,008,705	2,800,378
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	1,177,144	667,499	n.a.
Memorandum			
Revenues, 2021–2030			
Senate Current Level ^c	n.a.	n.a.	35,724,106
Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	35,724,078
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	28
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = public law; — = excluded from current level.

^aSections 1001–1004 of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114–255) require that certain funding provided for 2017 through 2026 to the Department of Health and Human Services—in particular the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health—be excluded from estimates for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Deficit Control Act) and the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Congressional Budget Act). Therefore, the amounts shown in this report do not include \$646 million in estimated prior outlays.

^bFor purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the aggregate spending and revenue levels for 2021 published in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2020, by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget pursuant to section 205 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (P.L. 116–37) do not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.

^cCurrent level excludes budgetary effects designated as an emergency pursuant to section 4112 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018. As a result, this report excludes \$68,534 million in budget authority, \$72,977 million in outlays, and all revenue effects stemming from legislation enacted before the Chair of the Senate Committee on the Budget published aggregate spending and revenues for fiscal year 2021 in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2020. It also excludes the budgetary effects of other laws, enacted this session, which were designated as emergency requirements in accordance with section 4112 of H. Con. Res. 71. Those amounts are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116–142)	0	0	–8,091
Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116–148)	1	1	0
Total	1	1	–8,091

^dSection 205 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 requires the Chair of the Senate Committee on the Budget to publish the aggregate spending and revenue levels for fiscal year 2021; those aggregate levels were first published in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2020. The Chair of the Senate Committee on the Budget has the authority to revise the budgetary aggregates for the budgetary effects of certain revenue and spending measures pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, as updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019.

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Aggregates Printed on May 4, 2020	3,832,200	4,008,705	2,800,378

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2020
[In millions of dollars]

	2020	2021	2020–2025	2020–2030
Beginning Balance ^a	0	0	0	0
Enacted Legislation ^{b,c}				
Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (H.R. 7010, P.L. 116–142) ^d	—	—	—	—
Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 (S. 3744, P.L. 116–145)	*	*	*	*
Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (S. 4091, P.L. 116–148) ^d	—	—	—	—
Hong Kong Autonomy Act (H.R. 7440, P.L. 116–149)	0	0	–1	–7
A bill to extend the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (S. 4148, P.L. 116–150)	*	*	*	*
The Great American Outdoors Act (H.R. 1957, P.L. 116–152)	0	310	5,870	17,280
The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (H.R. 3504, P.L. 116–154)	1	11	–93	0
Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020 (S. 3607, P.L. 116–157)	*	*	*	*
Impact on Deficit	1	321	5,776	17,273
Total Change in Outlays	1	321	5,776	17,273
Total Change in Revenues	0	0	5	28

Source: Congressional Budget Office.
* = between –\$500,000 and \$500,000; — = excluded from PAYGO scorecard.
^a On May 4, 2020, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget reset the Senate's Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard to zero for all fiscal years.
^b The amounts shown represent the estimated effect of the public laws on the deficit.
^c Excludes off-budget amounts.
^d All amounts in this Act are designated as emergency requirements pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

ENFORCEMENT REPORT OF POINTS OF ORDER RAISED SINCE THE FY2021 ENFORCEMENT FILING

Vote	Date	Measure	Violation	Motion to Waive	Result
118	June 15, 2020	S. Amdt. #1617, Great American Outdoors Act, to H.R. 1957.	4106(a)-Senate-Pay-As-You-Go Violation ¹ .	Sen. Gardner (R-CO)	68–30, waived

¹ Senator Enzi raised a point of order against the measure pursuant to section 4106(a) of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, because the amendment would increase on-budget deficits.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day this September 18, 2020, I join in raising awareness about the more than 81,900 Americans the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, DPAA, reports remain missing from World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the Cold War, the Gulf wars and other conflicts. I also commend the members of the POW*MIA Awareness Rally Corp. of Pocatello, ID, and other similar groups that keep a spotlight on the immense service of our American servicemembers and the ongoing need to bring them all home.

My heart goes out to the American families who have carried on through years, and even decades, waiting for answers to their questions. Those who see a loved one off to war but long after the war's end still await that loved one's return shoulder our country's sorrow. May all servicemembers' families get the resolution of knowing their lost family members have been returned to the country they served so admirably.

Thank you to those who work for and assist the DPAA and related efforts to get needed answers and bring all American servicemembers home. Piecing together the circumstances, whereabouts, and lives of those lost cannot be easy, especially during a global pandemic, but bringing them home is critical to honoring their service. The DPAA reports that 75 percent of lost Americans are located in the Indo-Pacific, and more than 41,000 of the missing are presumed lost at sea. Despite

the difficulty, the agency announced accounting for more than 70 missing servicemembers since March. Their locations included Germany, Laos, North Korea, Papua, Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, Romania, Saipan, South Korea, and Tarawa.

To help with this effort, I have supported and introduced the bipartisan Bring Our Heroes Home Act, which would address obstacles preventing families and caseworkers from accessing the records needed for recovery efforts by putting one entity in charge of prioritizing and facilitating the declassification of records related to missing servicemembers. We cannot let up in bringing home all our Nation's heroes, including the 359 Idahoans, who have yet to be returned. Those who have served our Nation deserve no less than to rest at home, and we cannot rest until they do.●

TRIBUTE TO VIRGIL GUST

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Virgil Gust of Sweet Grass County for his commitment to keeping entrepreneurial spirits high during these challenging times.

The COVID–19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of all Montanans and has proven to be a significant challenge for small business owners. Over the past several months, local business owners have faced tremendous financial hardships as a result of the pandemic, making it difficult to hold on to hope.

Virgil Gust, the founder of Gusts of Big Timber, opened the store in 1947 and has worked there for over 70 years. Virgil still approaches his work with the same enthusiasm and dedication as he did at the beginning of his career.

It is my honor to recognize Virgil for fostering the values of positivity and hard work in his community during these difficult times. As both a WWII veteran and a small business owner, Virgil brings a unique entrepreneurial perspective to his community and is a truly exceptional role model to Montanans from all walks of life.●

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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC–5304. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Citrus tristeza virus expressing spinach defensin proteins 2, 7, and 8; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 1011–47–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 4, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5305. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2019 annual report on the Farm Credit System; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5306. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Evaluation of the TRICARE Program; Fiscal Year 2020 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5307. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Bradford J. Shwedo, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5308. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of three (3) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5309. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Giovanni K. Tuck, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5310. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Timothy J. White, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5311. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Luke M. McCollum, United States Navy Reserve, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5312. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of vice admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777a; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5313. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael A. Bills, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5314. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777a, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5315. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert P. Ashley, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5316. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of four (4) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5317. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jay B. Silveria, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5318. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a report relative to the completion of the Department's Army Watercraft Requirements Review; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5319. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Department of Transportation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5320. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5321. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5322. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule - Incorporation of Existing Statement of Policy Regarding Requests for Participation in the Affairs of an Insured Depository Institution by Convicted Individuals" (RIN3064-AF19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 28, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5323. A communication from the Congressional Assistant, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Capital Rule: Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility" (RIN7100-AF79) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5324. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prioritization and Allocation of Certain Scarce and Critical Health and Medical Resources for Domestic Use" (RIN1660-AB01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5325. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5326. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was originally declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5327. A communication from the Congressional Assistant, Board of Governors of

the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibitions and Restrictions on Proprietary Trading and Certain Interests in, and Relationships With, Hedge Funds and Private Equity Funds" (RIN7100-AF70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5328. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Qualifying Facility Rates and Requirements; Implementation Issues Under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978" ((RIN1902-AF67) (Docket Nos. RM19-15-000, AD16-16-000) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 28, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5329. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Filing Requirements for Electric Utility Service Agreements, et al." ((RIN1902-AF27) (Docket Nos. RM01-8-000, RM10-12-000, RM12-3-000, and ER02-2001-000)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5330. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision 2 to Regulatory Guide (RG) 3.15, 'Standard Format and Content of License Applications for Receipt and Storage of Unirradiated Power Reactor Fuel and Associated Radioactive Material at a Nuclear Power Plant'" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5331. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Safety Evaluation of Technical Specifications Task Force Traveler TSTF-582, 'RPV [Reactor Pressure Vessel] WIC [Water Inventory Control] Enhancements'" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 3, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5332. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flexibility to Use Armed Responders for Security Events, SFAQ 20-01" ((10 CFR 73.55b) (NEI 05-10)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 3, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5333. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act: 2020 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5334. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Documents and Regulations Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "FY 2021 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update (CMS-1733-F)" (RIN0938-AU09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5335. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch,

Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Third Six-Year Cycle Pre-Approved Defined Contribution Plans; Issuance of Opinion Letters; Plan Adoption Deadline; and Opening of Determination Letter Program” (ANN 2020-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5336. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Election of Alternative Minimum Funding Standards for Community Newspaper Plans” (Notice 2020-60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 25, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5337. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Notice: Update to Notice 2020-18, Additional Relief for Taxpayers Affected by Ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic” (Notice 2020-23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5338. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Changes to User Fees for Certain Letter Ruling and Determination Letter Requests Submitted to Employee Plans Rulings and Agreements, Effective January 4, 2021” (Announcement 2020-14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5339. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance on Excess Deferred Taxes Under the TCJA” (Rev. Proc. 2020-39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 26, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5340. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Recapture of Excess Employment Tax Credits under the Families First Act and the CARES Act” ((RIN1545-BP89) (TD 9904)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5341. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals and the Long Term-Care Hospital Prospective Payment System and Policy Changes and Fiscal Year 2021 Rates; Quality Reporting and Medicare and Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Programs Requirements for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals” (RIN0938-AU11) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 4, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5342. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled “Food Labeling; Gluten-Free Labeling of Fermented or Hydrolyzed Foods” (RIN0910-AH00) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5343. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Head Start Designation Renewal System” (RIN0970-AC77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5344. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standards of Care for Chimpanzees Held in the Federally Supported Sanctuary System” (RIN0925-AA66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5345. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Office of Regulatory Affairs Division Director; Technical Amendments” (Docket No. FDA-2019-N-0011) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5346. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Conflict of Interest Rule - Retirement Investment Advice: Notice of Court Vacatur” (RIN1210-AB96) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4555. A bill to reauthorize funding for programs to prevent, investigate, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 4556. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4557. A bill to support efforts to provide intensive, individualized assistance for enrolling in health care coverage; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 4558. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a temporary

refundable tax credit for law enforcement officers and an above-the-line deduction for first responders; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 4559. A bill to respond to the provision of bounties by the Government of the Russian Federation for the killing of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and members of the Resolute Support Mission led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and with respect to certain Russian political figures and oligarchs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 4560. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a forgivable loan program for remote recreational businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 4561. A bill to clarify and increase the restrictions on political activities that are applicable to the members of the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service, including the Postmaster General and the Deputy Postmaster General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4562. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. LOEFFLER:

