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 service men 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
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 sight on the hills of Kandahar. 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 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 at least vote to move forward and have our 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 for delaying.

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—contraction 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 nonprofits 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 more than $20 billion 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 CORNYZ.

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 about leverage or an infinite set of things they don’t want to do. They can say they are afraid the breaking through the Democratic leader’s toxic attitude, who think the breakthrough will never become law.

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. The coronavirus is the enemy.

Today, 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.

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 the proposal so we can share 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 back.

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. Not one dollar. And 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 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 something 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 negotiations work, and we knew that we would have to give ground 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—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 priorities Democrats think are important. To give one example, 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 give them some money. It is better than no money.

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 can into the CARES Act. 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 over 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 use coronavirus 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 votes were going to happen in big 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 they prefer 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 Assistant Clerk called 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, emasculated 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 none of his idea of bipartisanship, nor even his own Members'.

Let’s go over history. He has done this trick before: COVID 2, COVID 3, COVID 4. In every 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 that 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 the only bill that will pass this time because it is so emasculated, so filled with poison pills, so partisan—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? The American people. 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, 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 Mr. Leader to bill 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? Is it 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—and no money. 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 emasculated 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 shortchanges 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 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 don’t want to work on this 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 here and in the House of Representatives 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-Bolton-wooded 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 talks 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. We have had no leadership. 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 should go about their business. 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. He would not 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 is in his interest; 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 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.)

TRANSPORT

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 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 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 didn’t want to “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.

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. 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 $900 a week in additional Federal supplement and unemployment to families who were facing layoffs and closures of their businesses. We helped
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 and 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 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 a flood 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 everywhere must make sure 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: Senator McConnell, 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 followed the protocols, if you have followed 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.

What I want to reinforce is, we will have an opportunity here to vote on a measure today that is not everything we need at this moment in history. 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 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 would 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 will we have an opportunity to vote on today is a targeted relief measure. It is targeted toward our small businesses. 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 constituents, who 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 or 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 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, thatallowed 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, 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 unemployment insurance will not be a full $600, but it does allow for additional support for those who are suffering most.

Again, what we are trying to do is 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, despite 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. I will say 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. That is all 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 that says: 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 technologies to recover rare earth elements from coal and coal byproducts. It authorizes the Department of Energy to conduct research to develop advanced technologies to recover rare earth elements from coal and coal byproducts. It authorizes. It does not appropriate. It authorizes $23 million a year for 7 fiscal years.

We see this as 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 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.

I 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 the amendments 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 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 going to be a corporate welfare to large companies. We 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 are绝对不会 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 we are being used to fast-track coal mining. 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 is 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 does not 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, is important. I think it is unfortunate we are being used to fast-track coal mining. 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, but I think it is important that we look forward to the upcoming months giving them notable relief from an economic perspective.
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 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.]

The bill clerk called the roll.

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

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.]

The bill clerk read as follows:

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 to the Senate 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:

[Roll Call Vote No. 168 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Alexander       Fischer       Portman
Barrasso       Gardner       Risch
Blackburn       Graham       Roberts
Blumenthal       Grassley       Romney
Boozman       Hawley       Rounds
Braun       Hoeven       Rubio
Burr       Hyde-Smith       Sanders
Capito       Inhofe       Scott (FL)
Chambliss       Johnson       Scott (SC)
Collins       Kennedy       Shelby
Coryn       Lankford       Sullivan
Cotton       Lee       Thune
Craner       Leffler       Tillis
Crapo       McConnell       Tester
Cruz       McCaskill       Vitter
Daines       Moran       Wicker
Enzi       Markowski       Young
Ernst       Perdue

NAYS—47

Baldwin       Harris       Rosen
Bennet       Hirono       Sanders
Blumenthal       Jones       Schatz
Booher       Kaine       Schumer
Brown       King       Shaheen
Cantwell       Klobuchar       Sinema
Cardin       Leahy       Smith
Carper       Manchin       Stabenow
Casey       Markley       Tester
Coxons       Menendez       Tester
Cortez Masto       Merkley       Udall
Duckworth       Murphy       Warner
Durbin       Murray       Wyden
Feinstein       Paul       Wyden
Gillibrand       Peters       Whitehouse
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 our servicemembers, in 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 believed in 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—as 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 cropped 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 colleague 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...
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 not 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 recognition they earned and deserved. 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 said 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. They deserve a Commander in Chief who respects them, who honors their service, and, frankly, who gets it. Thank goodness we have people who love our Nation so much. They love our Nation so much. The 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 quitter.

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 quitters.

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.

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 Nation so much. They are willing to put their lives on the line for our democracy, our people, and our way of life.

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.

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 the pandemic. 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.

So of course, it is not 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 had the last 5.4 million people get a job, 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.

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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, 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 economy 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 much more 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 useful.

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 people have seen the 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. The bottom K is not.