S. 4563. A bill to give States the flexibility to have Federal education funds follow the child; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 4564. A bill to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 4565. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to rename the Aviation Safety Whistleblower Investigation Office and to establish an Office of Professional Responsibility and an Office of the Ombudsman in the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 687. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Coya Knutson; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 688. A resolution designating September 25, 2020, as “National Lobster Day”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 358

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 358, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advance notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 800, a bill to establish a post-secondary student data system.

S. 861

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 861, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTI Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 877

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 892, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other materials to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

S. 1337

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1337, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish an Office of Correctional Education, and for other purposes.

S. 1791

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1791, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 2008

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 2008, a bill to prohibit, as an unfair or deceptive act or practice, commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2227

At the request of Ms. SMITH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2227, a bill to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for re-investment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2257

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, a bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2438

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2438, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 2500

At the request of Ms. SMITH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2500, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a loan repayment program for mental health professionals to relieve workforce shortages, and for other purposes.

S. 2548

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2548, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 2741

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2741, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 2815

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2815, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission.

S. 3103

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from West Vir-

ginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3103, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program.

S. 3233

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 3233, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to skilled nursing facility services for hemophilia patients.

S. 3487

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3487, a bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to provide for the compensation of elderly victims of property damage, to provide increased funding for the crime victim compensation fund, and for other purposes.

S. 3685

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3685, a bill to provide emergency rental assistance under the Emergency Solutions Grants program of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in response to the public health emergency resulting from the coronavirus, and for other purposes.

S. 3750

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3750, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify the accelerated and advance payment programs under parts A and B of the Medicare program during the COVID-19 emergency.

S. 3753

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 3753, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications.

S. 3763

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3763, a bill to establish the Pandemic Responder Service Award program to express our gratitude to front-line health care workers.

S. 3799

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3799, a bill to expand access to health care services, including sexual, reproductive, and maternal health

services, for immigrants by removing legal and policy barriers to health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 3814

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3814, a bill to establish a loan program for businesses affected by COVID-19 and to extend the loan forgiveness period for paycheck protection program loans made to the hardest hit businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 3872

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3872, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited provisional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs and biological products, and for other purposes.

S. 4003

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4003, a bill to improve United States consideration of, and strategic support for, programs to prevent and respond to gender-based violence from the onset of humanitarian emergencies and to build the capacity of humanitarian actors to address the immediate and long-term challenges resulting from such violence, and for other purposes.

S. 4007

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4007, a bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to modify the eligibility requirements for the Generalized System of Preferences to strengthen worker protections and to ensure that beneficiary developing countries afford equal rights and protection under the law, regardless of gender, and for other purposes.

S. 4012

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4012, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments through December 31, 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 4058

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4058, a bill to authorize grants to address substance use during COVID-19.

S. 4124

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4124, a bill to expedite hiring by the Department of Veterans Affairs of medical department personnel separating from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 4135

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4135, a bill to provide forgivable physical disaster loans to businesses damaged due to civil unrest, and for other purposes.

S. 4150

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4150, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide assistance to certain providers of transportation services affected by the novel coronavirus.

S. 4193

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4193, a bill to develop and nationally disseminate accurate, relevant, and accessible resources to promote understanding about African-American history.

S. 4199

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4199, a bill to amend titles XI, XVIII, and XIX of the Social Security Act to lower prescription drug prices in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, to improve transparency related to pharmaceutical prices and transactions, to lower patients' out-of-pocket costs, and to ensure accountability to taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 4227

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4227, a bill to improve access to economic injury disaster loans and emergency advances under the CARES Act, and for other purposes.

S. 4254

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs.

SHAHEEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4254, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to encourage voting by students and to establish emergency procedures for institutions of higher education to assist students in exercising their right to vote.

S. 4258

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4258, a bill to establish a grant program for small live venue operators and talent representatives.

S. 4338

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4338, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to temporarily suspend increased line speeds at meat and poultry establishments, and for other purposes.

S. 4349

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4349, a bill to address behavioral health and well-being among health care professionals.

S. 4353

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4353, a bill to provide emergency assistance for independent poultry growers, and for other purposes.

S. 4372

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 4372, a bill to provide for unused benefits in a dependent care FSA to be carried over from 2020 to 2021, to provide for benefits to be accessed after termination of employment, and for other purposes.

S. 4380

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4380, a bill to provide redress to the employees of Air America.

S. 4391

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4391, a bill to authorize a public service announcement campaign on the efficacy of cloth face coverings in reducing the spread of COVID-19, to authorize a program to provide cloth face coverings to any individual in the United States who requests one free of charge, and for other purposes.

S. 4422

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4422, a bill to establish

the Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 4440

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4440, a bill to authorize the Director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to carry out a Social Determinants of Health Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4472

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4472, a bill to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Reimbursement Program to include eligible telecommunications carriers and providers of educational broadband service, and for other purposes.

S. 4497

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4497, a bill to temporarily suspend duties on imports of articles needed to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

S. 4511

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4511, a bill to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to education, burial benefits, and other matters, and for other purposes.

S. 4513

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4513, a bill to ensure climate and environmental justice accountability, and for other purposes.

S. 4528

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4528, a bill to strengthen the United States ties with Latin American and Caribbean countries through diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation, to counter efforts by the People's Republic of China to undermine United States interests and values in the Americas, and to promote economic development and competitiveness in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

S. 4529

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 4529, a bill to improve access by Indian Tribes to support from the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support program (E-rate) of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 75

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 75, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to the fundamental right to vote.

S. RES. 274

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 274, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and other rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices, and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 672

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 672, a resolution designating September 2020 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 672, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 4556. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce a bill to facilitate better access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center.

The Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center, located in Hemet, CA, is a health center run by the Indian Health Service. It is the only currently operating center in the State of California that provides culturally-sensitive substance use disorder treatment to indigenous youth.

The Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center serves an important role to the regional Native American community. The facility not only provides healthcare but also academic support, family therapy, and an individualized treatment plan to support the healing and long-term recovery of youth enrolled at the center.

Despite the center's important work, the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center is only accessible by a dirt road. Lack of a paved road limits access to the center during California's extreme wet and dry seasons. The dirt road frequently cracks or floods during these times and creates significant challenges to those receiving healthcare.

Private landowners are supportive of selling their land to allow the Indian Health Service to pave an access road, but the agency does not currently have the authority to do so. It is appropriate we provide for safe and dignified access to the center, and I am pleased to introduce legislation that will solve this problem.

The bill would authorize the Director of the Indian Health Service to purchase land from willing sellers and construct a paved road to improve access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center. After construction, Riverside County would own and maintain the road.

This effort includes widespread, bipartisan support. An identical, bipartisan bill introduced by Representative RAUL RUIZ passed the House of Representatives as part of a larger package just last month. Representative RUIZ's bill is cosponsored by Representatives KEN CALVERT, PETE AGUILAR, PAUL COOK, DOUG LAMALFA, NANNETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN, TONY CÁRDENAS, and JOSH HARDER. This legislation also has the support of local stakeholders, including Riverside County, and organizations like the California Rural Indian Health Board.

The bill will provide safe access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center, ensuring indigenous youth can receive healthcare in a supportive and culturally-sensitive environment. American Indian and Alaskan Native youth report 14.9 percent rate of substance dependence or abuse, furthering underscoring the need to guarantee the accessibility to facilities like the Desert Sage Wellness Center.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 687—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COYA KNUTSON

Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 687

Whereas Cornelia Genevive Gjesdal "Coya" Knutson was born on August 22, 1912, in Edmore, North Dakota;

Whereas Coya Gjesdal graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, with majors in English and Music and a minor in Education;

Whereas Coya Gjesdal married Andy Knutson in 1940 and later adopted a son;

Whereas Coya Knutson was involved in her community, working as a teacher, volunteering, establishing a medical clinic, and serving on the Red Lake County Welfare Board;

Whereas Coya Knutson was elected to the House of Representatives of Minnesota in 1950;

Whereas State Representative Knutson supported health and education initiatives and sponsored the first clean air bill in Minnesota, which prohibited smoking in some public places;

Whereas, in 1954, Coya Knutson won a seat in the House of Representatives of the United States, despite having lost the nomination of her party to a man;

Whereas Coya Knutson became the first woman elected to Congress from Minnesota;

Whereas Congresswoman Knutson became the first woman to be appointed to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

Whereas Congresswoman Knutson sponsored legislation that eventually led to expanded school lunch assistance, the first Federal student loan program, and the first appropriations for research on cystic fibrosis;

Whereas Congresswoman Knutson's husband did not support her career and reportedly wrote a public letter in 1958 ordering her to return to Minnesota to "make a home for [her] son and husband";

Whereas the story of the letter was taken up by the national press, with newspapers across the United States running the headline "Coya, Come Home";

Whereas Coya Knutson lost reelection in 1958 to a man whose campaign slogan was "A Big Man for a Man-Sized Job";

Whereas Coya Knutson eventually divorced her husband, moved permanently to Washington, DC, and was appointed by President Kennedy to be the liaison officer in the Office of Civil Defense at the Department of Defense, where she served until 1970;

Whereas Coya Knutson retired from politics and moved back to Minnesota to live with her son and his family until her death in 1996 at 82 years of age; and

Whereas Coya Knutson was a trailblazer and an inspiration who was devoted to her community, State, and country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life and legacy of Coya Knutson, whose dedication to overcoming exceptional odds and devotion to the well-being of the United States shall serve as an inspiration for generations of individuals in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 688—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 25, 2020, AS "NATIONAL LOBSTER DAY"

Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 688

Whereas lobstering has served as an economic engine and family tradition in the United States for centuries;

Whereas thousands of families in the United States make their livelihoods from catching, processing, or serving lobsters;

Whereas the lobster industry employs people of all ages year-round, and many harvesters begin fishing as children and stay in the industry for their entire working lives;

Whereas historical lore notes that lobster likely joined turkey on the table at the very first Thanksgiving feast in 1621, and lobster continues to be a mainstay during many other holiday traditions;

Whereas responsible resource management practices beginning in the 1600s have created one of the most sustainable fisheries in the world;

Whereas, throughout history, Presidents of the United States have served lobster at their inaugural celebrations and state dinners with international leaders;

Whereas lobster is an excellent, versatile source of lean protein that is low in saturated fat and high in vitamin B12;

Whereas lobster is continually incorporated into trending recipes such as pho, gnocchi, hummus, and fried lobster and waffles;

Whereas the peak of the lobstering season in the United States occurs in late summer;

Whereas the growing reputation of the American lobster as a unique, high-quality, and healthy food has increased consumption of, and driven demand for, the American lobster internationally;

Whereas the Unicode Consortium added a lobster to its emoji set in 2018 in recognition of the popularity of the species around the world;

Whereas countless people in the United States enjoy lobster rolls to celebrate summer, from beaches to backyards and from fine dining restaurants to lobster shacks;

Whereas lobsters inspire children's books and characters in television shows in the United States;

Whereas lobsters have inspired artists in the United States and throughout the world for hundreds of years;

Whereas lobsters have been, and continue to be, used as mascots for sports teams;

Whereas lobsters inspire festivals across the United States where people come together to celebrate their love for the crustacean, from Maine to New York, down to Texas and Florida, and all the way to California; and

Whereas lobster is a staple on the menus of beloved restaurants across the United States and in kitchens across the United States as well, bringing families and friends together: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 25, 2020, as "National Lobster Day"; and

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

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2653. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2652 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2654. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2652 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2655. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2653. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2652 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 260, line 18, strike "as follows" and all that follows through page 262, line 24, and insert the following: "not more than 15 days after receiving an award from the Secretary under this section."

Beginning on page 262, strike line 25 and all that follows through "(f)" on page 268, line 9, and insert the following:

(d) **USES OF FUNDS.**—A local educational agency or non-public school that receives funds under subsection (c) or section 105 may use funds for any of the following:

(1) Activities to support returning to in-person instruction, including purchasing personal protective equipment, implementing flexible schedules to keep children in isolated groups, purchasing box lunches so that children can eat in their classroom, purchasing physical barriers, providing additional transportation services, repurposing existing school rooms and space, and improving ventilation systems.

(2) Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies or non-public schools including coordination with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

(3) Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools directly related to coronavirus.

(4) Providing additional services to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.

(5) Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency or non-public school on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.

(6) Purchasing supplies to sanitize, clean, and disinfect the facilities of a local educational agency or non-public school, including buildings operated by such agency.

(7) Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including for how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all Federal, State, and local requirements.

(8) Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency or non-public school that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

(9) Expanding healthcare and other health services (including mental health services and supports), including for children at risk of abuse or neglect.

(10) Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs, including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.

(e) On page 268, line 16, strike “(g)” and insert “(f)”.

On page 269, line 13, strike “(h)” and insert “(g)”.

On page 269, line 19, strike “(i)” and insert “(h)”.

On page 269, line 24, strike “(j)” and insert “(i)”.

On page 270, line 22, strike “(e)” and insert “(d)”.

On page 270, line 25, strike “(e)” and insert “(d)”.

Beginning on page 278, line 7, strike the comma at the end and all that follows through page 279, line 3, and insert a period.

On page 279, line 4, strike “(c)” and insert “(b)”.

SA 2654. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2652 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 178, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VIII of division A, insert the following:

SEC. —. CORONAVIRUS LOCAL COMMUNITY STABILIZATION FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001(a) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 602. CORONAVIRUS LOCAL COMMUNITY STABILIZATION FUND.

“(a) APPROPRIATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for making payments to States under this section, \$500,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, to remain available until expended.

“(2) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amount appropriated under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall reserve \$16,000,000,000 of such amount for making payments to Tribal governments under subsection (c)(7).

“(b) AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pay each State the following amounts:

“(A) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the relative population proportion amount determined for the State under subsection (c)(1).

“(B) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the relative infected population proportion amount determined for the State under subsection (c)(2).

“(C) As soon as practicable after December 31, 2020, the relative lost revenue proportion amount determined for the State under subsection (c)(3).

“(2) AMOUNTS RESERVED FOR PAYMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—A State shall reserve $\frac{1}{3}$ of each amount received by the State under paragraph (1) to make direct payments to units of local government in the State under subsection (c)(6).

“(c) PAYMENT AMOUNTS.—

“(1) RELATIVE POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.—Subject to paragraph (5), the rel-

ative population proportion amount for a State is the product of—

“(A) \$161,333,333,333; and

“(B) the amount equal to the quotient of—

“(i) the population of the State; and

“(ii) the total population of all States.

“(2) RELATIVE INFECTED POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.—Subject to subparagraph (5), the relative infected population proportion amount determined under this paragraph for a State is the product of—

“(A) \$161,333,333,333; and

“(B) the quotient of—

“(i) the cumulative population of the State that has been infected with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as of June 1, 2020 (including individuals who were infected and have recovered as of such date); and

“(ii) the total cumulative population of all States that has been infected with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as of such date (including individuals who were infected and have recovered as of such date).

“(3) RELATIVE LOST REVENUE PROPORTION AMOUNT.—The relative lost revenue proportion amount determined under this paragraph for a State is the product of—

“(A) \$161,333,333,333; and

“(B) the quotient of—

“(i) the lost revenue amount determined for the State under paragraph (4); and

“(ii) the sum of the lost revenue amounts determined for all States under paragraph (4).

“(4) LOST REVENUE AMOUNT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (3), with respect to a State, the lost revenue amount is the amount equal to the amount by which—

“(i) the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for the State for calendar year 2019; exceeds

“(ii) subject to subparagraph (B), the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for the State for calendar year 2020 (as certified by the Governor of the State).

“(B) ADJUSTMENTS TO LOST REVENUE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for a State and calendar year 2020 shall be adjusted in the following manner:

“(i) Such amount shall exclude any funds received by the State in calendar year 2020 under this title.

“(ii) Such amount shall be increased by the amount of any reduction to State revenue from taxes or other sources for calendar year 2020 that results from the State—

“(I) enacting a tax cut, rebate, deduction, or credit; or

“(II) reducing, delaying, or eliminating any fee or other source of revenue.

“(iii) Such amount shall be reduced by the amount of any expenditures made by the State during calendar year 2020 necessary to meet the non-Federal share contribution requirement of any public assistance that is provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) on the basis of a disaster or emergency declaration under such Act that—

“(I) is declared during the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on the date of enactment of this section; and

“(II) is not related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“(5) COMBINED MINIMUM PAYMENT AMOUNT FOR RELATIVE POPULATION AND RELATIVE INFECTED POPULATION AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The sum of the amounts determined under paragraphs (1) and (2) for a State described in subparagraph (C) shall not be less than \$2,000,000,000.

“(B) PRO RATA ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall adjust on a pro rata basis the amounts determined under paragraph (2) for

each State described in subparagraph (C) to the extent necessary to comply with the requirement of subparagraph (A).

“(C) STATES DESCRIBED.—The States described in this subparagraph are each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

“(6) DIRECT PAYMENTS TO UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Not later than 15 days after a State receives a payment under paragraph (1) of subsection (b), the State shall make the following payments from the amount reserved by the State under paragraph (2) of that subsection with respect to such State payment:

“(A) DIRECT PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES BASED ON POPULATION.—From each of the amounts reserved by a State under paragraph (2) of subsection (b) with respect to the payments received by the State under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) of that subsection, the State shall pay to each unit of local government in the State that is a county or a municipality an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) 50 percent of the amount so reserved; and

“(ii) the quotient of—

“(I) the population of the county or municipality (as applicable); and

“(II) the total population of—

“(aa) in the case of a county, all counties in the State; or

“(bb) in the case of a municipality, all municipalities in the State.

“(B) DIRECT PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES BASED ON LOST REVENUE.—From the amount reserved by a State under paragraph (2) of subsection (b) with respect to the payment received by the State under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of that subsection, the State shall pay to each unit of local government in the State that is a county or a municipality an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) 50 percent of the amount so reserved; and

“(ii) the quotient of—

“(I) the lost revenue amount determined for the county or municipality (as applicable) under subparagraph (C); and

“(II) the total lost revenue amounts determined under subparagraph (C) for—

“(aa) in the case of a county, all counties in the State; or

“(bb) in the case of a municipality, all municipalities in the State.

“(C) LOST REVENUE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), with respect to a county or municipality, the lost revenue amount shall be determined in the same manner as the lost revenue amount for a State is determined under paragraph (4).