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, many of these, 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 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 well, and others are still having a tough 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, 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 were pushing for wage 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 is 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 it 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 bill that we have 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 provisions 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 that is critical. 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 multicity coalition approach to dealing with COVID-19. It includes hospitals, community health centers, pharmacies, mass vaccination venues, 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 that they are funding 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 premium. Even if you 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 President is involved in 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 closed. That is why we need to pass this 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. That is going great. They are finding good employees. 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 bill for the foreseeable future so that more will be saved, that is the 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 smart. We want this to be targeted and not wasted. 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, the $35 trillion bill that the House Democrats passed not too long ago as kind of their alternative, and it makes this point as well. I 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. I think it is important that they haven’t gotten on board because, frankly, the commercial lending is going pretty well right now. People are able get the money from their bank. They don’t need to come to Treasury or the Fed as much. We just need to make sure that 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 this kind of 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 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 this bill that was voted on today where the majority of Senators supported it and figure out how we can 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.

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 taxpayers’ money. As Members, we have to do better. 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 in this legislation. 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 get back on track. But we haven’t accomplished that yet.

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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. 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, which is very important. Companies that couldn’t access the PPP because they didn’t qualify or didn’t want to 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. 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 legislation that is needed, 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 lifesaver for many, possibly 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. Speaking of safety, I have also 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 people who 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 other combination. Speaking of safety, 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—the one we could do 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 partisan 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.

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 reads 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.


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 reads 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.


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 reads 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.


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.

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 David W.
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 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.


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


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 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.


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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 House-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 suspended classes 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. Even our leading health officials 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 products at food festivals. 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.

Aluminium congressional Democrats, I am fighting for billions of dollars 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 foreclosures 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 theguardian 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 in Maui that 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.

It will take 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.

Unlike the majority leader and Senate Republicans, who are fighting tooth and nail for 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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for my colleague Senator DUCKWORTH’S resolution honoring the service and sacrifices made by those of the U.S. Armed Forces and our veterans. The resolution right—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 the largest concentration of military personnel in the country. 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 Commanders in Chief and having names called in the roll call in his name. I ask that we not in any way diminish the value of the service for divisiveness and danger.

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 terminal cancer. The President has not — and did not — express regret for his comments, even after the reports of his terminal cancer. It is a crisis we maybe can manage if we act swiftly and decisively, but if we fail to heed the warnings, it is a crisis we will lose.

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 is the greatest and most ancient measure. But we see this and accept it as a matter of course.

The changes in our marine world are real. Oceans are acidifying, oceans are warming, and oceans are rising against our shores. These changes are measured; they are not hypothetical. 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 and 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 nearly three decades of satellite and ground-based data. The data showed that the 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 re-form the glaciers are not melting fast enough to replace the ice.

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 forecasting the sea level 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 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 Hiroshimais 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, 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 2020, 29, 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 parameters on 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 fuels, and the carbon dioxide 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 ocean is-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. 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 hurries 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 the Citizens United Supreme Court decision, fossil fuel dark money has squashed 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 was spent 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 inherit.

After the last decade of Citizens United time, is time 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.

REMEMBERING JIM THOMPSON
Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in 1978, I was the Democratic nominee for Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, running against 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 worth the view. 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. 1984–1990.”

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 trouble with re-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 worked 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’s executive committee. Jim also continued to serve his country as he was part of the 9/11 Commission, 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. I found hard to keep Jim’s 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 budgetary effects have been enacted. The first measure, the Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116–112, 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 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 substantially 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 outgoing 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 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 $86.6 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, and 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 the levels assumed in BBA21. Tables 1–2. This spending window 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 Senate in its 2021 deemed budget for this budget year. Over the fiscal year 2021–2025 and 2021–2030 period, revenues are $3 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 PAYGO rule—2021, Table 3. This rule is enforced under section 410 of the 2018 budget resolution. The Senate PAYGO scorecard currently shows enacted deficit increases in every enforceable window. The largest deficit 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 enactment filling 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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—Enacted Direct Spending Above (+) or Below (-) Budget Resolutions</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2021–2025</th>
<th>2021–2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Budget Authority</td>
<td>10,430</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>10,430</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed Services Budget Authority</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Budget Authority</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Science, and Transportation Budget Authority</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Natural Resources Budget Authority</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>14,420</td>
<td>5,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment and Public Works Budget Authority</td>
<td>8,058</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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<td>Finance Budget Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>49,452</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Foreign Relations Budget Authority</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Budget Authority</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judiciary Budget Authority</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
TABLE A.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—Enacted Direct Spending Above (+) or Below (−) Budget Resolutions—Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2021−2025</th>
<th>2021−2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health, Labor, and Pensions</td>
<td>−270</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules and Administration</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans’ Affairs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indebtedness</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Business</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Outlays</td>
<td>68,904</td>
<td>2,831</td>
<td>14,330</td>
<td>19,430</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>668,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonsecurity</td>
<td>621,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittees</td>
<td>668,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>23,499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>5,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Water Development</td>
<td>62,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services and General Government</td>
<td>64,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security</td>
<td>2,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>48,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Branch</td>
<td>23,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Level Total</td>
<td>45,112,329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table is current through September 4, 2020. 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. 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 Emergency and Overseas Contingency Operations Spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>671,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonsecurity</td>
<td>626,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services and General Government</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Branch</td>
<td>24,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs</td>
<td>83,233</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Level Total</td>
<td>45,112,329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table is current through September 4, 2020. 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.