“(7) PAYMENTS TO TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—The amounts paid under this section to Tribal governments from the amount reserved under subsection (a)(2) shall be paid not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, and shall be determined in the same manner as the amounts paid to Tribal governments under section 601(c)(7) except that, for purposes of this section—

“(A) the term ‘Tribal government’ means the governing body of an Indian Tribe included on the most recent list published by the Secretary pursuant to section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131); and

“(B) the term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given that term in section 102 of such Act (25 U.S.C. 5130), except that such term shall not include an Alaska Native regional or village corporation established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

“(8) DATA.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) the population of States, units of local governments, and Indian Tribes shall be determined based on the most recent year for which data are available from the Bureau of the Census;

“(B) the determination of the populations of States infected with COVID-19 shall be based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

“(C) where Indian Tribal population cannot be readily determined by the most recent year for which data are available from the Bureau of the Census, the Department may consider tribal population data from the Department of Interior or Department of Housing and Urban Development.

“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts paid or distributed under this subsection shall be used—

“(A) to cover only those costs of the State, unit of local government, or Tribal government that—

“(i) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (including expenditures necessary to meet the non-Federal share contribution requirement of any public assistance that is provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) on the basis of a disaster or emergency declaration under such Act that is declared in calendar year 2020;

“(ii) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, for the State or local government; and

“(iii) were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 31, 2022; or

“(B) for expenditures in calendar year 2020, 2021, or 2022 that the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government would otherwise be unable to make because of decreased or delayed revenues.

“(2) LIMITATION.—No State may use funds made available under this section for deposit into any State pension fund.

“(e) FAIR AND EQUITABLE BUDGETING REQUIREMENT.—As a condition for receiving amounts paid under this subsection, each State, to the extent allowable by State law, shall agree—

“(1) to base any cut to funding to units of local government under the State budget on emergency need, and shall ensure that such cuts are balanced to ensure all units of local government are treated fairly;

“(2) to primarily use economic conditions, budgetary shortfall, and revenue loss for each respective county and municipality, as compared to 2019 levels, to determine whether any such cut is balanced and appropriate; and

“(3) that the State legislative body shall have the authority to disapprove such a cut if it violates a condition of paragraph (1) or (2).

“(f) APPLICATION OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and subsection (c)(7), the terms used in this section have the meanings given those terms in subsection (g) of section 601.

“(B) COUNTY.—The term ‘county’ means a county, parish, or other equivalent county division (as defined by the Bureau of the Census).

“(C) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—In this section, the term ‘unit of local government’ means a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level.

“(2) OVERSIGHT.—The amounts paid under this section—

“(A) shall be subject to the oversight requirements of subsection (f) of section 601 in

the same manner as such requirements apply to the amounts paid under that section, and the recoupment authority under paragraph (2) of that subsection shall apply to oversight of compliance with the use of funds requirements of subsection (d) of this section and the fair and equitable budgeting requirements of subsection (e) of this section; and

“(B) shall be distributed in accordance with all applicable Federal laws.

“(3) IG FUNDING AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding section 601(f)(3), the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury may use the amounts appropriated under that section to carry out oversight and recoupment activities under this section in addition to the oversight and recoupment activities carried out under section 601(f).”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 601(d) of the Social Security Act is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) in subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by inserting “(including expenditures necessary to meet the non-Federal share contribution requirement of any public assistance that is provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) on the basis of a disaster or emergency declaration under such Act that is declared in calendar year 2020)” before the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(D) by striking “under this section to cover only” and inserting “under this section—

“(1) to cover only—”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) for expenditures in calendar year 2020, 2021, or 2022 that the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government would otherwise be unable to make because of decreased or delayed revenues.”

(2) Section 5001(b) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136) is amended by striking “for fiscal year 2020 under section 601(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (as added by subsection (a))” and inserting “under title VI of the Social Security Act”.

SA 2655. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. **AMERICAN INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) **ALLOWANCE.**—The term “allowance” means a limited authorization for the production or consumption of a regulated substance established under subsection (e).

(3) **CONSUMPTION.**—The term “consumption”, with respect to a regulated substance, means a quantity equal to the difference between—

(A) a quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the quantity of that regulated substance produced in the United States; and

(ii) the quantity of the regulated substance imported into the United States; and

(B) the quantity of the regulated substance exported from the United States.

(4) **CONSUMPTION BASELINE.**—The term “consumption baseline” means the baseline established for the consumption of regulated substances under subsection (e)(1)(C).

(5) **EXCHANGE VALUE.**—The term “exchange value” means the value assigned to a regulated substance in accordance with subsections (c) and (e), as applicable.

(6) **IMPORT.**—The term “import” means to land on, bring into, or introduce into, or attempt to land on, bring into, or introduce into, any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, regardless of whether that landing, bringing, or introduction constitutes an importation within the meaning of the customs laws of the United States.

(7) **PRODUCE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “produce” means the manufacture of a regulated substance from a raw material or feedstock chemical (but not including the destruction of a regulated substance by a technology approved by the Administrator).

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “produce” does not include—

(i) the manufacture of a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(ii) the reclamation, reuse, or recycling of a regulated substance.

(8) **PRODUCTION BASELINE.**—The term “production baseline” means the baseline established for the production of regulated substances under subsection (e)(1)(B).

(9) **RECLAIM; RECLAMATION.**—The terms “reclaim” and “reclamation” mean—

(A) the reprocessing of a recovered regulated substance to at least the purity described in standard 700-2016 of the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (or an appropriate successor standard adopted by the Administrator); and

(B) the verification of the purity of that regulated substance using, at a minimum, the analytical methodology described in the standard referred to in subparagraph (A).

(10) **RECOVER.**—The term “recover” means the process by which a regulated substance is—

(A) removed, in any condition, from equipment; and

(B) stored in an external container, with or without testing or processing the regulated substance.

(11) **REGULATED SUBSTANCE.**—The term “regulated substance” means—

(A) a substance listed in the table contained in subsection (c)(1); and

(B) a substance included as a regulated substance by the Administrator under subsection (c)(3).

(c) **LISTING OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.**—

(1) **LIST OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.**—Each of the following substances, and any isomers of such a substance, shall be a regulated substance:

Chemical Name	Common Name	Exchange Value
CHF ₂ CHF ₂	HFC-134	1100
CH ₂ FCF ₃	HFC-134a	1430
CH ₂ FCHF ₂	HFC-143	353
CHF ₂ CH ₂ CF ₃	HFC-245fa	1030
CF ₃ CH ₂ CF ₂ CH ₃	HFC-365mfc	794

Chemical Name	Common Name	Ex-change Value
CF ₃ CHFCF ₃	HFC–227ea	3220
CH ₂ FCF ₂ CF ₃	HFC–236cb	1340
CHF ₂ CHFCF ₃	HFC–236ea	1370
CF ₃ CH ₂ CF ₃	HFC–236fa	9810
CH ₂ FCF ₂ CHF ₂	HFC–245ca	693
CF ₃ CHFCHFCF ₂ CF ₃	HFC–43–10mee	1640
CH ₂ F ₂	HFC–32	675
CHF ₂ CF ₃	HFC–125	3500
CH ₃ CF ₃	HFC–143a	4470
CH ₃ F	HFC–41	92
CH ₂ FCH ₂ F	HFC–152	53
CH ₃ CHF ₂	HFC–152a	124
CHF ₃	HFC–23	14800

(2) REVIEW.—The Administrator may—

(A) review the exchange values listed in the table contained in paragraph (1) on a periodic basis; and

(B) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, adjust the exchange values solely on the basis of—

(i) publicly available, peer-reviewed scientific data; and

(ii) other information consistent with widely used or commonly accepted existing exchange values.

(3) OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, the Administrator may designate a substance not included in the table contained in paragraph (1) as a regulated substance if—

(i) the substance—

(I) is a chemical substance that is a saturated hydrofluorocarbon; and

(II) has an exchange value, as determined by the Administrator in accordance with the basis described in paragraph (2)(B), of greater than 53; and

(ii) the designation of the substance as a regulated substance would be consistent with the purposes of this section.

(B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph authorizes the Administrator to designate as a regulated substance a blend of substances that includes a saturated hydrofluorocarbon for purposes of phasing down production or consumption of regulated substances under subsection (e), even if the saturated hydrofluorocarbon is, or may be, designated as a regulated substance.

(d) MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) PRODUCTION, IMPORT, AND EXPORT LEVEL REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—On a periodic basis, to be determined by the Administrator, but not less frequently than annually, each person who, within the applicable reporting period, produces, imports, exports, destroys, transforms, uses as a process agent, or reclaims a regulated substance shall submit to the Administrator a report that describes, as applicable, the quantity of the regulated substance that the person—

(i) produced, imported, and exported;

(ii) reclaimed;

(iii) destroyed by a technology approved by the Administrator;

(iv) used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(v) used as a process agent.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) SIGNED AND ATTESTED.—The report under subparagraph (A) shall be signed and attested by a responsible officer (within the meaning of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)).

(ii) NO FURTHER REPORTS REQUIRED.—A report under subparagraph (A) shall not be required from a person if the person—

(I) permanently ceases production, importation, exportation, destruction, transformation, use as a process agent, or reclamation of all regulated substances; and

(II) notifies the Administrator in writing that the requirement under subclause (I) has been met.

(iii) BASELINE PERIOD.—Each report under subparagraph (A) shall include, as applicable, the information described in that subparagraph for the baseline period of calendar years 2011 through 2013.

(2) COORDINATION.—The Administrator may allow any person subject to the requirements of paragraph (1)(A) to combine and include the information required to be reported under that paragraph with any other related information that the person is required to report to the Administrator.

(e) PHASE-DOWN OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) BASELINES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (D), the Administrator shall establish for the phase-down of regulated substances—

(i) a production baseline for the production of all regulated substances in the United States, as described in subparagraph (B); and

(ii) a consumption baseline for the consumption of all regulated substances in the United States, as described in subparagraph (C).

(B) PRODUCTION BASELINE DESCRIBED.—The production baseline referred to in subparagraph (A)(i) is the quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the average annual quantity of all regulated substances produced in the United States during the period—

(I) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(II) ending on December 31, 2013; and

(ii) the quantity equal to the sum of—

(I) 15 percent of the production level of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989; and

(II) 0.42 percent of the production level of chlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989.

(C) CONSUMPTION BASELINE DESCRIBED.—The consumption baseline referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) is the quantity equal to the sum of—

(i) the average annual quantity of all regulated substances consumed in the United States during the period—

(I) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(II) ending on December 31, 2013; and

(ii) the quantity equal to the sum of—

(I) 15 percent of the consumption level of hydrochlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989; and

(II) 0.42 percent of the consumption level of chlorofluorocarbons in calendar year 1989.

(D) EXCHANGE VALUES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Administrator shall use the following exchange values for hydrochlorofluorocarbons and chlorofluorocarbons:

Table 2		
Chemical Name	Common Name	Ex-change Value
CHFC1 ₂	HCFC–21	151
CHF ₂ C1	HCFC–22	1810
C ₂ HF ₃ C1 ₂	HCFC–123	77
C ₂ HF ₄ C1	HCFC–124	609
CH ₃ CFC1 ₂	HCFC–141b	725
CH ₃ CF ₂ C1	HCFC–142b	2310
CF ₃ CF ₂ CHC1 ₂	HCFC–225ca	122
CF ₂ C1CF ₂ CHC1F	HCFC–225cb	595

Table 3		
Chemical Name	Common Name	Ex-change Value
CFC1 ₃	CFC–11	4750
CF ₂ C1 ₂	CFC–12	10900
C ₂ F ₃ C1 ₃	CFC–113	6130
C ₂ F ₄ C1 ₂	CFC–114	10000
C ₂ F ₅ C1	CFC–115	7370

(ii) REVIEW.—The Administrator may—

(I) review the exchange values listed in the tables contained in clause (i) on a periodic basis; and

(II) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, adjust the exchange values solely on the basis of—

(aa) publicly available, peer-reviewed scientific data; and

(bb) other information consistent with widely used or commonly accepted existing exchange values.

(2) PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION PHASE-DOWN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on January 1 of each year listed in the table contained in subparagraph (C) and ending on December 31 of the year before the next year listed on that table, except as otherwise permitted under this section, no person shall—

(i) produce a quantity of a regulated substance without a corresponding quantity of production allowances, except as provided in paragraph (5); or

(ii) consume a quantity of a regulated substance without a corresponding quantity of consumption allowances.

(B) COMPLIANCE.—For each year listed on the table contained in subparagraph (C), the Administrator shall ensure that the annual quantity of all regulated substances produced or consumed in the United States does not exceed the product obtained by multiplying—

(i) the production baseline or consumption baseline, as applicable; and

(ii) the applicable percentage listed on the table contained in subparagraph (C).

(C) RELATION TO BASELINE.—On January 1 of each year listed in the following table, the Administrator shall apply the applicable percentage, as described in subparagraph (A):

Date	Percentage of Production Baseline	Percentage of Consumption Baseline
2020–2023	90 percent	90 percent
2024–2028	60 percent	60 percent
2029–2033	30 percent	30 percent
2034–2035	20 percent	20 percent
2036 and thereafter	15 percent	15 percent

(D) ALLOWANCES.—

(i) QUANTITY.—Not later than October 1 of each calendar year, the Administrator shall use the quantity calculated under subparagraph (B) to determine the quantity of allowances for the production and consumption of regulated substances that may be used for the following calendar year.

(ii) NATURE OF ALLOWANCES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—An allowance allocated under this section—

(aa) does not constitute a property right; and

(bb) is a limited authorization for the production or consumption of a regulated substance under this section.

(II) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section or in any other provision of law limits the authority of the United States to terminate or limit an authorization described in subclause (I)(bb).

(3) REGULATIONS REGARDING PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, which shall include a period of notice and opportunity for public comment, the Administrator shall issue a final rule—

(A) phasing down the production of regulated substances in the United States through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with this section; and

(B) phasing down the consumption of regulated substances in the United States through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with the schedule under paragraph (2)(C) (subject to the same exceptions and other requirements as are applicable to the phase-down of production of regulated substances under this section).

(4) EXCEPTIONS; ESSENTIAL USES.—

(A) FEEDSTOCKS AND PROCESS AGENTS.—Except for the reporting requirements described in subsection (d)(1), this section does not apply to—

(i) a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

(ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical, if the remaining amounts of the regulated substance are subsequently destroyed.

(B) ESSENTIAL USES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and clauses (ii) and (iii), the Administrator may, after considering technical achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors, including overall economic costs and environmental impacts compared to historical trends, allocate a quantity of allowances for a period of not more than 5 years for the production and consumption of a regulated substance exclusively for the use of the regulated substance in an application, if—

(I) no safe or technically achievable substitute will be available during the applicable period for that application; and

(II) the supply of the regulated substance that manufacturers or users of the regulated substance for that application are capable of

securing from chemical manufacturers, as authorized under paragraph (2)(A), including any quantities of a regulated substance available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import, is insufficient to accommodate the application.

(ii) PETITION.—If the Administrator receives a petition requesting the designation of an application as an essential use under clause (i), the Administrator shall—

(I) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the petition—

(aa) make the complete petition available to the public; and

(bb) when making the petition available to the public under item (aa), propose and seek public comment on—

(AA) a determination of whether to designate the application as an essential use; and

(BB) if the Administrator proposes to designate the application as an essential use, making the requisite allocation of allowances; and

(II) not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the petition, take final action on the petition.

(iii) LIMITATION.—A person receiving an allocation under clause (i) or (iv) or as a result of a petition granted under clause (ii) may not produce or consume a quantity of regulated substances that, considering the respective exchange values of the regulated substances, exceeds the number of allowances issued under paragraphs (2) and (3) that are held by that person.

(iv) MANDATORY ALLOCATIONS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding clause (i) and subject to clause (iii) and paragraphs (2) and (3), for the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall allocate the full quantity of allowances necessary, based on projected, current, and historical trends, for the production or consumption of a regulated substance for the exclusive use of the regulated substance in an application solely for—

(aa) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers;

(bb) defense sprays;

(cc) structural composite preformed polyurethane foam for marine use and trailer use;

(dd) the etching of semiconductor material or wafers and the cleaning of chemical vapor deposition chambers within the semiconductor manufacturing sector;

(ee) mission-critical military end uses, such as armored vehicle engine and shipboard fire suppression systems and systems used in deployable and expeditionary applications; and

(ff) onboard aerospace fire suppression.

(II) REQUIREMENT.—The allocation of allowances under subclause (I) shall be determined through a rulemaking.

(v) REVIEW.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—For each essential use application receiving an allocation of allowances under clause (i) or (iv), the Administrator shall review the availability of substitutes, including any quantities of the regulated substance available from reclaiming or prior production, not less frequently than once every 5 years.

(II) EXTENSION.—If, pursuant to a review under subclause (I), the Administrator determines, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, that the requirements described in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (i) are met, the Administrator shall authorize the production or consumption, as applicable, of any regulated substance used in the application for renewable periods of not more than 5 years for exclusive use in the application.

(5) DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2)(A)(i), the Adminis-

trator may authorize a person to produce a regulated substance in excess of the number of production allowances held by that person, subject to the conditions that—

(A) the authorization is—

(i) for a renewable period of not more than 5 years; and

(ii) subject to notice and opportunity for public comment; and

(B) the production—

(i) is at a facility located in the United States;

(ii) is solely for export to, and use in, a foreign country that is not subject to the prohibition in subsection (j)(1); and

(iii) would not violate paragraph (2)(B).

(f) ACCELERATED SCHEDULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (4), the Administrator may, only in response to a petition submitted to the Administrator in accordance with paragraph (3) and after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate regulations that establish a schedule for phasing down the production or consumption of regulated substances that is more stringent than the production and consumption levels of regulated substances required under subsection (e)(2)(C).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Any regulations promulgated under this subsection—

(A) shall—

(i) apply uniformly to the allocation of production and consumption allowances for regulated substances, in accordance with subsection (e)(3);

(ii) ensure that there will be sufficient quantities of regulated substances, including substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import, to meet the needs for—

(I) applications that receive an allocation under clause (i) of subsection (e)(4)(B); and

(II) all applications that receive a mandatory allocation under items (aa) through (ff) of clause (iv)(I) of that subsection; and

(iii) foster continued reclamation of and transition from regulated substances; and

(B) shall not set the level of production allowances or consumption allowances below the percentage of the consumption baseline that is actually consumed during the calendar year prior to the year during which the Administrator makes a final determination with respect to the applicable proposal described in paragraph (3)(C)(iii)(I).

(3) PETITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person may petition the Administrator to promulgate regulations for an accelerated schedule for the phase-down of production or consumption of regulated substances under paragraph (1).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—A petition submitted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) be made at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator shall require; and

(ii) include a showing by the petitioner that there are data to support the petition.

(C) TIMELINES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator receives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall—

(I) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the petition—

(aa) make the complete petition available to the public; and

(bb) when making the petition available to the public under item (aa), propose and seek public comment on the proposal of the Administrator to grant or deny the petition; and

(II) not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the petition, take final action on the petition.