TABLE D.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—Enacted Changes in Mandatory Spending Programs (CHIMPS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonsecurity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>5,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Water Development</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services and General Government</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>9,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Branch</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Level Total</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

TABLE E.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—Enacted Changes in Mandatory Spending Programs (CHIMPS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonsecurity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>5,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Water Development</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Services and General Government</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>9,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Branch</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Level Total</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table is current through September 4, 2020.

emergency spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.
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 116–197). 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).

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL, Director.

Enclosure.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Current Level Over/Under(–) Realization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>Revenues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Authority</td>
<td>4,318.8</td>
<td>4,307.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlays</td>
<td>3,947.1</td>
<td>4,002.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>274.5</td>
<td>265.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Outlays</td>
<td>961.2</td>
<td>961.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Revenues</td>
<td>940.4</td>
<td>940.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previously Enacted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanents and other spending legislation</td>
<td>2,307,769</td>
<td>2,039,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorizing and Appropriation legislation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>595,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offsetting receipts</td>
<td>954,573</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,443,196</td>
<td>1,950,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Enacted Legislation</td>
<td>2,740,538</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Appropriation Legislation | | |
| —Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 116–71) | -2 | -2 |
| —United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (P.L. 116–113) | -1 | -9 |
| —Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116–127) | 53,072 | 53,276 |
| —A bill to make technical corrections to the Guantánamo War on Terror Legacy Recognition Act (P.L. 116–132) | 12 | 12 |
| —Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116–142) | 1 | 1 |
| —Emergency Act for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116–148) | - | - |
| —The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (P.L. 116–149) | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 114,826 |

| Appropriation Legislation | | |
|——Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Div. A, PL. 116–59) | 0 | 0 |
| —Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. A–H, PL. 116–94) | 884,979 | 530,080 |
| —United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (Title H, P.L. 116–112) | 1,055,345 | 1,239,719 |
| —Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116–127) | 7,767 | 1,041 |
| —Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (PL. 116–139) | 2,471 | 843 |
| —Emergency Act for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116–148) | 1,239,719 | 1,239,719 |
| —The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019 (P.L. 116–149) | 1,113,132 |
| Total, Appropriation Legislation | 2,973,006 | 1,984,877 |
| Total, Enacted Legislation | 3,042,033 | 2,564,955 |
| Entitlements and Mandates | 0 | 0 |
| Current Level | 4,387,368 | 4,002,189 | 2,475,712 |
| Total Senate Resolution | 4,318,504 | 3,940,105 | 2,740,538 |
| Current Level Over Senate Resolution | 68,564 | 55,084 | n.a. |

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 (Budget Control Act). 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 these items.

b. Spending and revenue effects designated as an emergency pursuant to Section 412 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 | Outlays | Revenues |
|——Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116–130) | 1,442,111 | 937,876 | 568,425 |
| Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116–139) | 321,335 | 321,335 |
| Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (P.L. 116–140) | 5 | 5 |
| Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 (P.L. 116–142) | 0 | 0 |
| Emergency Act for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act (P.L. 116–148) | 10 | 10 |
| Total | 1,763,452 | 1,249,217 | 577,932 |

**Note:** 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.

**Note:** With the consultation with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and 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:
Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Division W, P.L. 116–94) ........................................... 7 0 0

\textsuperscript{1}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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorized Appropriation legislation</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>811,012</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanents and other spending legislation</td>
<td>2,509,325</td>
<td>2,416,968</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, General Appropriation legislation</td>
<td>2,655,056</td>
<td>3,341,206</td>
<td>2,800,378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ofsetting receipts</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>n.a.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total, Previously Enacted</td>
<td>1,029,909</td>
<td>-1,000,145</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revised Senate Resolution</th>
<th>4,318,804</th>
<th>3,947,105</th>
<th>2,740,538</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Senate Resolution</td>
<td>1,479,417</td>
<td>2,197,835</td>
<td>2,800,376</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{2}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 purpose 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 $146 million in estimates prior to outlays.

\textsuperscript{3}For 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. 116–31) do not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for budget-year amounts. As a result, amounts in this current level report do not include those items.

\textsuperscript{4}Current 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 $68,354 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Authority</th>
<th>Outlays</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68,354 million</td>
<td>-68,354</td>
<td>-68,354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{5}Section 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 budget 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.

\textsuperscript{6}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.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.
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 their businesses.

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.

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.

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. Picking up 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 all 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.

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.