(ii) FACTORS FOR DETERMINATION.—In making a determination to grant or deny a petition submitted under subparagraph (A), the

Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, factor in—

(I) the best available data, including relevant publicly available and peer-reviewed scientific data;

(II) the availability of substitutes for uses of the regulated substance that is the subject of the petition, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, consumer costs, building codes, appliance efficiency standards, contractor training costs, and other relevant factors, including the quantities of regulated substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import;

(III) overall economic costs and environmental impacts, as compared to historical trends; and

(IV) the remaining phase-down period for regulated substances under the final rule issued under subsection (e)(3), if applicable.

(iii) REGULATIONS.—After receiving public comment with respect to the proposal under clause (i)(I)(bb), if the Administrator makes a final determination to grant a petition under subparagraph (A), the final regulations with respect to the petition shall—

(I) be promulgated by not later than 1 year after the date on which the Administrator makes the proposal to grant the petition under that clause; and

(II) meet the requirements of paragraph (2).

(D) PUBLICATION.—When the Administrator makes a final determination to grant or deny a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall publish a description of the reasons for that grant or denial, including a description of the information considered under subclauses (I) through (IV) of subparagraph (C)(ii).

(E) INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION.—If the Administrator determines that the data included under subparagraph (B)(ii) in a petition are not sufficient to make a determination under this paragraph, the Administrator shall use any authority available to the Administrator to acquire the necessary data.

(4) DATE OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The Administrator may not promulgate under paragraph (1) a regulation for the production or consumption of regulated substances that is more stringent than the production or consumption levels required under subsection (e)(2)(C) that takes effect before January 1, 2025.

(5) REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall review the availability of substitutes for regulated substances subject to an accelerated schedule established under paragraph (1) in each sector and subsector in which the regulated substance is used, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, and other relevant factors, including the quantities of regulated substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import, by January 1, 2025 (for the first review), by January 1, 2030 (for the second review), and at least once every 5 years thereafter.

(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Administrator shall make the results of a review conducted under subparagraph (A) publicly available.

(6) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection authorizes the Administrator to promulgate regulations pursuant to this subsection that establish a schedule for phasing down the production or consumption of regulated substances that is less stringent than the production and consumption levels of regulated substances required under subsection (e)(2)(C).

(g) EXCHANGE AUTHORITY.—

(1) TRANSFERS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, which shall include a period of notice and op-

portunity for public comment, the Administrator shall promulgate a final regulation that governs the transfer of allowances for the production of regulated substances under subsection (e)(3)(A) that uses—

(A) the applicable exchange values described in the table contained in subsection (c)(1); or

(B) the exchange value described in the rule designating the substance as a regulated substance under subsection (c)(3).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The final rule promulgated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

(A) ensure that the transfers under this subsection will result in greater total reductions in the production of regulated substances in each year than would occur during the year in the absence of the transfers;

(B) permit 2 or more persons to transfer production allowances if the transferor of the allowances will be subject, under the final rule, to an enforceable and quantifiable reduction in annual production that—

(i) exceeds the reduction otherwise applicable to the transferor under this section;

(ii) exceeds the quantity of production represented by the production allowances transferred to the transferee; and

(iii) would not have occurred in the absence of the transaction; and

(C) provide for the trading of consumption allowances in the same manner as is applicable under this subsection to the trading of production allowances.

(h) MANAGEMENT OF REGULATED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of maximizing reclaiming and minimizing the release of a regulated substance from equipment and ensuring the safety of technicians and consumers, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, any practice, process, or activity regarding the servicing, repair, disposal, or installation of equipment (including requiring, where appropriate, that any such servicing, repair, disposal, or installation be performed by a trained technician meeting minimum standards, as determined by the Administrator) that involves—

(A) a regulated substance;

(B) a substitute for a regulated substance;

(C) the reclaiming of a regulated substance used as a refrigerant; or

(D) the reclaiming of a substitute for a regulated substance used as a refrigerant.

(2) RECLAIMING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall consider the use of authority available to the Administrator under this section to increase opportunities for the reclaiming of regulated substances used as refrigerants.

(B) RECOVERY.—A regulated substance used as a refrigerant that is recovered shall be reclaimed before the regulated substance is sold or transferred to a new owner, except where the recovered regulated substance is sold or transferred to a new owner solely for the purposes of being reclaimed or destroyed.

(3) COORDINATION.—In promulgating regulations to carry out this subsection, the Administrator may coordinate those regulations with any other regulations promulgated by the Administrator that involve—

(A) the same or a similar practice, process, or activity regarding the servicing, repair, disposal, or installation of equipment; or

(B) reclaiming.

(4) INAPPLICABILITY.—No regulation promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall apply to a regulated substance or a substitute for a regulated substance that is contained in a foam.

(5) SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS.—

(A) DEFINITION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—In this paragraph, the term “small business concern” has the same meaning as

in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(B) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator shall establish a grant program to award grants to small business concerns for the purchase of new specialized equipment for the recycling, recovery, or reclamation of a substitute for a regulated substance, including the purchase of approved refrigerant recycling equipment (as defined in section 609(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7671h(b))) for recycling, recovery, or reclamation in the service or repair of motor vehicle air conditioning systems.

(C) MATCHING FUNDS.—The non-Federal share of a project carried out with a grant under this paragraph shall be not less than 25 percent.

(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023.

(i) TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator may by rule restrict, fully, partially, or on a graduated schedule, the use of a regulated substance in the sector or subsector in which the regulated substance is used.

(2) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—

(A) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—Before proposing a rule for the use of a regulated substance for a sector or subsector under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider negotiating with stakeholders in the sector or subsector subject to the potential rule in accordance with the negotiated rulemaking procedure provided for under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990”).

(B) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKINGS.—If the Administrator negotiates a rulemaking with stakeholders using the procedure described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, give priority to completing that rulemaking over completing rulemakings that were not negotiated using that procedure.

(C) NO NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—If the Administrator does not negotiate a rulemaking with stakeholders using the procedure described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall, before commencement of the rulemaking process for a rule under paragraph (1), publish an explanation of the decision of the Administrator to not use that procedure.

(3) PETITIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person may petition the Administrator to promulgate a rule under paragraph (1) for the restriction on use of a regulated substance in a sector or subsector, which may include a request that the Administrator negotiate with stakeholders in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

(B) RESPONSE.—The Administrator shall grant or deny a petition under subparagraph (A) not later than 180 days after the date of receipt of the petition.

(C) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) EXPLANATION.—If the Administrator denies a petition under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register an explanation of the denial.

(ii) FINAL RULE.—If the Administrator grants a petition under subparagraph (B), the Administrator shall promulgate a final rule not later than 2 years after the date on which the Administrator grants the petition.

(iii) PUBLICATION OF PETITIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Administrator receives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall make that petition available to the public in full.

(4) FACTORS FOR DETERMINATION.—In carrying out a rulemaking using the procedure

described in paragraph (2) or making a determination to grant or deny a petition submitted under paragraph (3), the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, factor in—

(A) the best available data, including relevant publicly available and peer-reviewed scientific data;

(B) the availability of substitutes for use of the regulated substance that is the subject of the rulemaking or petition, as applicable, in a sector or subsector, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, consumer costs, building codes, appliance efficiency standards, contractor training costs, and other relevant factors, including the quantities of regulated substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import;

(C) overall economic costs and environmental impacts, as compared to historical trends; and

(D) the remaining phase-down period for regulated substances under the final rule issued under subsection (e)(3), if applicable.

(5) EVALUATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Administrator shall—

(A) evaluate substitutes for regulated substances in a sector or subsector, taking into account technological achievability, commercial demands, safety, overall economic costs and environmental impacts, and other relevant factors; and

(B) make the evaluation under subparagraph (A) available to the public.

(6) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULES.—No rule under this subsection may take effect before the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Administrator promulgates the applicable rule under this subsection.

(7) APPLICABILITY.—

(A) DEFINITION OF RETROFIT.—In this paragraph, the term “retrofit” means to upgrade existing equipment where the regulated substance is changed, which—

(i) includes the conversion of equipment to achieve system compatibility; and

(ii) may include changes in lubricants, gaskets, filters, driers, valves, o-rings, or equipment components for that purpose.

(B) APPLICABILITY OF RULES.—A rule promulgated under this subsection shall not apply to—

(i) an essential use under clause (i) or (iv) of subsection (e)(4)(B), including any use for which the production or consumption of the regulated substance is extended under clause (v)(II) of that subsection; or

(ii) except for a retrofit application, equipment in existence in a sector or subsector before the date of enactment of this Act.

(j) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), no person subject to the requirements of this section shall trade or transfer a production allowance or, after January 1, 2033, export a regulated substance to a person in a foreign country that, as determined by the Administrator, has not enacted or otherwise established within a reasonable timeframe after the date of enactment of this Act the same or similar requirements or otherwise undertaken commitments regarding the production and consumption of regulated substances as are contained in this section.

(2) TRANSFERS.—Pursuant to paragraph (1), a person in the United States may engage in a trade or transfer of a production allowance—

(A) to a person in a foreign country if, at the time of the transfer, the Administrator revises the number of allowances for production under subsection (e)(2), as applicable, for the United States such that the aggregate national production of the regulated substance to be traded under the revised production limits is equal to the least of—

(i) the maximum production level permitted for the applicable regulated substance in the year of the transfer under this section, less the production allowances transferred;

(ii) the maximum production level permitted for the applicable regulated substances in the transfer year under applicable law, less the production allowances transferred; and

(iii) the average of the actual national production level of the applicable regulated substances for the 3-year period ending on the date of the transfer, less the production allowances transferred; or

(B) from a person in a foreign country if, at the time of the trade or transfer, the Administrator finds that the foreign country has revised the domestic production limits of the regulated substance in the same manner as provided with respect to transfers by a person in United States under this subsection.

(3) EFFECT OF TRANSFERS ON PRODUCTION LIMITS.—The Administrator may—

(A) reduce the production limits established under subsection (e)(2)(B) as required as a prerequisite to a transfer described in paragraph (2)(A); or

(B) increase the production limits established under subsection (e)(2)(B) to reflect production allowances acquired under a trade or transfer described in paragraph (2)(B).

(4) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall—

(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, promulgate a final rule to carry out this subsection; and

(B) not less frequently than annually, review and, if necessary, revise the final rule promulgated pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(k) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) RULEMAKINGS.—The Administrator may promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out the functions of the Administrator under this section.

(B) DELEGATION.—The Administrator may delegate to any officer or employee of the Environmental Protection Agency such of the powers and duties of the Administrator under this section as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(C) CLEAN AIR ACT.—Sections 113, 114, 304, and 307 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7413, 7414, 7604, 7607) shall apply to this section and any rule, rulemaking, or regulation promulgated by the Administrator pursuant to this section as though this section were expressly included in each of those sections, as applicable, and the requirements of this section were part of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.).

(2) PREEMPTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), during the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, and with respect to an exclusive use for which a mandatory allocation of allowances is provided under subsection (e)(4)(B)(iv)(I), no State or political subdivision of a State may enforce a statute or administrative action restricting the management or use of a regulated substance within that exclusive use.

(B) EXTENSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), if, pursuant to subclause (I) of subsection (e)(4)(B)(v), the Administrator authorizes an additional period under subclause (II) of that subsection for the production or consumption of a regulated substance for an exclusive use described in subparagraph (A), no State or political subdivision of a State may enforce a statute or administrative action restricting the management or use of the regulated substance within that exclusive use for the duration of that additional period.

(ii) LIMITATION.—The period for which the limitation under clause (i) applies shall not exceed 5 years from the date on which the period described in subparagraph (A) ends.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I have one request for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 10 a.m., in room 325 of the Russell Senate Office Building, to conduct a committee executive business meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 116-92, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: The Honorable TOM COTTON of Arkansas; Mr. Victor L. Brown of Kentucky.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 107-12, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Trevor Whipple of Vermont.

NATIONAL LOBSTER DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 688, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 688) designating September 25, 2020, as “National Lobster Day”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; and that the motion 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. 688) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL M. LYNTON AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 87, which has been received from the House.

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

The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (H.J. Res. 87) providing for the reappointment of Michael M. Lynton as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask that the joint resolution be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion 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 joint resolution (H.J. Res. 87) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

APPOINTMENT OF FRANKLIN D. RAINES AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 88, which has been received from the House.

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

The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing for the appointment of Franklin D. Raines as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask that the joint resolution be considered read three times and passed and that the motion 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 joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, September 14; 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 Scarsi nomination, under the previous order; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

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, following the remarks of Senator SANDERS.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, today as a result of the horrific pandemic and economic meltdown, the American working class is hurting in a way that they have not been hurting since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Tens of millions of our fellow citizens have lost their jobs. They have lost their incomes. They have lost their health insurance. They have depleted their life savings. They cannot afford to pay rent. They cannot afford to put food on the table. And they are scared to death that any day now they are going to get a knock on the door from a sheriff, evicting them from their homes and throwing them and their belongings out on the street.

This is the United States of America, the richest country in the history of the world. None of us—no man, woman, or child—should go hungry. None of us should have to live in fear of becoming homeless, and no one should be denied the healthcare that they need—especially during the worst public health crisis in 100 years. But that is precisely what is going on all over our country as we speak this evening.

Just the other day, National Public Radio, NPR, released a survey on the unprecedented economic suffering facing the American people. That should shock everyone in the U.S. Senate and in our Nation. And here is what that survey found: 46 percent of Americans—over 150 million people—are now experiencing serious financial problems.

Forty-one percent of Americans—over 134 million people—have used up all or most of their savings. Their savings accounts are now depleted. Thirty-three percent of American families have had someone in their household who has either lost a job, lost a business, or has been furloughed during the

pandemic. This is an unprecedented moment in American history, and the Senate needs to take unprecedented action to improve the lives of the American people.

Yet in the midst of all of this pain and suffering, what has the Republican-led Senate done over the last 5 months to address the economic concerns of the American people? The answer is nothing except pass a \$740 billion budget for the bloated Pentagon and take an extended vacation. That is not something that anybody in the Senate should be proud of.

The Senate is now back in session. Senate Republicans have introduced a so-called skinny relief bill that is totally inadequate in terms of addressing the crisis we are facing today. The Senate Republican bill provides nothing for rent, nothing for mortgages, nothing for food, nothing for hazard pay, nothing for healthcare, nothing for public transportation, and nothing to prevent the mass layoffs of teachers, nurses, firefighters, and construction workers that will take place in cities and States as cities and States struggle economically.

In other words, the same Republicans who had no problem voting for a trillion-dollar tax break for the top 1 percent large corporations 2 years ago are now telling 40 million Americans who are struggling to pay for housing that we cannot afford to help them pay their rent or mortgage. The same Republicans who just voted to provide \$740 billion for the Pentagon and the military industrial complex to wage endless wars are now telling 30 million workers who lost their jobs that we cannot afford to continue the \$600-a-week supplement they were receiving in unemployment benefits. The same Republicans who slipped \$135 billion tax breaks for multimillionaires and billionaires in the last coronavirus relief package are now telling 29 million Americans who do not have enough food to eat that we cannot afford to help them feed their families.

But if you are an executive in the coal industry, you are in luck. The Republican Senate bill provides your industry with \$161 million in corporate welfare. That is right. The Republican Senate bill provides no money for working families to feed their kids, no money to house the homeless, no money to insure the uninsured—no money for them—but it does provide \$161 million in corporate welfare for the coal industry during a climate emergency. That may make sense for the CEOs in the fossil fuel industry who are destroying the planet with their product, but it makes zero sense to me.

Further, under the Senate Republican bill, if you are a wealthy business owner who forces employees to work in an unsafe and unhealthy workplace, you are rewarded. The Republican bill will provide you with the immunity you need from lawsuits if your workers get sick or die from the coronavirus,

but if you are an essential worker during this pandemic, you get nothing. The Republican bill does not provide a nickel more for hazard pay or the personal protective equipment that you need and deserve.

Needless to say, I am strongly opposed to the Senate Republican bill and am glad it was defeated earlier today.

Instead of listening to the needs of fossil fuel CEOs, we need to listen to the needs of working-class Americans, the people who are hurting. Instead of providing more corporate welfare to billionaires and large corporations, we need to provide more economic relief to the tens of millions of Americans who are hurting economically.

Nearly 4 months ago, the House of Representatives did its job by passing the Heroes Act, a \$3.5 trillion bill. In my view, the Senate has to stand up and do its job and pass the Heroes Act or a bill that is even better than that legislation.

I received many, many thousands of letters, emails, and social media from constituents in the State of Vermont and, in fact, all over this country about how the economic crisis has negatively impacted their lives and what that \$600 a week in unemployment benefits that expired in July meant to them.

Let me read you just a few of the many thousands of stories my office has received. A constituent from North Chittenden, VT, wrote:

I was laid off in March. Since the end of the extra \$600 I've been able to eat because of the food bank. I wasn't able to get one of my prescriptions because even with insurance it was \$88. I saved as much as I could during the extra \$600 period, but I'm almost out of money now. Literally enough to make it about 10 days. Then what? I'm 65 [years of age].

An unemployed worker wrote:

We can't pay our rent including car payment and car insurance, bills, feed our four kids, or buy necessities. We desperately need the extra \$600 to stay afloat. If we don't get our money soon, we could lose EVERYTHING!

Another unemployed worker recently wrote:

My State benefit was \$127 a week (I exhausted my available State funds last week). My rent is \$1,200 a month. Without further congressional action, I will be unhoused within a month or two.

A constituent from Danville, VT, wrote:

That moment the government stopped the \$600 a week they closed my benefits. I never saw anything other than that \$600 and it went to bills and rent. Now I am behind on everything again.

And on and on it goes. For millions of people, that \$600-a-week check was life and death.

Clearly, in the midst of this unprecedented crisis, the Senate must act and act now, not with a skinny relief bill that does virtually nothing to help working families in their time of need, but with legislation that responds to the unprecedented economic pain and suffering that the American working class is experiencing.

We need to extend the extra \$600 a week in unemployment benefits for the 30 million Americans who have lost their jobs—like the House passed over 3 months ago. This is absolutely essential. During this crisis, it would give families the income they need to live with it. We need to make sure that every working-class person in America receives \$2,000 a month until this crisis is over so they can pay the rent and put food on the table.

We need to expand Medicare to all the 92 million Americans who are uninsured or underinsured. Nobody should be unable to go to a doctor during this crisis because they don't have health insurance. In other words, we need a coronavirus relief bill that benefits the working families of this country and low-income people, not just the wealthy and well-connected.

I know what my Republican colleagues will say—that it is too expensive, and we can't afford it. Maybe, just maybe, our Republican colleagues are so concerned about the deficit they might want to ask their billionaire campaign contributors to pay their fair share of taxes instead of giving them massive tax breaks.

In the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression and the worst public health crisis in more than 100 years, I think most Americans would be shocked to learn that 467 billionaires in our country have seen their wealth go up by \$800 billion during the pandemic. Let me repeat that: 467 billionaires have seen their wealth go up by \$800 billion during the pandemic. In my view, at a time of massive wealth and income inequality and when so many of our people are hurting, it is morally obscene for billionaires to use a global pandemic as an opportunity to make outrageous profits.