(executed messages 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–5894. 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 defense proteins 2, 7, and 8; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a ‘Tolerance’” (FRL No. 1011–87–OSPP) 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.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

September 10, 2020

S5549

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; 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 Secretary 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 “Electronic Vote 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 Secretary 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: Executive Order 13667; Federal Credit for Taxpayers Affected by Ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic” (Notice 2020–23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the Secretary 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 Secretary on August 25, 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 Employment Tax Credits under the Families First Act and the CARES Act” (RIN1545–BP88) (TD 9903) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the Secretary on the President on August 24, 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” (RIN1558–AH01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the Secretary on the President on August 24, 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 Program Requirements for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals” (RIN0938–AU11) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the Secretary on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5342. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, 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” (RIN0919–AH08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on the Senate on August 28, 2020; to the Committee on Finance, 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 Program; Designation Renewal System” (RIN07970–AC77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5344. 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 “Standards of Care for Chimpanzees Held in the Federally Supported Sanctuary System” (RIN09925–AA66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on 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, 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 on the Senate on September 2, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5346. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Conflict of Interest Rule - Retirement Investment Advice: Notice of Court Vacatur” (RIN12190–AB96) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on the Senate on September 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. CAREY):
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 Ms. FEINSTEIN:
S. 4565. 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 Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBuchar):
S. 4566. 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. PETERS (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. FUSSELL, Mr. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Mr. ROYBAL-CASTRO, Mr. ROYBAL-CALIFORNIA, and Mr. TIARA):
S. 4567. A bill to amend the Federal Bureau of Investigation Act with respect to the appointment of Assistant Directors of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 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, Ms. SHAHEEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKSY, 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. SCHWARTZ, 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 (Ms. LEOPFELDER) 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. SCHWARTZ, 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 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 and 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 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. 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) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) 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. 3761
At the request of Mr. SCHWARTZ, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3761, a bill to amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 3793
At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKHLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3793, 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.

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.

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 biologic products, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. 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.

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.

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.

At the request of Ms. Smith, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4056, a bill to authorize grants to address substance use during COVID-19.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 liquor license operators and talent representatives.

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.

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.

At the request of Ms. Smith, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Rounds) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4355, a bill to provide emergency assistance for independent poultry growers, and for other purposes.

At the request of 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.

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.

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.

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. 4460

At the request of Ms. Smith, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Portman) 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. Blumenthal) 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 in the universal broadband service, and for other purposes.

S. 4497

At the request of Mr. Toomey, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. 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 to 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, to address 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 threats 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.

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.

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.

S. Res. 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:

WHEREAS Coya Geneve 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 1956;

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 Cornelia Geneve Gjesdal “Coya” Knutson died on November 28, 2019, at the age of 107.

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States do hereby jointly recognize the life and legacy of Coya Knutson, and encourage the people of the United States to honor her contributions to her family and community. Inasmuch as the Senate and House of Representatives wish to commemorate the life and legacy of Coya Knutson, the Senate and House hereby record their recognition. The Senate and House of Representatives do hereby commemorate the life and legacy of Coya Knutson.

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 the 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 Raúl 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 Harragan, Tony Cardenas, 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 11.9 percent rate of substance dependence or abuse, furthering underscored 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.
Whereas, in 1621, Coya Knutson lost reelection in 1996 at 82 years of age; and
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 exceptional student odds and devotion to the well-being of the United States shall serve as an inspiration for generations of individuals in the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2653. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; 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 depend on lobstering for their livelihood, 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, dating as far back as the 1800s 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 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 also 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.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2653. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2657, to amend subsection (f) of section 1401 et seq. of 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 the IDEA for low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

SA 2663. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill S. 2657, to amend subsection (f) of section 1401 et seq. of 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 the IDEA for low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.

SA 2677. Mr. BLOUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WAREN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHARAD, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WAREN) 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 depend on lobstering for their livelihood, 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 dating as far back as the 1800s 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;
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. 176, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang by 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:

SEC. 602. CORONAVIRUS LOCAL COMMUNITY STABILIZATION FUND.

(a) In General.—Title VI of the Social Security Act, as added by section 506(a) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136), is amended by adding at the end of the following:

(1) the relative 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 amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for the State for calendar year 2020, divided by

(ii) the total population of all States.

(ii) the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for a State and calendar year 2020 (as certified by the Governor of the State).

(B) Adjustments to Lost Revenue Amount.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), 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 the State for calendar year 2020 that results from:—

(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 in 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.

(iv) The sum of the amounts determined under paragraphs (1) and (2) for a State is determined under section 102 of such Act.

(C) Lost Revenue Amount.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for a State and calendar year 2020 shall be determined in the same manner as the amount paid to Tribal governments under subparagraph (C) of section 601 of the Tribal Consolidation Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5151).

(D) Combined Minimum Payment Amount for Relative Population and Relative Infected Population Amounts.—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.

(E) 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).

(F) States Described.—The States described in this subparagraph are each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

(G) 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 received by the State under paragraph (2) of that subsection with respect to each State:

(I) 50 percent of the amount so received; 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.

(H) Combined Minimum Payment Amount for Relative Population and Relative Infected Population Amounts.—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.

(I) Direct Payments to Counties and Municipalities Based on Relative 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 received; and

(ii) the quotient of—

(I) the population of the county or municipality (as applicable); and

(II) the total population of—

(a) in the case of a county, all counties in the State; or

(b) in the case of a municipality, all municipalities in the State.

(J) 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 received; and

(ii) the quotient of—

(I) the lost revenue amount determined for 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.

(K) Lost Revenue Amount.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the amount of revenue from taxes or other sources for a county and calendar year 2020 shall be determined in the same manner as the lost revenue amount for a State is determined under paragraph (4).

(L) 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.

(M) 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

(N) The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given that term in section 102 of such Act (25 U.S.C. 5101), 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. 1651 et seq.).
“(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);

“(ii) were accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, for the State or local government; and

“(ii) 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, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level.

“(2) OVERSIGHT.—The amounts paid under this subsection—

“(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 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 Treasury, in pari materia, shall audit and investigate under such Act that is declared in calendar year 2020.

“(4) CONSUMER PROTECTION.—(A) shall be subject to the oversight established for the consumption of regulated substances under subsection (e)(1)(C).

“(B) 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) PRODUCTIONS.—The term ‘produce’ does not include—

“(1) the manufacture of a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (including trace quantities) in the manufacture of another chemical; or

“(2) 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:

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<th>Chemical Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Exchange Value</th>
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<td>CHF,CHF</td>
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<td>1100</td>
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<td>HFC–134a</td>
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<td>CF,CF,CHF,CF</td>
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</tbody>
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Administrator a report that describes, as applies, uses as a process agent, or reclaims a less frequently than annually, each person determined by the Administrator, but not with the purposes of this section.

(2) REPORTS.—

(i) review the exchange values listed in the table contained in paragraph (1) on a periodic basis; and

(ii) 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—

(1) is a chemical substance that is a saturated hydrofluorocarbon; and

(2) 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.—

(I) 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 2015.

(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.—

(I) BASELINES.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), 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—

(1) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(2) 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—

(1) beginning on January 1, 2011; and

(2) 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) 0.62 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 exchange values for hydrochlorofluorocarbons and chlorofluorocarbons:

(ii) review the exchange values listed in the tables contained in clause (i) on a periodic basis; and

(iii) 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-DBW.—

(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):
of the regulated substance are subsequently another chemical, if the remaining amounts ical, except for the reporting requirements de- regulated substances under this section). applicable to the phase-down of production of program in accordance with the schedule through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with this section; and ulated substances in the United States issue a final rule— include a period of notice and opportunity for public comment, that the requirements de- (B) phasing down the production of regulated substances in the United States through an allowance allocation and trading program in accordance with this section; and (A) FEEDSTOCKS AND PROCESS AGENTS.—Ex- defendant fire suppression systems and systems such as armored vehicle engine and ship- (bb) defense sprays; (aa) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers; (cc) structural composite preformed poly- (ff) onboard aerospace fire suppression. (II) REQUIREMENT.—The allocation of al- (I) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding clause (I) and subject to clauses (II) and (III) and paragraphs (2) and (3), for the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Ad- ministrator may authorize a person to produce a 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 semicon- (ee) mission or military end uses, such as armored vehicle engine and ship- board fire suppression systems and systems used in deployable and expeditionary appli- (ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical; or (ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical; or (I) applications that receive an allocation under clause (i) of subsection (e)(4)(B); and (ii) continue to consume the same quantities of a regulated substance 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) REQUIREMENT.—The allocation of al- (I) IN GENERAL.—For each essential use ap- plication receiving an allocation of allow- ance, the Administrator shall review the availability of sub- stituents, including any quantities of the reg- ulated substance available from reclaiming or prior production, not less frequently than once every 5 years. (II) EXTENSION.—If, pursuant to a review under clause (I), the Administrator deter- mines, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, that the requirements de- scribed in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (I) are met, the Administrator shall authorize the 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) REQUIREMENT.—The application sub- mitted under subparagraph (A) shall— (I) be made at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Ad- ministrator 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 re- ceives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall— (I) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion— (aa) make the complete petition available to the public; and (bb) continue to receive public comment on the petition, take final action on the petition. (II) not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion, take final action on the petition. (D) ALLOCATIONS. (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 and consumption of regulated substances that may be used for the following calendar year. (ii) NATURE OF ALLOCATIONS. (A) IN GENERAL.—An allocation allowed 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. (B) REQUIREMENTS. (i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on 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). (ii) ESSENTIAL USES. (A) FEEDSTOCKS AND PROCESS AGENTS.—Except for the reporting requirements de- scribed in subsection (d)(1), this section does not apply to— (i) a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quanti- ties in the manufacture of another chemical); or (ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical; or (iii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical; or (ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical. (B) ALLOCATION. (I) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and clauses (i) and (ii), the Administrator may, after considering technical achievability, commercial de- mands, safety, and other relevant factors, including overall economic costs and environ- mental impacts compared to historical trends, allocate a quantity of allowances for a period of not more than 5 years for the pro- duction and consumption of a regulated sub- stance exclusively for the use of the regu- lated substance in an application solely for— (aa) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers; (bb) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers; (cc) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers; (dd) defense sprays; (ee) mission or military end uses, such as armored vehicle engine and ship- board fire suppression systems and systems used in deployable and expeditionary appli- cations; and (ff) onboard aerospace fire suppression. (II) REQUIREMENT.—The allocation of al- lowances under subclause (I) shall be deter- mined through a rulemaking. (V) REVIEW. (I) IN GENERAL.—For each essential use ap- plication receiving an allocation of allow- ance, the Administrator shall review the availability of sub- stituents, including any quantities of the reg- ulated substance available from reclaiming or prior production, not less frequently than once every 5 years. (II) EXTENSION.—If, pursuant to a review under clause (I), the Administrator deter- mines, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, that the requirements de- scribed in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (I) are met, the Administrator shall authorize the 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) REQUIREMENT.—The application sub- mitted under subparagraph (A) shall— (i) be made at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Ad- ministrator 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 re- ceives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall— (I) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion— (aa) make the complete petition available to the public; and (bb) continue to receive public comment on the petition, take final action on the petition. (II) not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion, take final action on the petition. (D) ALLOCATIONS. (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 and consumption of regulated substances that may be used for the following calendar year. (ii) NATURE OF ALLOCATIONS. (A) IN GENERAL.—An allocation allowed 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. (B) REQUIREMENTS. (i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on 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). (ii) ESSENTIAL USES. (A) FEEDSTOCKS AND PROCESS AGENTS.—Except for the reporting requirements de- scribed in subsection (d)(1), this section does not apply to— (i) a regulated substance that is used and entirely consumed (except for trace quanti- ties in the manufacture of another chemical); or (ii) a regulated substance that is used and not entirely consumed in the manufacture of another chemical. (B) ALLOCATION. (I) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and clauses (i) and (ii), the Administrator may, after considering technical achievability, commercial de- mands, safety, and other relevant factors, including overall economic costs and environ- mental impacts compared to historical trends, allocate a quantity of allowances for a period of not more than 5 years for the pro- duction and consumption of a regulated sub- stance exclusively for the use of the regu- lated substance in an application solely for— (aa) a propellant in metered-dose inhalers; (bb) defense sprays; (cc) structural composite preformed poly- urethane 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 semicon- (ee) mission or military end uses, such as armored vehicle engine and ship- board fire suppression systems and systems used in deployable and expeditionary appli- cations; and (ff) onboard aerospace fire suppression. (II) REQUIREMENT.—The allocation of al- lowances under subclause (I) shall be deter- mined through a rulemaking. (V) REVIEW. (I) IN GENERAL.—For each essential use ap- plication receiving an allocation of allow- ance, the Administrator shall review the availability of sub- stituents, including any quantities of the reg- ulated substance available from reclaiming or prior production, not less frequently than once every 5 years. (II) EXTENSION.—If, pursuant to a review under clause (I), the Administrator deter- mines, subject to notice and opportunity for public comment, that the requirements de- scribed in subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (I) are met, the Administrator shall authorize the 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) REQUIREMENT.—The application sub- mitted under subparagraph (A) shall— (i) be made at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Ad- ministrator 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 re- ceives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall— (I) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion— (aa) make the complete petition available to the public; and (bb) continue to receive public comment on the petition, take final action on the petition. (II) not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives the peti- tion, take final action on the petition. (D) ALLOCATIONS.
Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, factor in—

(I) the best available data, including relevant publicly available and peer-reviewed scientific and technical information;

(II) the availability of substitutes for uses of the regulated substance that is the subject of the petition, taking into account technological changes and costs of commercialization, safety, consumer costs, building codes, appliance efficiency standards, contractor training costs, and other relevant factors, including the regulated substance accessible from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import;

(III) economic, health, safety, and environmental impacts, as compared to historical or prior import;

(IV) the remaining phase-down period for regulation under the Administrator, if applicable.

(ii) shall use any authority available to the Administrator to acquire the necessary data.

(b) The Administrator determines that the data in support of the 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 clauses (I) through (IV) of subparagraph (C)(i).

(c) Insufficient Information.—If the Administrator determines that the data included under subparagraph (B)(i) in a petition are not sufficient to make a determination under this paragraph, the Administrator shall notify the petitioner.

(2) 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 clauses (I) through (IV) of subparagraph (C)(i).

(E) Insufficient Information.—If the Administrator determines that the data included under subparagraph (B)(i) in a petition are not sufficient to make a determination under this paragraph, the Administrator shall notify the petitioner.

(f) RECLAIMING.—A regulated substance used as a refrigerant; or

(g) Exchange Authority.—

(1) T RANSFERS.—Not later than 270 days after the date on which the Administrator receives a petition under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall promulgate a final rule that governs the transfer of allowances for the production of regulated substances under subsection (e)(2) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 609(b)) that takes effect on the date that the Administrator publishes the final rule.

(ii) The Administrator may not promulgate under paragraph (1) a regulation for the production or consumption of refrigerants that is more stringent than the production or consumption levels required under subsection (e)(2)(C) that takes effect before January 1, 2025.

(3) RECLAIMING.—

(1) 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 reclaiming and ensuring the safety of technicians and consumers, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, the exchange value described in the paragraph and 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 promote the treatment and disposal of regulated substances used as refrigerants.

(2) RECLAMING.—

(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 reclaiming and ensuring the safety of technicians and consumers, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, the exchange value described in the paragraph and 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 promote the treatment and disposal of regulated substances used as refrigerants.

(B) RECOVERY.—A regulated substance used as a refrigerant that is recovered shall be reclaimed.

(C) MATCHING FUNDS.—The non-Federal share of a project carried out with a grant shall be no less than 30 percent.

(ii) the Administrator determines that the data in support of the petition under subparagraph (A), the final regulations issued under subsection (e)(3), if applicable.

(ii) the Administrator determines that the data in support of the petition under subparagraph (A), the final regulations issued under subsection (e)(3), if applicable.

(C) 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.

(1) RULEMAKING.—

(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.—If the Administrator negotiates a rulemaking with stakeholders using the procedure described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, the exchange value described in the paragraph and 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 promote the treatment and disposal of regulated substances used as refrigerants.

(F) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of maximizing reclamation and minimizing the reclamation and recycling of regulated substances that are the subject of regulations under this subsection (e), the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to carry out this subsection (e).
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; and

(C) overall economic costs and environmental impacts, as compared to historical factors, including the quantities of regulated substances available from reclaiming, prior production, or prior import;

(D) the remaining phase-down period for regulated substances under the final rule issued under subsection (e)(3), if applicable;

(E) 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 extended under clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of this subsection, which the Administrator, has not enacted or otherwise established under subsection (e)(2), as applicable, and the requirements of this section shall apply to—

(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) increase the production limits established under subsection (e)(2)(B) as required 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).

(5) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) RULEMAKING.—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 as though this section were extended under clause (i) of subclause (I) of that subsection; or

(ii) the maximum production level permitted for the applicable regulated substance within that exclusive use for which a management or use of a regulated substance is extended under clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of this subsection, which the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(6) 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 management or use of a regulated substance 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.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), if, pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subsection (e)(4)(B)(v), the Administrator authorizes an additional period under subclause (II) of that subsection for the production or consumption of the regulated substance for which an exclusive use is 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.

(2) 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 committee executive business meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic 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 reads 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 first 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 reads 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 consider the nomination of Michael T. Scarsi, under the previous order; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion filed during today's session be disposed of, and finally, that the joint resolution be considered read a third time, and passed.

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 until 3 p.m., Monday, September 21, 2020.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate is so ordered.

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 did the Republican-led Senate do 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 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 help the mass 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. They are 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 save the lives of teachers, nurses, firefighters, and construction workers that will take place in cities and States as cities and States struggle economically. 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 by the Republican Senate 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 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 passed 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 $86. I saved as much as I could during the extra 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 would 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 all $300 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. We need to be 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 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 improve the health and well-being of the American working 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, the time is now to make the right choice 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. We 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 officers 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 691:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT J. SKEFFER

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 while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 691:

To be brigadier general

COL. WILLIAM F. MCCINTOCK

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officers 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 691:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL S. GROSIO

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 1121:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAIL H. DAY
CAPT. MARY M. DING
CAPT. CHARLES F. FOSIER
CAPT. CHAD L. JACOBY
CAPT. CAROLINA J. G. LENT
CAPT. MICHAEL W. RAYMOND
CAPT. EDWARD M. S. FURRIER

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated in the reserve of the air force under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12320 and 1221:

To be colonel

PAUL JEFFREY AFFLECK
JENNIFER M. AUFKE
BRADLEY D. BALL
DAVID M. BATELEDIER
MICHAEL JASON BLAIR
MICHAEL FORBY BLAIR
CHAD C. BOARD
JUNIOR BOHLMAN
MICHAEL W. BACON
DONALD R. BRASKETT, JR.
RUSSELL K. BRAY
MATTHEW C. BRENNER
FREDERICK MICHAEL BROOKS
RICHARD L. A. CAM E
STEVEN LEE CAMPBELL
JORDAN CARLO
KYLE C. CRISP
WILLIAM LAWRENCE CARRABER
ROBERT N. CAVNESS
JENNIFER WEST CARLOSELLI
JAMIE CHAINEY
LADIESA CRAWFORD CLARK
BRIAN JAMES CLAUS

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

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S5561
To be mayor

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 624:

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 V. VANARTSDAALS

IN THE ARMY

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 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 major

MATTHEW R. 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

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

JEREMY L. GODFREY

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 colonel

MATTHEW J. WALDRON

IN THE MARINE CORPS

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 major

LUKE D. ZUMBUSCH

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 colonel

RICHARD M. RUSSEK

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 colonel

DAMON K. BURROWS

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

STEVEN C. ACOSTA

EDWARD W. AMLAND

THOMAS A. ANDREICH

JOSEPH M. BALDWIN

PETER M. BRITTON

To be major

BRIAN D. PETERS

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 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:
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5525–S5562

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4555–4565, and S. Res. 687–688.

Measures Passed:

National Lobster Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 688, designating September 25, 2020, as “National Lobster Day”.

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed 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.

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed 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.

House Messages:

Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act: By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 168), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to 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, with McConnell Amendment No. 2652, in the nature of a substitute.

Appointments:

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: The Chair announced, 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.

Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 116–92, appointed the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking: Senator Cotton, and Victor L. Brown of Kentucky.

Scarsi Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, September 10, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, September 10, 2020 ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 14, 2020.

Blumenfeld Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.
Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5538

**Holcomb Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5538

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5538

**Robinson Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5538

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5538

**Dugan Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of David W. Dugan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of David W. Dugan, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5539

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5539

**McGlynn Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stephen P. McGlynn, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Stephen P. McGlynn, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5539

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5539

**Johnston Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5539

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5539

**Valderrama Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S5539

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S5539

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- By 83 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 165), Hala Y. Jarbou, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan.
By 79 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 166), Thomas T. Cullen, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. EX. 167), Diane Gujarati, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:
- William Ruger, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
- Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.
- 1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.
- 1 Army nomination in the rank of general.
- 7 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.
- 1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.
- Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy.

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.
PROTECTING DEMOCRACY DURING COVID–19 IN EUROPE AND EURASIA AND THE DEMOCRATIC AWAKENING IN BELARUS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and the Environment held a hearing entitled “Protecting Democracy During COVID–19 in Europe and Eurasia and the Democratic Awakening in Belarus”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION’S SCHOOL REOPENING GUIDANCE DURING THE COVID–19 PANDEMIC

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing entitled “Examining the Bureau of Indian Education’s School Reopening Guidance During the COVID–19 Pandemic”. Testimony was heard from Lance Witte, Superintendent and Principal, Lower Brule Schools, South Dakota; and public witnesses.

PROVIDING THE CENSUS BUREAU WITH THE TIME TO PRODUCE A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE CENSUS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Providing the Census Bureau with the Time to Produce a Complete and Accurate Census”. Testimony was heard from J. Christopher Mihm, Managing Director, Strategic Issues Team, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

KICK STARTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MAIN STREET ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship held a hearing entitled “Kick Starting Entrepreneurship and Main Street Economic Recovery”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a business meeting to Reauthorize the Women Veterans’ Task Force. The Women Veterans’ Task Force was reauthorized.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on hearing on H.R. 7541, the “VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project”; H.R. 7504, the “VA Clinical TEAM Culture Act of 2020”; H.R. 7784, the “VA Police Improvement and Accountability Act”; H.R. 7879, the “VA Telehealth Expansion Act”; H.R. 7747, the “VA Solid Start Reporting Act”; H.R. 7964, the “Peer Support for Veteran Families Act”; H.R. 3450, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system; H.R. 3788, the “VA Child Care Protection Act of 2019”; H.R. 3826, the “Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act”; H.R. 6092, the “Veteran’s Prostate Cancer Treatment and Research Act”; H.R. 7469, the “Modernizing Veterans’ Healthcare Eligibility Act”; H.R. 8005, the “Veterans Access to Online Treatment Act”; H.R. 8053, the “Access to Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act”; H.R. 8084, the “Lethal Means Safety Training Act”; H.R. 8068, the “American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans Mental Health Act”; H.R. 8149, the “VA Precision Medicine Act”; H.R. 8148, the “VA Data Analytics and Technology Assistance Act”; H.R. 8108, the “VA Serious Mental Illness Act”; H.R. 8144, the “VA Mental Health Staffing Improvement Act”; H.R. 8145, the “VA Mental Health Counseling Act”; H.R. 8130, the “VA Peer Specialists Act”; H.R. 8107, the “VA Emergency Department Safety Planning Act”; H.R. 8147, the “TREAT Act”; legislation on the Veterans’ ACCESS Act; legislation on the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment Act of 2020; legislation on the Ensuring Veterans’ Smooth Transition Act; legislation on the VA Research Technology Act; legislation on the VA High Altitude and Suicide Research Act; legislation on the VA Expanded Care Hours Act; and legislation on the Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act of 2020. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CARIBBEAN BASIN TRADE PARTNERSHIP ACT: CONSIDERATIONS FOR RENEWAL

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing entitled “The Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act: Considerations for Renewal”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.
House

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Biological Research at the Department of Energy: Leveraging DOE’s Unique Capabilities to Respond to the COVID–19 Pandemic”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing entitled “Consequences of Inaction on COVID Tax Legislation”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Assessing the U.S.-Saudi Security and Intelligence Relationship”, 12 p.m., Webex.
**Next Meeting of the SENATE**

3 p.m., Monday, September 14

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**Senate Chamber**

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

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**Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

1 p.m., Friday, September 11

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**House Chamber**

**Program for Friday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 1 p.m.