Instead of more austerity for the working class of this country, we need to impose austerity on the billionaire class and on Wall Street. That is why I have introduced legislation to tax the obscene wealth gains billionaires have made during the public health crisis. According to the Americans for Tax Fairness, if we taxed 60 percent of the windfall gains billionaires made during the pandemic, we could raise over \$420 billion. That is enough revenue to allow Medicare to pay all of the out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for everyone in America in the next 12 months. Yes, by taxing 60 percent of the wealth gains made by just 467 people during this horrific pandemic, we could guarantee healthcare as a right for an entire year for every man, woman, and child in this country. Billionaires would still be able to pocket over \$300 billion in wealth gains during the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

At a time of enormous economic pain and suffering, we have a choice to make. We can continue to allow the very rich to get much richer while everyone else gets poorer and poorer or we can tax the winnings a handful of

billionaires made during the pandemic to improve the health and well-being of tens of millions of Americans.

It is time for the Senate to act on behalf of the working families of this country who are hurting like they have never hurt before and not just the billionaire class who are doing phenomenally well and have never had it so good.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 3 p.m., Monday, September 14, 2020.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 5:26 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 14, 2020, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT J. SKINNER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. WILLIAM F. MCCLINTOCK

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL S. GROEN

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAEL H. DAY
CAPT. MARY M. DEAN
CAPT. CHARLES E. FOSSE
CAPT. CHAD L. JACOBY
CAPT. CAROLA J. G. LIST
CAPT. MICHAEL W. RAYMOND
CAPT. EDWARD M. ST. PIERRE

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be colonel

PAUL JEFFREY AFFLECK
JENNIFER M. AUPKE
BRADLEY C. BALL
GAVIN M. BATCHELDER
MICHAEL JASON BLAIR
MATTHEW FORMBY BLUE
CHAD C. BOARD
BRIAN LAURENCE BOHLMAN
MICAELA RAE BRANCATO
DONALD R. BRASKETT JR.
RONALD ALVIN BRASWELL
MATTHEW C. BRENNER
FREDERICK MICHAEL BROOKS
RICARDO L. A. CAMEL
STEVEN LEE CAMPBELL
JOED IVAN CARBONELL
KYLE E. CARPENTER
WILLIAM LAWRENCE CARRAHER
ROBERT N. CARVER
JENNIFER WEST CASILLO
JAMES CHAIKOWSKY
LARISSA CRAWFORD CLARK
BRIAN JAMES CLAUS

PHILIP J. COLOMY
MICHAEL TROY COMPARDO
ANDREW JAMES COX
MICHAEL PATRICK CULLEY
TAMMY LYNN CULLEY
CHRISTINA L. DARVEAU
RAYMOND ANDRE DE JESUS
STEVEN CHARLES DUDASH
JOHN ALBERT DUFFY
AARON MICHAEL DUNN
BRIAN BRUCE DURSTELER
AMY L. EMANUEL-BASSETT
STEVEN MICHAEL EMPEY
MICHAEL A. EVANS
CHRISTOPHER M. FARMER
PAUL WILLIAM FEICHTINGER
MICHAEL A. FERRARIO
DEBORAH ANNE GARRETT
MATTHEW LIVINGSTON GILES
CURTIS DALE GRAYSON
TIMOTHY ROBERT GUY
MATTHEW CLAY HARPER
GREG A. HAY
NICOLAS WILLIAM HENSCHER
DONALD TODD HUSTON
GEORGE HENRY IMORDE III
DANIEL J. JANUSZ
ROSHAN MIKE JESSANI
JACK W. JOHNSON
STEPHEN D. JONES
PETER KEEGAN, JR.
THOMAS WILLIAM KEEGAN
EVAN JOHN KIRKWOOD
LANCE S. KOLLSTEDT
PETER JOSEPH LABARBERA
MICAH I. LAMBERT
BROCK E. LANGE
KASS WESLEY LARSON
TANYA MARIE CHANG LEE
KENNETH VINCENT J. LEEDBERG
LAWANDA LASHALL LEWIS-MILES
LAURA MARIA LOPEZ
JOHN DOUGLAS LUNDHOLM
CHAD MICHAEL LYNCH
ERIKA E. LYNCH
RANDY ALPHONSE MANCHESTER
RICHARD H. MANSFIELD
NICHOLAS JAMES MATHIOS
JOHN DONALD MEILI
KATHRYN D. MILLWOOD
ANTHONY JAMES MUIR
SHANE H. NAGATANI
JASON TERENCE NALEPA
NICOLE D. NUSS
LAURA L. ODOM
THOMAS G. OLANDER, JR.
STEPHAN K. OTTO
DEAN C. OWEN
CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM PACK
MATTHEW M. PARODA
MICHAEL DAVID PELPHREY
NELSON ERNEST PERRON
PAUL MAURICE PERRON
FREDERICK D. PHELAN
DANIEL JAY PULJU
MATTHEW EDWARDS QUENICHER
PATRICK J. RAMIREZ
MICHAEL E. RAWLINS, JR.
KURTIS PAUL RING
MATTHEW W. ROBINS
DANIEL RODRIGUEZ, JR.
DERECK JAMES ROGERS
MICHAEL S. ROONEY
DREW DAVID ROPER
JASON LEON SANDER
CLAYTON D. SANDERS
JOHN E. SAUNDERS
MICHAEL GLENN SCADDEN
JOELEE D. SESSIONS
MARK E. SHIRLEY
DAVID SCOTT SMITH
ROBERT GENE SMOKER
JADE M. SPURGEON
EDWARD KANAN STAMPER, JR.
CRYSTAL LYNETTE STILTNER
SHAWN DEAN STRAHLE
SHAWN A. SUBER
ELIZABETH ANN SUMNER
ANDREW M. THORNE
STEVEN ELLIOTT TINDOLL
GEORGE GERARD TOMICA
ELIZABETH TOPOL
SCOTT RUSSELL TOWNSEND
JOSHUA C. WAGGONER
MICHAEL J. WESTERN
JOSHUA JAMES WIKA
JOHN FREEMAN WILES
JOHN L. WILKINSON
JOHN R. WILLIAMS III
FREDERICK M. WILSON
CHRISTOPHER P. WIMBERLY
BRIAN FRIEDRICH WINKLER
KAREN M. WOOD
CARRIE ARENDALE WORRELL
TROY JOSEPH ZIERDEN
JOSEPH F. ZINGARO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHAEL B. PARKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

BRIAN P. O'CONNOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

SAMUEL P. BAXTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RYAN M. VANARTSDALEN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

FRED J. GROSPIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

MATTHEW E. TULLIA

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

TERRANCE L. LEIGHTON III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

TODD D. STRONG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

NATHAN D. HUFFAKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

EMILY M. BENZER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DAVID M. LALANNE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

JEAN E. KNOWLES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

KEVIN M. RAY

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

LUKE D. ZUMBUSCH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

RICHARD M. RUSNOK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DAMON K. BURROWS

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 212(E):

To be captain

STEVEN C. ACOSTA
EDWARD W. AHLSTRAND
JONATHAN A. ANDRECHIK
JORDAN M. BALDUEZA
TIMOTHY G. M. BALUNIS, JR.
PEGGY M. BRITTON

DANIEL J. BROADHURST
WILLIAM A. BUDOVEC
PATRICK C. BURKETT
DERREK W. BURRUS
GREGORY A. CALLAGHAN
MARCUS A. CANADY
CATHERINE T. CARABINE
ERIC M. CARRERO
JUSTIN M. CARTER
MATTHEW M. CHONG
ANGELA A. COOK
MICHAEL V. DANISH
RULA F. DEISHER
ETIENNE DELARIVA
JAVIER A. DELGADO
AARON W. DEMO
MATTHEW J. DENNING
PATRICK C. DILL
JASON J. DORVAL
JOHN T. EGAN
ROBIN A. ELLERBE
THEODORE J. ERDMAN
THOMAS C. EVANS
JESSICA A. FANT
MATHEW S. FINE
AURORA I. FLEMING
JAMIE C. FREDERICK
MATTHEW S. FURLONG
LAWRENCE D. GAILLARD
TROY P. GLENDYE
LUSHAN A. HANNAH
ANGELINA HIDALGO
KATE F. HIGGINS-BLOOM
BRENDAN J. HILLEARY
TIMOTHY C. HOLT
JAMES L. JARNAC
DARWIN A. JENSEN
MICHAEL P. KAHLE
BENJAMIN G. KARPINSKI
IBRAHIM M. KHALIL
SHANELL M. KING
ROBERT J. KINSEY
ROBERT R. KISTNER
BREANNA L. KNUXTON
BRIAN M. KOSTECKI
JERRY J. KRYWANCZYK
JULIE P. KUCK
JOHNDAVID A. LENTINE
PATRICK M. LINEBERRY
TIMOTHY J. LIST
THOMAS S. LOWRY
SCOTT M. MACCUMBEE
JILLIAN C. MALZONE
JOSE D. MARTIS
HEATHER R. MATTERN
MARK A. MCDONNELL
BRIAN J. MCCLAUGHLIN
BRIAN J. MCSORLEY
WILLIAM L. MEES, JR.
DAVID L. MELTON
ANDREW J. MEYERS
MATTHEW A. MICHAELIS
CAROLYN L. MOBERLEY
ROBERT S. MOHR
PETER M. MORISSEAU, JR.
MATTHEW A. MOYER
ANDRE C. MURPHY
BRANDY N. PARKER
BRIAN A. POTTER
SCOTT A. RAE
MICHAEL C. REED
TOBIAS C. REID
DANIEL P. ROGERS
JESSICA A. ROZZI-OCBS
TYSON J. SCOFIELD
MARC R. SENNIC
KRISTEN L. SERUMGARD
NICHOLAS R. SIMMONS
TIMOTHY C. SOMMELLA
PATRICK M. THOMPSON
MATTHEW J. WALDRON
JON T. WARNER
JESSICA S. WORST

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM RUGER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

CHAD F. WOLF, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE KIRSTJEN NIELSEN, RESIGNED.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 10, 2020:

THE JUDICIARY

DIANE GUJARATI, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

THOMAS T. CULLEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

HALA Y. JARBOU, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN.