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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Merciful God we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of the people's House return to Washington, keep them safe in their travels. You know well the dangers confronting the citizens of our Nation: extreme weather events, ongoing pandemic effects, economic distress and impending loss of employment, and even housing.

Fill the Members with wisdom, patience, and determination to address these needs as so many dangers continue to close in on our communities.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

IN HONOR OF CORPORAL WESLEY A. RODD

(Mrs. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Marine Corps Corporal Wesley Alexander Rodd, who was killed during a training accident off the coast of Southern California on July 30 of this year and was just laid to rest last Saturday.

Born in Houston, he was a resident of Cypress for 17 years. Just 4 months ago, he became a father. After graduating from Cy-Fair High School in 2016, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, and he served as a rifleman with the Bravo Company.

We are grateful to him for his service to our country—for his dedication and for his sacrifice—and it is fitting that we, the people he defended, honor him today on the floor of this House, in this Chamber. And as we do so, we honor the loss and the grief and the sacrifice of his wife, Jamie; his 4-month-old son, Ezra; his mother, Valarie; and all of his family, his friends, and his fellow marines. All Americans are forever in their debt—and he will be forever in our hearts.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

STEP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6133) to reauthorize the State

Trade Expansion Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6133

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "STEP Improvement Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM.

(a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 22(l)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(l)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting "including a budget plan for use of funds awarded under this subsection" before the period at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) TIMING.—The Associate Administrator shall—

"(I) publish information on how to apply for a grant under this subsection, including specific calculations and other determinations used to award such a grant, not later than March 31 of each year;

"(II) establish a deadline for the submission of applications that is not earlier than 60 days after the date on which the information is published under subclause (I), but in any case not later than May 31; and

"(III) announce grant recipients not later than August 31 of each year.";

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

"(E) APPLICATION INFORMATION.—The Associate Administrator shall clearly communicate to applicants and grant recipients any information about State Trade Expansion Program, including—

"(i) for each unsuccessful applicant for a grant awarded under this subsection, recommendations to improve a subsequent application for such a grant; and

"(ii) for each successful applicant for such a grant, an explanation for the amount awarded, if different from the amount requested in the application.

"(F) BUDGET PLAN REVISIONS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant under this subsection may revise the budget

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D) after the disbursal of grant funds if—

“(I) the revision complies with allowable uses of grant funds under this subsection; and

“(II) such State submits notification of the revision to the Associate Administrator.

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—If a revision under clause (i) reallocates 10 percent or more of the amounts described in the budget plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D), the State may not implement the revised budget plan without the approval of the Associate Administrator, unless the Associate Administrator fails to approve or deny the revised plan within 10 days after receipt of such revised plan.”.

(b) SURVEY.—Section 22(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(1)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

“(7) SURVEY.—The Associate Administrator shall conduct an annual survey of each State that received a grant under this subsection during the preceding year to solicit feedback on the program.”.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 22(1)(8)(B) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) in subclause (III), by inserting “, including the total number of eligible small business concerns assisted by the program (disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns)” before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subclause (IV), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in subclause (V)—

(i) by striking “description of best practices” and inserting “detailed description of best practices”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new subclauses:

“(VI) an analysis of the performance metrics described in clause (iii) and the survey described in paragraph (7); and

“(VII) a description of lessons learned by grant recipients under this subsection that may apply to other assistance provided by the Administration.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—Annually, the Associate Administrator shall collect data on eligible small business concerns assisted by the program on the following performance metrics:

“(I) Total number of such concerns, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns.

“(II) Total dollar amount of export sales by eligible small business concerns assisted by the program.

“(III) Number of such concerns that have not previously participated in an activity described in paragraph (2).

“(IV) Number of such concerns that have previously participated in the program.

“(V) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have accessed a new market.

“(VI) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have created new jobs.

“(VII) Number of such concerns participating in foreign trade missions or trade

show exhibitions, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns.”.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 22(1)(10) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended by striking “fiscal years 2016 through 2020” and inserting “fiscal years 2021 through 2024”.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Associate Administrator for International Trade of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report on the State Trade Expansion Program established under section 22(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(1)) that includes a description of—

(1) the process developed for review of revised budget plans submitted under section 22(1)(3)(F) of the Small Business Act, as added by this Act;

(2) any changes made to streamline the application process to remove duplicative requirements and create a more transparent process;

(3) the process developed to share best practices by States described in section 22(1)(8)(B)(i)(V) (as redesignated by this Act), particularly for first-time grant recipients under the State Trade Expansion Program or grant recipients that are facing problems using grant funds; and

(4) the process developed to communicate, both verbally and in writing, relevant information about the State Trade Expansion Program to all grant recipients in a timely manner.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6133, the STEP Improvement Act of 2020.

Before I begin, I thank Ranking Member CHABOT for his dedication to small businesses and for his continued effort to ensure the Committee on Small Business works in a bipartisan manner. Staying true to the tradition of our committee, the bills we are debating today are all bipartisan and passed through committee by unanimous consent, thanks to the cooperation of Members on both sides of the aisle. I commend and thank all of the committee members for their work on those bills and their passion to put forth policies that make a difference in the lives of entrepreneurs.

Mr. Speaker, today's bill is one of those passion projects. After many

hearings about the challenges and benefits of exporting and trade for America's business owners, this bill addresses many of the concerns raised. It reauthorizes the SBA State Trade Expansion Program—otherwise known as STEP—a proven and effective program that gives small businesses the tools they need to enter and thrive in the global marketplace.

STEP has helped small firms export and access new markets, supporting \$974 million in export sales in fiscal year 2019 alone. With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to decimate local economies and disrupting supply chains, the STEP program will be needed now more than ever. It will help small businesses navigate the complexities of an international marketplace, particularly as the country and world reopen for business. The STEP Improvement Act of 2020 funds STEP through fiscal year 2024 while making important improvements to modernize the program.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that this legislation has the support of the State International Development Organizations. I thank its cosponsors, Representative FINKENAUER, who is also the chair of the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship; and Representative SPANO, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, for their continued bipartisan work to improve STEP.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to support H.R. 6133 today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6133, the STEP Improvement Act of 2020. This legislation will authorize the SBA State Trade Expansion Program—or STEP—for the next 4 years. This important program facilitates small business participation in trade missions and shows, international marketing efforts, workshops, and other promotional activities.

The Small Business Act of 2010 authorized the SBA to establish a 3-year STEP pilot grant initiative. The program has two objectives: One, increase the number of small businesses that export; and, two, raise the value of existing small business exporters.

The Associate Administrator of the Office of International Trade is responsible for overseeing the program and awards, matching funds to States and territories for participation in trade missions, international marketing efforts, workshops, export trade show exhibits, and other promotional activities.

The Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 renamed the program the State Trade Expansion Program and provided a \$30 million authorization through fiscal year 2020. The act allowed the Associate Administrator of the Office of International

Trade to give priority to STEP proposals from States that have a small number of small businesses that export or proposals that would assist rural, women-owned, and socially or economically disadvantaged small businesses.

This legislation will improve the implementation of the program by creating a standardized application process, increasing grant spending flexibility, improving communication between the SBA and States, and collecting performance metrics and reporting to Congress.

H.R. 6133 reinforces our commitment to seeing that the SBA fulfills its goals relating to the STEP program and maximizes every dollar to help small businesses reach their potential in the international market. The bill provides greater flexibility to State trade agencies and enhances accountability at the SBA—a balance that will greatly improve program functions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Iowa (Ms. FINKENAUER), and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO), for their leadership on this bill. And I especially thank the chair of the Committee on Small Business for her great leadership on the committee and the bipartisan work that we have done on this for such a long time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and I have had the opportunity to work on the committee for many years now, and it is truly one of the committees in this Congress that works because it is bipartisan, and that is why we have been able to pass such important legislation and work so hard on the PPP and other programs over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Ms. FINKENAUER), the sponsor of the bill and chair of the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. FINKENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for yielding. It is an honor to get to serve on the Committee on Small Business with her, and I appreciate her support as we dive into these issues that are obviously of big importance to me and to my State of Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, that is why, today, I rise in support of the bipartisan State Trade Expansion Program Improvement Act.

As the Congresswoman from Iowa's First Congressional District, I know firsthand that for our small businesses, the ability to access new markets and export goods promotes economic success at home and in our communities.

Given the importance of trade in my home State—especially for our farmers, small businesses, and manufacturers—I have made it a priority to improve and strengthen the State Trade Expansion Program. The State Trade Expansion Program gives small busi-

nesses the tools they need to start exporting and expanding into new markets. Many small businesses operate within razor-thin margins and have only a few employees.

They don't always have the resources to attend a trade show, design an international marketing campaign, or navigate foreign countries' complex rules and regulations. That is where the State Trade Expansion Program comes in.

It is important that we reauthorize this program before it expires at the end of the month. At the same time, we also need to fix some of the program's administrative challenges, which we have heard about from folks in Iowa and other stakeholders who have come before my subcommittee.

□ 1415

In the Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship Subcommittee that I chair with Ranking Member JOYCE from Pennsylvania, we held two hearings dedicated to better understanding and addressing challenges with the State Trade Expansion Program. I also held a roundtable in my district to hear from the Iowa Economic Development Authority, and small businesses have actually used this program.

What we heard was that the State Trade Expansion Program is a great resource for our State, but we also heard about confusing application processes, tight timelines, and poor communication from staff at the Small Business Administration.

That is why today, taking all of that feedback I have heard here in D.C. and back at home, I am proud we are here to pass the bipartisan STEP Improvement Act of 2020.

This bill would reauthorize the State Trade Expansion Program for 4 more years and make improvements; like creating a standard timeframe for applications; opening up more channels for input and communication between the Small Business Administration and the States; and collecting better data on how the program helps small businesses, which is the ultimate goal here.

I want to thank Congressman ROSS SPANO from Florida, whom I worked with on introducing this bipartisan legislation, as well as Congressman JIM HAGEDORN from Minnesota for cosponsoring this bill.

I will also note that this legislation passed through the House Small Business Committee unanimously. I want to thank my Republican and Democratic colleagues for working together to move this forward.

I urge all Members of this body to join Congressmen SPANO, HAGEDORN, and me in supporting this bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SPANO), who is the ranking member of the Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations Subcommittee.

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I always appreciate coming to the floor to talk

about the good bipartisan work that we do in the Small Business Committee. It truly has been an honor serving on that committee this term.

I rise today in support of H.R. 6133, the STEP Improvement Act of 2020, which reauthorizes the SBA's State Trade Expansion Program, or STEP, for the next 4 years.

The program helps small exporters expand their markets, grow their businesses, and create new American jobs.

In fiscal year 2019, STEP helped small businesses export over \$974 million in goods and services, which yielded a 54-to-1 return on investment.

The program enhances State and Federal export efforts, facilitates coordination of services, and expands the resources available to our Nation's small businesses.

Last year, the committee held a series of hearings to evaluate the STEP program.

In March 2019, representatives from the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the SBA's Office of Inspector General identified program management weaknesses and recommended reforms.

In June 2019, we received testimony from State administrators and small businesses that have successfully utilized STEP funds.

Our committee has carefully reviewed oversight reports and stakeholder feedback to determine the appropriate path in this reauthorization.

With these recommendations in mind, H.R. 6133 streamlines the program's administration from the application process to the reporting requirements.

Thousands of our small businesses are competing in the global economy through the STEP program. Now more than ever, we need to support small businesses as our economy is recovering.

In my home State of Florida, more than 55,000 small businesses export their goods and services, and this program will help them and their employees.

In passing H.R. 6133, we maximize the potential of our small exporters.

Thank you to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Ms. FINKENAUER) for working with me on this piece of legislation and her commitment to bipartisan cooperation.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, the SBA's STEP program provides financial awards to State and territory governments to assist small businesses with export development.

The financial support that STEP provides helps small businesses to learn how to export, participate in foreign trade missions and trade shows, and design international marketing products or campaigns.

It is a commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to

support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses are truly the bedrock of the American economy. Unsurprisingly, foreign markets are essential to their growth. While more and more of our local businesses are making inroads abroad, they are not without challenges.

International trade has always been a complex undertaking, dependent on global macroeconomic trends as well as country-specific trade policies and resources.

Regardless, it is critical entrepreneurs can compete in this marketplace. Doing so gives them access to more customers, which in turn fuels growth and generates jobs here at home.

H.R. 6133, the STEP Improvement Act of 2020, will go a long way to ensuring the recovery and success of our Nation's small businesses. By reauthorizing and modernizing STEP, this legislation guarantees that States and their entrepreneurs will face fewer obstacles to participation and greater opportunities to expand their businesses through exporting.

This bill is needed now more than ever as the world seeks to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic fallout.

Once again, I applaud my esteemed colleagues, Representative FINKENAUER and Representative SPANO, for their hard work on this legislation.

I commend the ranking member and his staff for their commitment to advancing this legislation in a bipartisan manner through our committee.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6133.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MICROLOAN IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6079) to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6079

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Microloan Improvement Act of 2020”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Interest rate for certain intermediaries.

Sec. 3. Lines of credit authorized.

Sec. 4. Extended repayment terms.

Sec. 5. Loan limits adjusted.

Sec. 6. Program funding for microloans.

Sec. 7. Technical assistance grant flexibility.

Sec. 8. Credit reporting information.

Sec. 9. Report regarding equitable distribution.

SEC. 2. INTEREST RATE FOR CERTAIN INTERMEDIARIES.

Section 7(m)(3)(F)(iii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(F)(iii)) is amended by striking “\$7,500” and inserting “\$10,000”.

SEC. 3. LINES OF CREDIT AUTHORIZED.

Section 7(m)(6)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)(A)) is amended by inserting “(including lines of credit)” after “fixed rate loans”.

SEC. 4. EXTENDED REPAYMENT TERMS.

Section 7(m)(6) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) REPAYMENT TERMS.—

“(i) LIMITATION ON REPAYMENTS TERM.—The repayment term for a loan made under this paragraph shall not be more than—

“(I) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of \$10,000 or less, 7 years; and

“(II) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of greater than \$10,000, 10 years.

“(ii) NO ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Administrator may not impose any additional limitation on the term for repayment of a loan made by an intermediary under this paragraph.”.

SEC. 5. LOAN LIMITS ADJUSTED.

Section 7(m)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(C)) is amended by striking “and \$6,000,000” and inserting “and \$7,000,000 (in the aggregate)”.

SEC. 6. PROGRAM FUNDING FOR MICROLOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7)(B)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

“(i) ALLOCATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and for the first 2 quarters of a fiscal year, of the total amount of new loan funds made available for award under this subsection in such fiscal year, the Administrator shall—

“(I) reserve 15 percent of such funds for award to designated underutilized States; and

“(II) make the remaining 85 percent of such funds available for award in any State.”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “to carry out” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “under clause (i)(I) remains unexpended, the Administrator may make that portion available for award in any State or designated underutilized State.”; and

(2) in paragraph (11)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) the term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.”.

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue regulations to define

the term “designated underutilized State”, as used in section 7(m)(7)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(7)(B)), as added by this section.

SEC. 7. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FLEXIBILITY.

Section 7(m)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “subparagraph (C)” each place that term appears and inserting “subparagraphs (C) and (G)”;

(2) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

(A) by striking “subparagraph (A)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A) and (G)”;

(B) by striking the dollar figure and inserting “\$10,000”;

(3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “subparagraph (A), or (C)” and inserting “subparagraph (A), (C), or (G)”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) GRANT AMOUNTS BASED ON APPROPRIATIONS.—In any fiscal year in which the amount appropriated to make grants under subparagraph (A) is sufficient to provide to each intermediary that receives a loan under paragraph (1)(B)(i) a grant of not less than 25 percent of the total outstanding balance of loans made to the intermediary under this subsection, the Administrator shall make a grant under subparagraph (A) to each intermediary of not less than 25 percent and not more than 30 percent of that total outstanding balance.”.

SEC. 8. CREDIT REPORTING INFORMATION.

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules establishing a process under which an intermediary that makes a loan to a borrower under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) shall be required to provide the major credit reporting agencies with information about the borrower relevant to credit reporting, such as the borrower's payment activity on the loan.

SEC. 9. REPORT REGARDING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.

Section 7(m)(8) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(8)) is amended—

(1) by striking “In approving” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In approving”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Administrator shall include in the report submitted under paragraph (10), and make publicly available on the website of the Administration, information on how the Administration has met the requirements of subparagraph (A).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and included extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 6079, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2020, a bill that makes important improvements to the SBA's microloan program.

Many entrepreneurs lack the experience as business owners, which is needed to demonstrate their creditworthiness to conventional lenders. We have heard time and again the heart-wrenching stories from entrepreneurs about the challenges they face, not just securing capital, but also operating their businesses.

While the SBA has numerous programs designed to meet each of these challenges, the microloan program is unique in that it provides entrepreneurs with both the affordable capital needed to start up and the technical assistance needed to boost their ability to succeed and repay.

This program is a key resource for startup, newly established, and growing small businesses. It has provided millions of dollars in financing and technical assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs since its inception.

By providing loans to nonprofit intermediaries, which in turn lend funds to the smallest of small businesses, the program helps borrowers streamline their operations, grow to profitability, and create new jobs.

The microloan program was a critical piece of the puzzle to grow the Nation's entrepreneurs before the pandemic. It is now more important than ever to strengthen and modernize the program as we face a sustained economic recession in the middle of a global pandemic.

Earlier this Congress, the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access, under the leadership of Mr. ANDY KIM, held a hearing on the microloan program where we heard from a panel of intermediaries who reported that some of the program's rules, largely unchanged since 1991, are outdated and restricting them from meeting today's demand for startup financing and providing more technical assistance.

In response, Mr. KIM worked hard with Mr. BURCHETT to craft the Microloan Improvement Act of 2020, a series of reasonable proposals designed to update the program's rules and ultimately help microloan intermediaries extend more affordable capital to first-time entrepreneurs.

Just a few of the central changes in the bill include eliminating an outdated and onerous rule that has restricted the ability of high-volume intermediaries to meet demand in their respective States, lowering interest rates for eligible intermediaries, and extending repayment terms in a tiered manner to provide greater flexibility to businesses.

These changes are long overdue, and I am pleased that we are taking a vote on them today.

Finally, I want to thank Mr. KIM and Mr. BURCHETT for their hard work and applaud their efforts to make bipartisan improvements to this valuable program.

I recommend a "yes" to all my colleagues in the House, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in order to assist small-dollar borrowers, the SBA offers the microloan program, where small businesses can receive loans of up to \$50,000 or less from nonprofit intermediaries.

Beyond the financing support, the microloan program also requires these nonprofit intermediaries to deliver technical assistance and counseling to small business borrowers.

This two-pronged approach has proven again and again to provide lower-dollar borrowers a leg up in starting or sustaining their small businesses. The program registered record highs in fiscal year 2019, with over 5,500 loans approved for over \$80 million.

I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for working in a bipartisan manner to introduce H.R. 6079, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2020.

This bill builds on the strengths of the program by introducing flexibility and more features for small-dollar borrowers to utilize as they move through the microloan lending process.

H.R. 6079 gives microloan intermediaries the ability to offer lines of credit within the microloan program and increases the outstanding limit each microloan intermediary may carry from \$6 million to \$7 million.

Additionally, H.R. 6079 replaces the outdated and burdensome one-fifty-fifth rule that prevents microloan intermediaries from accessing the program in the first two fiscal quarters of each year with a reserve fund that ensures both large and small States have the ability to utilize the program.

Finally, H.R. 6079 introduces a flexible grant process that has the potential to reward extra assistance to each microloan intermediary if overflow exists.

I fully support this commonsense legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation. Microloans offered by the SBA serve our Nation's smallest of small businesses.

The increased flexibility this legislation permits will allow lenders and borrowers to fully utilize the benefits of this program to the maximum extent possible.

It is a good bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1430

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, in its nearly 30 years, the SBA microloan

program has enjoyed a track record of success in delivering affordable startup capital, particularly for women and minority-owned entrepreneurs. The SBA microloan program has helped to launch many successful businesses.

As the chair of the Small Business Committee, I have had the privilege to hear about countless success stories, and I have fought tirelessly over the years to ensure all American entrepreneurs have access to the SBA resources they need to launch and grow their businesses.

In my time on this committee, I have been proud to watch the microloan program grow from a small pilot program to a robust lending program with strong stakeholder and congressional support. In many ways, the growth and success of the program mirror that of the many small businesses that got their start with an SBA microloan.

Despite this success, and like any other Federal program, it must be periodically reviewed and modernized. This bill does just that and ensures the microloan program will remain flexible for intermediaries and borrowers, helping to ease access to the program for even more aspiring entrepreneurs.

I want to applaud the work by the gentleman from New Jersey and the gentleman from Tennessee for their bipartisan work on the microloan program.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6079.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6021) to amend the Small Business Act to ensure that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is eligible for certain Small Business Administration programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6021

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Northern Mariana Islands Small Business Development Act".

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR CERTAIN SMALL BUSINESS AD- MINISTRATION PROGRAMS.

The Small Business Act is amended—
(1) in section 21(a) (15 U.S.C. 648(a))—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before "The Administration shall require" the following new sentence: "The previous sentence shall not apply to an applicant that has its principal office located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(C)(ix), by striking "and American Samoa" and inserting "American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands"; and

(2) in section 34(a)(9) (15 U.S.C. 657d(a)(9)), by striking "and American Samoa" and inserting "American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6021, the Northern Mariana Islands Small Business Development Act.

There are 1,700 small businesses with 18,000 employees in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, yet these businesses are the only ones in the United States that are ineligible for the SBA's Small Business Development Center, or SBDC, and Federal and State Technology, or FAST, partnership programs.

The SBDC program provides free or low-cost counseling and training services to thousands of entrepreneurs and small business owners each year, and the FAST partnership program provides funding to increase the number of Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technical Transfer applications and better prepare applicants for success.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which rely heavily on tourism, has not been immune from the economic devastation resulting from COVID-19. Moreover, it has been trying to rebuild from two catastrophic typhoons that wreaked havoc on the country in October 2018.

By extending SBA's SBDC and FAST programs to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Congress will extend valuable opportunities for small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs to receive support from qualified counselors on how to launch and grow their small businesses as well as recover from the economic catastrophes.

In March, H.R. 6021 was unanimously approved by the House Small Business Committee, and I commend the spon-

sors of the legislation, Mr. SABLON and Mrs. RADEWAGEN, for raising this inequity to the committee.

The dedication they have shown to creating greater parity to the entrepreneurs in all territories shows exactly how small business issues are neither Democratic nor Republican issues; they are American issues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting the small business owners and entrepreneurs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by voting in favor of H.R. 6021.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this extends a matter of simple fairness to American citizens.

Currently, the Northern Mariana Islands, part of the United States since 1975, is the only U.S. jurisdiction not included for eligibility in certain SBA programs.

According to the SBA, there are more than 1,700 small businesses in the Commonwealth that employ more than 18,000 people. These businesses, these owners, these employees, and these families are no different than those in my hometown of Cincinnati or those in the chairwoman's district in Brooklyn.

This bill amends the Small Business Act to allow the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to establish a lead Small Business Development Center, or SBDC, and to be eligible for the same funding as the other lead SBDCs across our Nation.

Additionally, H.R. 6021 waives the requirement that the new SBDC be established at a higher education institution because the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands does not have a college or university to operate an SBDC on campus.

The Northern Mariana Islands' 55,000 inhabitants deserve the same access to SBA programs as any other American citizen, and this bill ensures that they do. It is a very simple, bipartisan, and just piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. We have no further speakers on our side, so I am prepared to close.

I would like to thank gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLON) and the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) for their leadership on this issue.

The legislation is long overdue, and I am happy to support the bill. I urge my colleagues to support the bill as well, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just urge support of this bill. It corrects an inequity, and I

am so proud that, under my leadership and the ranking member, we are providing access to all the programs under the Small Business Administration for the small businesses in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLON. Mr. Speaker, my legislation, H.R. 6021, ensures the 1,700 small businesses in my district can receive assistance through grants from the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program and through FAST, the Federal and State Technology program.

The Northern Mariana Islands is the only place in the U.S. not included in these Small Business Administration (SBA) programs, which help small businesses access the knowledge and capital needed to grow and compete successfully for federal contracting opportunities.

H.R. 6021, the Northern Mariana Islands Small Business Development Act, would correct that by ensuring Marianas businesses access to these SBA programs on the same basis as their counterparts across the nation. The Small Business Committee unanimously reported the bill favorably in March.

Under my legislation, the Marianas can apply to establish a Lead SBDC, which would make available renewable funding to expand the reach and capacity of the existing SBDC service center on Saipan. With additional funding, small businesses on Saipan, Tinian and Rota will have better access to free or low-cost services such as incubator workspaces for entrepreneurs, business planning, operations, and other areas required for small business growth and success.

H.R. 6021 would also help our small businesses participate in federal research and development opportunities. The legislation does this by including the Marianas in the SSA's FAST program which funds outreach and assistance to small businesses interested in competing for the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

I want to also express my support for H.R. 6079, the Microloan Improvement Act, being considered by the House. The Act includes a provision from my bill, H.R. 2603, which provides Marianas small businesses owners access to the SBA's Microloan program. SBA microloans provide up to \$50,000 typically not offered by banks for working capital or the acquisition of materials, supplies, or equipment. The program also provides marketing, management, and technical assistance to assist the women, low-income, veteran entrepreneurs in my district.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 6021 and H.R. 6079, so we can be sure that all small businesses in our country can fully benefit from the SBA's programs, regardless of where in our nation they happen to operate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6021.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MICROLOAN TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6078) to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency and to enhance the use of microloans in rural areas, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6078

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR INTERMEDIARIES SERVING RURAL AREAS.

Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (4)(C)(i) to read as follows:

“(i) Each intermediate shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to 5 percent of the total outstanding balance of loans made to the intermediary under this subsection, in addition to grants made under subparagraph (A), if the intermediary has either—

“(I) a portfolio of loans made under this subsection that averages not more than \$10,000 during the period of the intermediary’s participation in the program;

“(II) a portfolio of loans made under this subsection of which not less than 25 percent are made to small business concerns located in or owned by one or more residents of an economically distressed area; or

“(III) a portfolio of loans made under this subsection of which not less than 25 percent is serving rural areas during the period of the intermediary’s participation in the program.”; and

(2) in paragraph (11)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking all after the semicolon and inserting “and”; and

(B) by striking all after subparagraph (C), and inserting the following:

“(D) the term ‘economically distressed area’, as used in paragraph (4), means a county or equivalent division of local government of a State in which the small business concern is located, in which, according to the most recent data available from the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, not less than 40 percent of residents have an annual income that is at or below the poverty level.”.

SEC. 3. PORTFOLIO RISK ANALYSIS OF MICROLOANS.

Section 7(m)(10) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(10)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(2) by amending clause (iv), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

“(vi) the number, amount, and percentage of microloans made by intermediaries to small business concerns—

“(I) that went into default in the previous year; and

“(II) that were charged off in the previous year by such intermediaries.”;

(3) in clause (vi), as so redesignated, by striking “and” at the end;

(4) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as clause (xviii), and adjusting the margin accordingly;

(5) by striking “On November 1, 1995,” and all that follows through “the following:” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on February 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, and make available to the public on the website of the Administration, a report on the effectiveness of the microloan program during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report. Such report shall include—”;

(6) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clauses:

“(vii) the number and type of enforcement actions taken by the Administrator against noncompliant intermediaries;

“(viii) an analysis of compliance by intermediaries with the credit availability requirements of paragraph (3)(E) for loans in an amount greater than \$20,000;

“(ix) the extent to which microloans are provided to small business concerns in rural areas;

“(x) the number of underserved borrowers, as defined by the Administration, participating in the microloan program;

“(xi) the average rate of interest for each microloan;

“(xii) the average amount of fees charged for each microloan;

“(xiii) the average size of each microloan, including—

“(I) the number of loans made in an amount greater than \$20,000; and

“(II) the average size and charge-off rate of such loans;

“(xiv) the subsidy cost to the Administration;

“(xv) the number and percentage of microloans that were made to refinance other loans;

“(xvi) the number and percentage of microloans made to new program participants and the number and percentage of microloans made to previous program participants;

“(xvii) the average amount of technical assistance grant monies spent on each loan; and”;

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) PRIVACY.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall not contain any personally identifiable information of any borrower.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 6078, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act, which makes it easier for rural-serving microloan intermediaries to provide technical and management assistance to entrepreneurs.

One of the key components of the microloan program, and what I believe

makes it so successful, is that intermediaries offer technology, management, and marketing assistance to business owners in conjunction with affordable financing. However, when our Committee held hearings on the program, we heard about the challenges that intermediaries in rural areas face in providing technical assistance.

These nonprofit, mission-based lenders must sometimes drive 2 or 3 hours, or even more, to a borrower’s place of business to conduct training. These expenses all come out of the intermediary’s bottom line.

The measure Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM have put forward to make intermediaries with at least 25 percent of their loans in a rural area eligible for a bonus technical assistance grant is a necessary one that I support and would encourage all of my colleagues to support.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud our bipartisanship and, more importantly, our commitment to America’s small businesses. I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again thank the chair, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, for working in a bipartisan manner on all four of these bills, and that is why both Republicans and Democrats support all four, because we really are working together, and that is good for the country.

Mr. Speaker, to enhance the dissemination of microloans in rural areas and to increase transparency, this bill, H.R. 6078, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2020, was introduced by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM).

In order to meet the needs of low-dollar borrowers, the SBA offers the microloan program. As with all the SBA financial assistance program, the SBA does not make a microloan directly to a small business. Rather, it makes direct loans to a nonprofit, called a microloan intermediary. The intermediary, in turn, makes loans of up to \$50,000 to borrowers and is required to provide technical assistance to its borrowers through a technical assistance grant.

The average loan within the microloan program is approximately \$14,500, and the program has grown from approving over 3,500 loans for a total of \$52 million in fiscal year 2015 to approving over 5,000 loans—5,532, to be exact—for over \$81 million in fiscal year 2019.

H.R. 6078, the Microloan Transparency Act of 2020, increases transparency for the growing microloan program and enhances microloan options for rural areas. Specifically, H.R. 6078 requires the SBA to perform an annual portfolio risk analysis to examine defaults and charge-off rates to ensure taxpayer money is safeguarded.

Additionally, to enhance the dissemination of rural loans, the bill introduces an opportunity for an intermediary that currently makes at least 25 percent of its loans to a small business serving rural areas the ability to receive a 5 percent bonus technical assistance grant.

Mr. Speaker, I would again like to thank Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM for working together to protect American taxpayer dollars and to ensure our rural communities have the ability to utilize this program to its fullest.

Mr. Speaker, I fully support this bipartisan legislation. I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT). I thank him for his leadership in pushing this legislation.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member CHABOT for this opportunity as a freshman. It doesn't escape me that you all have allowed me to move forward with a meaningful piece of legislation as a freshman, and I can assure you that the people I represent thank you all very much.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses, whether in urban centers or rural areas, deserve access to small business administration resources.

The Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act is strong, bipartisan legislation that improves rural access to the SBA microloan program and will help ensure that community-based businesses, and not just the heavy hitters, have access to needed resources.

□ 1445

As a former local mayor, I know the difference that easy access to loans, even small ones, can make for our American mom-and-pop shops.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, rural small businesses often don't get enough consideration from microloan providers. To incentivize interest in supporting our rural small businesses, this legislation would establish a 5 percent technical assistance grant for intermediaries who make 25 percent of their loans to these small businesses. Rural small businesses will have more opportunity to grow and innovate with the help of this legislation.

This bill also improves transparency within the SBA microloan program so American taxpayers know their dollars are being invested responsibly. Under this legislation, Mr. Speaker, the SBA would update Congress with a portfolio risk analysis of microloans on an annual basis.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill and the steps it takes to promote fair access to financial resources for every American small business. I am proud to work with my friend Representative KIM on this bill, and I thank him for his efforts

to get it across the finish line. I also thank the chairwoman and the ranking member.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The recent growth of the SBA's microloan program has shown how beneficial it can be to small-dollar borrowers. Not only does this bill make the program more valuable to small firms located in rural areas, it also increases transparency and allows future Congresses with important information to help guide policy decisions.

This is a bipartisan, good government piece of legislation that deserves each Member's support.

I thank Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM for their leadership. I once again thank Representative VELÁZQUEZ for, as always, working together with us in a bipartisan fashion. I very much appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Oftentimes, the biggest barrier to entrepreneurship is accessing affordable capital. But for many entrepreneurs, access to expert advice can give them an added boost and the skills needed to grow a sustainable business.

To that end, the microloan program leverages the network of nonprofit intermediary lenders, many of them CDFIs, who have deep roots in the local community, are committed to economic development, and offer technical business and marketing assistance for these small businesses.

This bill will go a long way in helping these microlenders reach more small businesses in rural areas, which, in turn, will stimulate the local economies. It also mandates reporting on the program's effectiveness so our committee can continue to oversee the program and make necessary modifications to further improve the program.

Again, thank you to Representative BURCHETT and Representative KIM for collaborating on the bill before us today. I also thank the ranking member, Mr. CHABOT, and his staff for working with us in a bipartisan manner, not just on this piece of legislation, but on all the bills we have brought to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes,” and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6078, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2020

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4894) to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4894

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS AND APPROPRIATION REQUESTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-282; 31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. FULL DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than monthly when practicable, and in any event not less frequently than quarterly, the Secretary (in consultation with the Director and, with respect to information described in subsection (b)(2), the head of the applicable agency) shall ensure that updated information with respect to the information described in subsection (b) is posted on the website established under section 2.

“(b) INFORMATION TO BE POSTED.—

“(1) FUNDS.—For any funds made available to or expended by a Federal agency or component of a Federal agency, the information to be posted shall include—

“(A) for each appropriations account, including an expired or unexpired appropriations account, the amount—

“(i) of budget authority appropriated;

“(ii) that is obligated;

“(iii) of unobligated balances; and

“(iv) of any other budgetary resources;

“(B) from which accounts and in what amount—

“(i) appropriations are obligated for each program activity; and

“(ii) outlays are made for each program activity;

“(C) from which accounts and in what amount—

“(i) appropriations are obligated for each object class; and

“(ii) outlays are made for each object class; and

“(D) for each program activity, the amount—

“(i) obligated for each object class; and

“(ii) of outlays made for each object class.

“(2) BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ‘budget justification materials’ means the annual budget justification materials of an agency that are submitted, in conjunction with the budget of the United States Government submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, but does not include budget justification materials that are classified.

“(B) INFORMATION.—The information to be posted shall include any budget justification materials—

“(i) for the second fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this paragraph, and each fiscal year thereafter; and

“(ii) to the extent practicable, that were released for any fiscal year before the date of enactment of this paragraph.

“(C) **FORMAT.**—Budget justification materials shall be posted under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) as an open Government data asset (as defined under section 3502 of title 44, United States Code);

“(ii) in a manner that enables users to download individual reports, download all reports in bulk, and download in bulk the results of a search, to the extent practicable; and

“(iii) in a structured data format, to the extent practicable.

“(D) **DEADLINE.**—The budget justification materials required to be posted under subparagraph (B)(i) shall be posted not later than 2 weeks after the date on which the budget justification materials are first submitted to Congress.

“(E) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize an agency to destroy any budget justification materials relating to a fiscal year before the fiscal year described in subparagraph (B)(i).”

(b) **INFORMATION REGARDING AGENCY BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.**—Section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(1) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall make publicly available on a website, and continuously update, a tabular list for each fiscal year of each agency that submits budget justification materials, which shall include—

“(A) the name of the agency;

“(B) a unique identifier that identifies the agency;

“(C) to the extent practicable, the date on which the budget justification materials of the agency are first submitted to Congress;

“(D) the date on which the budget justification materials of the agency are posted online under section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006;

“(E) the uniform resource locator where the budget justification materials are published on the website of the agency; and

“(F) a single data set that contains the information described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) with respect to the agency for all fiscal years for which budget justifications of the agency are made available under section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 in a structured data format.

“(2)(A) Each agency that submits budget justification materials shall make the materials available on the website of the agency, in accordance with the policies established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under subparagraph (B).

“(B) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall establish policies for agencies relating to making available materials under subparagraph (A), which shall include guidelines for making budget justification materials available in a format aligned with the requirements of section 3(b)(2)(C) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 and using a uniform resource locator that is in a consistent format across agencies and is descriptive, memorable, and pronounceable, such as the format of ‘agencyname.gov/budget’.

“(C) If the Director of the Office of Management and Budget maintains a public website that contains the budget of the United States Government submitted under subsection (a) and any related materials, such website shall also contain a link to the tabular list required under paragraph (1).

“(3) In this subsection, the term ‘budget justification materials’ has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Federal

Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.”

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure before us.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The bill before us, the Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act, is a commonsense, good government measure every Member should support.

It would require the congressional budget justification documents that agencies prepare for congressional committees to be posted online in a centralized, searchable database.

This would make these detailed plain-language explanations of how agencies plan to spend taxpayer dollars more accessible to the public.

I thank Representatives MIKE QUIGLEY and DOUG COLLINS for their work on this bill.

Representative QUIGLEY, in particular, has a long history as a strong advocate of transparency in the operations of the Federal Government.

Representative QUIGLEY is the founder and chair of the bipartisan Congressional Transparency Caucus, which shines a light on the importance of government transparency and accountability.

This legacy of championing good government stems from his time serving as Cook County Commissioner where government reform was one of his major legislative priorities.

H.R. 4894 builds on the work of the committee to improve government transparency by allowing the public to more easily learn how Federal agencies spend their taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4894, the Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act.

The Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act is a long overdue reform to ensure that the Congress and the public can understand the full scope of the Federal budget.

This bipartisan bill will make it possible for the public and every Member of Congress to readily find and compare the annual budget justification and supporting materials that each agency prepares and sends to Congress.

Taxpayers should know how agencies plan to spend their hard-earned money.

Last year, the Federal Government spent more than \$4.4 trillion.

We have transparency tools like USAspending.gov to track Federal spending after Congress appropriates taxpayer dollars.

However, the annual Federal agency budget justifications provide detailed and plain-language explanations of how agencies plan to spend congressionally appropriated funds.

In other words, an agency Congressional Budget Justification provides the necessary details in context to actually understand how agency missions connect to eventual Federal spending.

Currently, agencies send these plans directly to congressional appropriators.

However, if the rest of us wish to review these valuable government budget materials, we are left to manually search through hundreds of individual agency websites.

H.R. 4894 solves this problem by requiring the budget justifications of every agency be publicly available at a central, single website.

The bill would require the Office of Management and Budget to provide a comprehensive list of each agency's budget justification with a stable link to where the documents are published on agency websites.

This way Congress and the public can know that they are looking at the complete picture of the budget request materials.

Each agency would also be required to publish their materials at a consistently named web address to further simplify the public's discovery of these budget documents.

The bill would also require the U.S. Treasury to centrally publish all materials themselves on USAspending.gov as open data.

USAspending is a current one-stop shop for the public to find information on how the government is using their tax dollars.

It tracks all Federal spending activity, as required by the 2014 DATA Act, which is an example of the strong bipartisan work the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and Congress has accomplished in the past.

Adding congressional budget justifications to USAspending.gov for future generations will provide greater context to Federal spending information.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Pennsylvania has no further speakers, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss without mentioning another interesting benefit of the Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act.

Thanks to another law that the House Oversight and Reform Committee has previously produced in the last Congress, the 2018 Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act, congressional budget justifications also list unimplemented inspector general audit and GAO report recommendations.

Therefore, H.R. 4894 will also centralize documents containing valuable IG and GAO recommendations for the public and Congress to easily find.

This will empower better oversight over a sprawling and complicated Federal Government. I hope we can continue to find ways to continue building on such good government reforms in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I likewise, urge passage of H.R. 4894, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4894, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 965, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CHARGING HELPS AGENCIES REALIZE GENERAL EFFICIENCIES ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2193) to require the Administrator of General Services to issue guidance to clarify that Federal agencies may pay by charge card for the charging of Federal electric motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2193

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Charging Helps Agencies Realize General Efficiencies Act” or the “CHARGE Act”.

SEC. 2. PAYMENT BY CHARGE CARD FOR CHARGING FEDERAL ELECTRIC MOTOR VEHICLES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—
(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of General Services;

(2) the term “charge card”—
(A) means a card, plate, coupon book, or other means existing for the purpose of obtaining money, property, labor, or services; and

(B) includes—
(i) a card issued under the GSA SmartPay program; and

(ii) a Fleet Services card;
(3) the term “covered electric motor vehicle” means a passenger carrier that is—

(A) a passenger motor vehicle; and
(B) an electric motor vehicle;

(4) the term “electric motor vehicle” has the meaning given the term in section 601 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13271);

(5) the term “electric motor vehicle charging station” means a battery-charging station that permits the transfer of electric energy (by conductive or inductive means) to a battery or other storage device in an electric motor vehicle; and

(6) the terms “Federal agency” and “passenger carrier” have the meanings given those terms in section 1344(h) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue guidance to clarify that each Federal agency may, in accordance with section 1344 of title 31, United States Code—

(1) charge a covered electric motor vehicle at a commercial electric motor vehicle charging station; and

(2) pay for a transaction described in paragraph (1) with a charge card.

(c) ISSUANCE OF CHARGE CARDS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue to each Federal agency a charge card for each covered electric motor vehicle of the Federal agency that may be used by an officer or employee of the Federal agency to pay for charging the covered motor vehicle in accordance with the guidance issued under subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the measure before us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Senators GARY PETERS and ROB PORTMAN for their bipartisan work on this com-

monsense, forward-thinking measure, as well as Congressman RO KHANNA and ANTHONY GONZALEZ for championing a companion bill in the House.

The SmartPay Program operated by the General Services Administration is the world’s largest commercial payment program, serving over 560 Federal entities. It also is used for the fuel, maintenance, and repair of the government-wide commercial fleet.

□ 1500

With that size and reach comes impact and opportunity. SmartPay actively supports the goal of incorporating electric, hybrid, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles into this fleet, yet it is not clear that it can be used to pay for charging electric vehicles.

S. 2193 would reinforce this goal by requiring GSA to issue guidance clarifying that authorized Federal employees can pay for charging electric vehicles using SmartPay, just as they can for refueling conventional motor vehicles.

The Federal Government must lead the way in embracing technology and innovations that address society’s gravest threats. Climate change is at the top of that list, challenging us all to do better.

If we can rise to this challenge by investing in strategic industries, workforce training, and solutions, we can rise from this crisis as a safer, stronger, more prosperous Nation.

I am firmly committed to cutting-edge, solutions-oriented policies that support our progress toward a Federal fleet of the future that is clean, green, and efficient.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud S. 2193 for its important contribution toward this goal, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 2193, the Charging Helps Agencies Realize General Efficiencies Act, or CHARGE Act.

The CHARGE Act would direct the General Services Administration to allow Federal employees to use official Federal travel charge cards to pay for electric vehicle recharging at commercial charging stations.

This simple change would help Federal Government employees take greater advantage of Federal electric motor vehicle fleet vehicles while traveling for official business.

By ensuring the government can utilize expanding commercial charging stations, we can help drive down costs to the taxpayer and avoid the need for the government to buy and maintain more electric vehicle charging stations.

If Federal employees must use their travel charge cards to refuel their traditional vehicles, they should also be allowed to use these same cards to refuel or charge their electric vehicles.

This is a commonsense and easy step toward modernizing the Federal Government and granting more flexibility to Federal employees.

As an added benefit, according to the Congressional Budget Office, this new policy will not cost the American taxpayers anything to implement.

Further, this new flexibility for the Federal Government and its employees to utilize electric vehicles could help bolster the American market for electric vehicles.

As we have learned throughout the coronavirus pandemic, American manufacturing is vitally important to our success as a Nation. By allowing the increased use of electric vehicles in America, we can secure all the American ingenuity and innovation that comes with the vehicles of the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of S. 2193, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2193.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 965, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

INTERNET OF THINGS CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1668) to leverage Federal Government procurement power to encourage increased cybersecurity for Internet of Things devices, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1668

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Internet of Things Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020” or the “IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) ensuring the highest level of cybersecurity at agencies in the executive branch is the responsibility of the President, followed by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the head of each such agency;

(2) this responsibility is to be carried out by working collaboratively within and among agencies in the executive branch, industry, and academia;

(3) the strength of the cybersecurity of the Federal Government and the positive bene-

fits of digital technology transformation depend on proactively addressing cybersecurity throughout the acquisition and operation of Internet of Things devices by the Federal Government; and

(4) consistent with the second draft National Institute for Standards and Technology Interagency or Internal Report 8259 titled “Recommendations for IoT Device Manufacturers: Foundational Activities and Core Device Cybersecurity Capability Baseline”, published in January 2020, Internet of Things devices are devices that—

(A) have at least one transducer (sensor or actuator) for interacting directly with the physical world, have at least one network interface, and are not conventional Information Technology devices, such as smartphones and laptops, for which the identification and implementation of cybersecurity features is already well understood; and

(B) can function on their own and are not only able to function when acting as a component of another device, such as a processor.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(2) DIRECTOR OF OMB.—The term “Director of OMB” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(3) DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE.—The term “Director of the Institute” means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(4) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term “information system” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(5) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM.—The term “national security system” has the meaning given that term in section 3552(b)(6) of title 44, United States Code.

(6) OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY.—The term “operational technology” means hardware and software that detects or causes a change through the direct monitoring or control of physical devices, processes, and events in the enterprise.

(7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(8) SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The term “security vulnerability” has the meaning given that term in section 102(17) of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501(17)).

SEC. 4. SECURITY STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR AGENCIES ON USE AND MANAGEMENT OF INTERNET OF THINGS DEVICES.

(a) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR USE OF INTERNET OF THINGS DEVICES BY AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Institute shall develop and publish under section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-3) standards and guidelines for the Federal Government on the appropriate use and management by agencies of Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by an agency and connected to information systems owned or controlled by an agency, including minimum information security requirements for managing cybersecurity risks associated with such devices.

(2) CONSISTENCY WITH ONGOING EFFORTS.—The Director of the Institute shall ensure that the standards and guidelines developed under paragraph (1) are consistent with the efforts of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) regarding—

(i) examples of possible security vulnerabilities of Internet of Things devices; and

(ii) considerations for managing the security vulnerabilities of Internet of Things devices; and

(B) with respect to the following considerations for Internet of Things devices:

(i) Secure Development.

(ii) Identity management.

(iii) Patching.

(iv) Configuration management.

(3) CONSIDERING RELEVANT STANDARDS.—In developing the standards and guidelines under paragraph (1), the Director of the Institute shall consider relevant standards, guidelines, and best practices developed by the private sector, agencies, and public-private partnerships.

(b) REVIEW OF AGENCY INFORMATION SECURITY POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Director of the Institute completes the development of the standards and guidelines required under subsection (a), the Director of OMB shall review agency information security policies and principles on the basis of the standards and guidelines published under subsection (a) pertaining to Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by agencies (excluding agency information security policies and principles pertaining to Internet of Things of devices owned or controlled by agencies that are or comprise a national security system) for consistency with the standards and guidelines submitted under subsection (a) and issue such policies and principles as may be necessary to ensure those policies and principles are consistent with such standards and guidelines.

(2) REVIEW.—In reviewing agency information security policies and principles under paragraph (1) and issuing policies and principles under such paragraph, as may be necessary, the Director of OMB shall—

(A) consult with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security; and

(B) ensure such policies and principles are consistent with the information security requirements under subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code.

(3) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—Any policy or principle issued by the Director of OMB under paragraph (1) shall not apply to national security systems.

(c) QUINQUENNIAL REVIEW AND REVISION.—

(1) REVIEW AND REVISION OF NIST STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES.—Not later than 5 years after the date on which the Director of the Institute publishes the standards and guidelines under subsection (a), and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Director of the Institute, shall—

(A) review such standards and guidelines; and

(B) revise such standards and guidelines as appropriate.

(2) UPDATED OMB POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES FOR AGENCIES.—Not later than 180 days after the Director of the Institute makes a revision pursuant to paragraph (1), the Director of OMB, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, shall update any policy or principle issued under subsection (b)(1) as necessary to ensure those policies and principles are consistent with the review and any revision under paragraph (1) under this subsection and paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (b).

(d) REVISION OF FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.—The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be revised as necessary to implement any standards and guidelines promulgated in this section.

SEC. 5. GUIDELINES ON THE DISCLOSURE PROCEEDINGS FOR SECURITY VULNERABILITIES RELATING TO INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING INTERNET OF THINGS DEVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Institute, in consultation with such cybersecurity researchers and private sector industry experts as the Director considers appropriate, and in consultation with the Secretary, shall develop and publish under section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3) guidelines—

(1) for the reporting, coordinating, publishing, and receiving of information about—

(A) a security vulnerability relating to information systems owned or controlled by an agency (including Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by an agency); and

(B) the resolution of such security vulnerability; and

(2) for a contractor providing to an agency an information system (including an Internet of Things device) and any subcontractor thereof at any tier providing such information system to such contractor, on—

(A) receiving information about a potential security vulnerability relating to the information system; and

(B) disseminating information about the resolution of a security vulnerability relating to the information system.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The guidelines published under subsection (a) shall—

(1) to the maximum extent practicable, be aligned with industry best practices and Standards 29147 and 30111 of the International Standards Organization (or any successor standard) or any other appropriate, relevant, and widely-used standard;

(2) incorporate guidelines on—

(A) receiving information about a potential security vulnerability relating to an information system owned or controlled by an agency (including an Internet of Things device); and

(B) disseminating information about the resolution of a security vulnerability relating to an information system owned or controlled by an agency (including an Internet of Things device); and

(3) be consistent with the policies and procedures produced under section 2009(m) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(m)).

(c) INFORMATION ITEMS.—The guidelines published under subsection (a) shall include example content, on the information items that should be reported, coordinated, published, or received pursuant to this section by a contractor, or any subcontractor thereof at any tier, providing an information system (including Internet of Things device) to the Federal Government.

(d) OVERSIGHT.—The Director of OMB shall oversee the implementation of the guidelines published under subsection (a).

(e) OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of OMB, shall administer the implementation of the guidelines published under subsection (a) and provide operational and technical assistance in implementing such guidelines.

SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION OF COORDINATED DISCLOSURE OF SECURITY VULNERABILITIES RELATING TO AGENCY INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING INTERNET OF THINGS DEVICES.

(a) AGENCY GUIDELINES REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enact-

ment of this Act, the Director of OMB, in consultation with the Secretary, shall develop and oversee the implementation of policies, principles, standards, or guidelines as may be necessary to address security vulnerabilities of information systems (including Internet of Things devices).

(b) OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Consistent with section 3553(b) of title 44, United States Code, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of OMB, shall provide operational and technical assistance to agencies on reporting, coordinating, publishing, and receiving information about security vulnerabilities of information systems (including Internet of Things devices).

(c) CONSISTENCY WITH GUIDELINES FROM NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the assistance provided under subsection (b) is consistent with applicable standards and publications developed by the Director of the Institute.

(d) REVISION OF FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.—The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be revised as necessary to implement the provisions under this section.

SEC. 7. CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH COORDINATED DISCLOSURE OF SECURITY VULNERABILITIES RELATING TO AGENCY INTERNET OF THINGS DEVICES.

(a) PROHIBITION ON PROCUREMENT AND USE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency is prohibited from procuring or obtaining, renewing a contract to procure or obtain, or using an Internet of Things device, if the Chief Information Officer of that agency determines during a review required by section 11319(b)(1)(C) of title 40, United States Code, of a contract for such device that the use of such device prevents compliance with the standards and guidelines developed under section 4 or the guidelines published under section 5 with respect to such device.

(2) SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION THRESHOLD.—Notwithstanding section 1905 of title 41, United States Code, the requirements under paragraph (1) shall apply to a contract or subcontract in amounts not greater than the simplified acquisition threshold.

(b) WAIVER.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The head of an agency may waive the prohibition under subsection (a)(1) with respect to an Internet of Things device if the Chief Information Officer of that agency determines that—

(A) the waiver is necessary in the interest of national security;

(B) procuring, obtaining, or using such device is necessary for research purposes; or

(C) such device is secured using alternative and effective methods appropriate to the function of such device.

(2) AGENCY PROCESS.—The Director of OMB shall establish a standardized process for the Chief Information Officer of each agency to follow in determining whether the waiver under paragraph (1) may be granted.

(c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

(1) REPORT.—Every 2 years during the 6-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report—

(A) on the effectiveness of the process established under subsection (b)(2);

(B) that contains recommended best practices for the procurement of Internet of Things devices; and

(C) that lists—

(i) the number and type of each Internet of Things device for which a waiver under subsection (b)(1) was granted during the 2-year period prior to the submission of the report; and

(ii) the legal authority under which each such waiver was granted, such as whether the waiver was granted pursuant to subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of such subsection.

(2) CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT.—Each report submitted under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex that contains the information described under paragraph (1)(C).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The prohibition under subsection (a)(1) shall take effect 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY CONSIDERATIONS STEMMING FROM THE CONVERGENCE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, INTERNET OF THINGS, AND OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES, NETWORKS, AND SYSTEMS.

(a) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on broader Internet of Things efforts, including projects designed to assist in managing potential security vulnerabilities associated with the use of traditional information technology devices, networks, and systems with—

(1) Internet of Things devices, networks, and systems; and

(2) operational technology devices, networks, and systems.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on broader Internet of Things efforts addressed in subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure before us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives KELLY and HURD for introducing the bill before us, which has garnered strong support from both sides of the aisle.

As technology evolves rapidly, this bill will help safeguard our Federal

workforce, systems, and data from the very real cyber threats posed by the commonplace, everyday devices and items that make up the Internet of Things.

Since 2014, there have been more devices connected to our networks and in use than there are people on this planet.

Our committee has conducted extensive work this Congress to address the silent war of cyberattacks that American governments, companies, and citizens face on a daily basis. Reports indicate that 25 percent of those attacks target these types of devices.

Without adequate standards and protections in place, these devices can be compromised, hijacked, and utilized for surveillance, disruption, denial-of-service, or ransomware attacks.

Currently, there are no national standards to ensure the security of these connected devices. H.R. 1668 would establish minimum cybersecurity standards for such devices that are owned by the Federal Government, based on guidelines set by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

This bill will also require contractors or vendors to notify the Federal Government if devices in Federal use have a known or suspected security vulnerability.

H.R. 1668 recognizes that protecting our Nation from cyber threats is an ongoing interactive process that requires established baseline standards and constant vigilance.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1668, the Internet of things, or IoT, Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2019.

Our Nation's use of technology has shifted dramatically in recent years. Internet of Things, or IoT, devices have found a way into nearly every aspect of our lives, work, and now government.

A recent Congressional Research Service report cites market estimates that, by 2025, there will be more than 21.5 billion internet-connected devices.

IoT devices, such as smart TVs and appliances, home security systems, thermostats, and many other home and work devices, are now connected to the internet. This offers ever-increasing gateways into our most valuable networks through our weakest technology devices.

We traditionally think of computing devices such as computers, smartphones, and tablets as our primary interface with the internet. These computing devices have securely designed, mature, and powerful operating systems. However, IoT devices normally have less computing power and, therefore, security capabilities than traditional computing devices.

As our economy has embraced the convenience of IoT devices, we have also created more entry points to the internet and our networks for malicious actors to exploit. For example,

building elevators, HVAC, lighting, audio-video, fire suppression, and even security systems are now capable of being monitored and updated remotely through networks.

IoT devices play an integral role with industrial and manufacturing infrastructure as well. These systems can be potentially manipulated in a manner that can put our security at risk.

With new technology capabilities come new cyber vulnerabilities that can be taken advantage of in unpredictable ways.

But why are we talking about IoT devices here in Congress? Well, Congress, and the House Oversight and Reform Committee, in particular, have the responsibility to ensure appropriate oversight of the technology that our Federal Government procures and the security of our Federal networks.

The IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act will ensure that any security gaps in Internet of Things devices are properly and transparently identified by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

It then requires that the Office of Management and Budget develop and the Department of Homeland Security implement policies requiring Federal agencies to only procure IoT devices that can be securely incorporated into an agency's information systems.

It does this while ensuring that leading private-sector security standards are adopted and improved upon by the Federal Government. Such government and private-sector partnership is key to developing widely useful and effective security standards.

Lastly, H.R. 1668 would ensure that proper disclosure mechanisms exist to report and fix newly discovered security vulnerabilities related to the government's use of IoT devices.

In summary, this bill will help improve the mechanisms protecting the Nation's valuable cybersecurity infrastructure as new technology devices are increasingly used by Federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY). Representative KELLY from Illinois is an outstanding member of our Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, in October 2017, the IT Subcommittee held a hearing on cybersecurity of the Internet of Things. This hearing was largely held in response to the Mirai botnet, a massive Distributed Denial of Service, or DDoS, attack, which left the internet inaccessible for much of the East Coast.

IoT devices have processing power and an internet connection, but often have little security and no built-in ability to be patched remotely. IoT devices can range from your home routers, security cameras, and baby mon-

itors to smart appliances and industrial sensors.

During the Mirai attack, hackers attempted to log in to common devices using 61 username-password combos that are frequently used as a default for IoT devices and never changed. This tactic gave them access to hundreds of thousands of unsecured IoT devices.

This attack served as a wake-up call.

In 2018, Lieutenant General Robert Ashley, DIA Director, described the exploitation of insecure IoT devices as one of the two "most important emerging cyber threats to our national security." This is why I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

During the hearing and subsequent process, we learned that the U.S. Government is purchasing these IoT devices without a standard for security to prevent them from being used in such an attack or used as an unauthorized access point to U.S. Government networks.

Bipartisan and bicameral conversations necessitated the introduction of this legislation.

H.R. 1668, the IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act, aims to address supply chain risk to the Federal Government stemming from insecure IoT devices. By establishing light-touch, minimum security requirements for procurement of connected devices by the government, this bill has two main focuses: ensuring the government is purchasing secure devices and resolving critical vulnerabilities to existing devices.

Building upon the amazing work over at NIST, the bill has NIST-published guidelines on the appropriate use and management of Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by a government agency. At a minimum, it will address secure development, identity management, patching, and configuration management for IoT devices.

Following this, OMB will take these guidelines and issue policies and principles consistent with the current law.

To ensure these devices stay secure, this bill creates a coordinated vulnerability disclosure program to receive information about a device's related vulnerabilities.

To improve U.S. cybersecurity and the security of American citizens, agencies would be prohibited from purchasing devices that fail to comply with the minimum security policies and vulnerability disclosure guidance.

□ 1515

Throughout the entire process, I have worked hard to ensure that the requirements of this bill do not impede or conflict with the current and good efforts of NIST or CISA. Both agencies have been issuing excellent guidance on IoT devices and Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosures, and they should be commended for their proactive work and their engagement with me and my team during this process.

This bill offers Congress the opportunity to secure our Federal infrastructure from threats, both foreign

and domestic. We cannot wait as more devices are connected to government networks that could potentially become part of a botnet or an entryway for hackers.

I want to thank everyone: experts, industry leaders, civil society leaders, and my colleagues who made comments and helped us craft a bill that is bipartisan and solves a real problem.

Finally, I have been proud to have worked with my friend and colleague WILL HURD on this legislation. He has always been there when I needed a partner on IT legislation, and he has taught me a lot about technology. His absence from this Chamber will be sorely missed.

I also want to thank Senators WARREN and GARDNER for working with me on this legislation.

This is a strong bill that I believe can pass both Chambers and be signed into law. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important bipartisan piece of legislation.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD).

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of securing the Internet of Things through the IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020.

Every second of the day, more devices are connecting to the internet, and the amount of data we put online through these devices grows. The Internet of Things is the world in which all these devices and information live. The Internet of Things is the world where devices work together to make our lives easier. The Internet of Things is a world where we are always connected.

IoT devices are improving our society. IoT devices are improving our economy. IoT devices are improving healthcare systems, shopping experiences, and just about every other aspect of our lives. The Internet of Things is showing just how innovative humans can be.

But, like most innovations, IoT has the potential to be misused and abused by bad actors.

The Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency has called IoT devices one of “the most important emerging cyber threats to our national security.”

If our security practices for using the Internet of Things does not evolve as our use of it grows, then we will find out how innovative criminals, hackers, and hostile foreign governments can be.

Securing the Internet of Things is something Congress can actually address, and we are doing just that with the IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act. The bill reduces the risks associated with introducing new devices into the Federal Government’s digital infrastructure. We achieve this goal by establishing minimum security requirements for the supply chain that is used to purchase devices that will be used on government systems.

The IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act will ensure that taxpayer dollars

are only being used to purchase IoT devices that meet basic minimum security requirements. We are taking simple steps to secure our supply chain and protect Americans’ personal data and information.

We can take advantage of technology before it takes advantage of us, and one way we accomplish this feat is by passing this piece of legislation that will mitigate vulnerabilities that IoT devices might introduce into Federal networks.

What we are about to do today wouldn’t have been possible without my friend and partner from the great State of Illinois, Representative ROBIN KELLY. We have had a lot of fun together and passed a lot of legislation together.

I want to also thank the Committee on Oversight and Reform staff for helping to perfect this legislation. If it weren’t for you all, we couldn’t have gotten to this point.

I hope all of our colleagues join us in supporting this legislation.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman has no further speakers, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We often talk about the need for government to be a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars. This responsibility of stewardship extends to safeguarding the public’s data and government systems.

With H.R. 1668, we can take positive steps to secure the devices that connect to and interact with our valuable Federal Government networks. These same networks enable critical government missions and protect America’s valuable information.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1668, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1668, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to establish minimum security standards for Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by the Federal Government, and for other purposes.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AI IN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2020

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2575) to

authorize an AI Center of Excellence within the General Services Administration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2575

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “AI in Government Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of General Services;

(2) the term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code;

(3) the term “AI CoE” means the AI Center of Excellence described in section 3;

(4) the term “artificial intelligence” has the meaning given the term in section 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (10 U.S.C. 2358 note);

(5) the term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;

(6) the term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); and

(7) the term “nonprofit organization” means an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code.

SEC. 3. AI CENTER OF EXCELLENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is created within the General Services Administration a program to be known as the “AI Center of Excellence”, which shall—

(1) facilitate the adoption of artificial intelligence technologies in the Federal Government;

(2) improve cohesion and competency in the adoption and use of artificial intelligence within the Federal Government; and

(3) carry out paragraphs (1) and (2) for the purposes of benefitting the public and enhancing the productivity and efficiency of Federal Government operations.

(b) DUTIES.—The duties of the AI CoE shall include—

(1) regularly convening individuals from agencies, industry, Federal laboratories, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, and other entities to discuss recent developments in artificial intelligence, including the dissemination of information regarding programs, pilots, and other initiatives at agencies, as well as recent trends and relevant information on the understanding, adoption, and use of artificial intelligence;

(2) collecting, aggregating, and publishing on a publicly available website information regarding programs, pilots, and other initiatives led by other agencies and any other information determined appropriate by the Administrator;

(3) advising the Administrator, the Director, and agencies on the acquisition and use of artificial intelligence through technical insight and expertise, as needed;

(4) assist agencies in applying Federal policies regarding the management and use of data in applications of artificial intelligence;

(5) consulting with agencies, including the Department of Defense, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Energy, the Department of Homeland Security, the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and

the National Science Foundation, that operate programs, create standards and guidelines, or otherwise fund internal projects or coordinate between the public and private sectors relating to artificial intelligence;

(6) advising the Director on developing policy related to the use of artificial intelligence by agencies; and

(7) advising the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy on developing policy related to research and national investment in artificial intelligence.

(c) STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide necessary staff, resources, and administrative support for the AI CoE.

(2) SHARED STAFF.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall meet the requirements described under paragraph (1) by using staff of the General Services Administration, including those from other agency centers of excellence, and detailees, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, from other agencies.

(3) FELLOWS.—The Administrator may, to the maximum extent practicable, appoint fellows to participate in the AI CoE from nonprofit organizations, think tanks, institutions of higher education, and industry.

(d) SUNSET.—This section shall cease to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. GUIDANCE FOR AGENCY USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in consultation with the Administrator and any other relevant agencies and key stakeholders as determined by the Director, shall issue a memorandum to the head of each agency that shall—

(1) inform the development of policies regarding Federal acquisition and use by agencies regarding technologies that are empowered or enabled by artificial intelligence, including an identification of the responsibilities of agency officials managing the use of such technology;

(2) recommend approaches to remove barriers for use by agencies of artificial intelligence technologies in order to promote the innovative application of those technologies while protecting civil liberties, civil rights, and economic and national security;

(3) identify best practices for identifying, assessing, and mitigating any discriminatory impact or bias on the basis of any classification protected under Federal nondiscrimination laws, or any unintended consequence of the use of artificial intelligence, including policies to identify data used to train artificial intelligence algorithms as well as the data analyzed by artificial intelligence used by the agencies; and

(4) provide a template of the required contents of the agency plans described in subsection (c).

(b) PUBLIC COMMENT.—To help ensure public trust in the applications of artificial intelligence technologies, the Director shall issue a draft version of the memorandum required under subsection (a) for public comment not later than 180 days after date of enactment of this Act.

(c) PLANS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Director issues the memorandum required under subsection (a) or an update to the memorandum required under subsection (d), the head of each agency shall submit to the Director and post on a publicly available page on the website of the agency—

(1) a plan to achieve consistency with the memorandum; or

(2) a written determination that the agency does not use and does not anticipate using artificial intelligence.

(d) UPDATES.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Director issues the memorandum required under subsection (a), and every 2 years thereafter for 10 years, the Director shall issue updates to the memorandum.

SEC. 5. UPDATE OF OCCUPATIONAL SERIES FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and in accordance with chapter 51 of title 5, United States Code, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall—

(1) identify key skills and competencies needed for positions related to artificial intelligence;

(2) establish an occupational series, or update and improve an existing occupational job series, to include positions the primary duties of which relate to artificial intelligence;

(3) to the extent appropriate, establish an estimate of the number of Federal employees in positions related to artificial intelligence, by each agency; and

(4) using the estimate established in paragraph (3), prepare a 2-year and 5-year forecast of the number of Federal employees in positions related to artificial intelligence that each agency will need to employ.

(b) PLAN.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a comprehensive plan with a timeline to complete requirements described in subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure before us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank Representative MCNERNEY and former Ranking Member Meadows for introducing the Artificial Intelligence in Government Act.

As the Federal Government faces historic challenges and resource constraints due to the coronavirus pandemic, artificial intelligence can provide innovative solutions to help agencies fulfill their missions and is critical to broader IT modernization efforts.

H.R. 2575 would codify the Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence at the General Services Administration, advancing the acquisition and implementation of AI technologies throughout the Federal Government by providing expertise, best practices, and support.

The bill would improve cohesion and competency around Federal use and

adoption of AI by requiring agencies that use or plan to use such technologies to submit a memorandum to the Director of OMB demonstrating compliance with relevant guidelines. It also would require the Office of Personnel Management to evaluate AI skills needed in the Federal workforce and to provide an up-to-date occupational series for these skills.

If we are to maintain our leadership and competitive edge globally, America must prioritize these mission-critical capabilities and their strategic implementation across Federal agencies.

We also must ensure that AI is deployed with an unwavering commitment to cybersecurity, data security and integrity, ethics, privacy, and the protection of the constitutional rights of our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2575, the AI in Government Act.

Artificial intelligence, or AI, has the potential to improve our Federal workforce's productivity and to solve complex government challenges.

By responsibly increasing the utilization of AI in the Federal Government, we can streamline burdensome administrative tasks and better allocate finite resources. AI can potentially save the Federal Government billions of dollars and countless man-hours.

Artificial intelligence tools can also free Federal workers from mundane tasks, giving them time for more challenging work. In fact, a Deloitte report from 2017 estimated that the Federal Government could potentially save 1.2 billion employee labor-hours by automating certain tasks. That could potentially save the Federal Government up to \$41 billion, annually.

AI can also improve Federal policy decisions by presenting new insights and improving the quality of information available to decisionmakers.

AI represents a force multiplier benefiting the American people in an era of soaring Federal deficits and increasing complexity of various Federal agency missions and programs. The taxpayers should especially benefit from a smarter, more effective government.

The good news is that the government agencies are well on their way to realizing the benefits of artificial intelligence technology solutions. A 2018 survey by IBM found that nearly half of the responding Federal agencies already incorporated AI solutions.

The Trump administration has already made advancement of AI a national priority. In February of 2019, President Trump issued the executive order on "Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence."

The executive order promotes national research and development efforts, workforce training, and technology standards. However, it did not go as far as to establish the necessary accountability or governing policies

for Federal agencies using AI tools. But the AI in Government Act does, because, along with the potential of AI, there are attending concerns and considerations regarding its ethical use which must be taken into account to maintain the trust and confidence of the American people.

H.R. 2575 ensures proper oversight over the government's increasing use of AI. The bill requires the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Science and Technology Policy to issue a memorandum to agencies to inform the development of agency AI policy plans. These agency plans will provide greater insight into agency AI activities and will ensure public accountability over how Federal agencies incorporate AI tools into their mission delivery and decisionmaking.

Mr. Speaker, we must tap into the benefits AI has to offer, and, with this bill, we can do it with proper oversight and accountability. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and chairwoman of the committee for their support of this bill, and all members of the committee.

The work of the Federal Government impacts every single American. Artificial intelligence presents many opportunities for the Federal Government to be better able to serve all Americans.

There are also certain risks that AI presents. As Federal agencies adopt AI technology, it is critical that they are equipped with the expertise and tools they need to succeed and that they address the potential risks of adopting this technology. That is why this legislation is critical. It will help Federal agencies scale AI adoption in a smart and responsible way.

First, this legislation will create a Center of Excellence within the General Services Administration. The Center of Excellence will provide a pool of AI experts within the Federal Government that can help agencies adopt AI and will also help better coordinate AI adoption across the Federal Government.

Second, this legislation will require agencies to develop governance plans to guide their AI adoption and use. These governance plans must address privacy and civil liberties considerations. The goal of these governance plans is to ensure agencies adopt and use AI in a responsible way.

Third, this legislation will make it easier for the Federal Government to attract AI talent by establishing a new occupational series for AI experts.

As co-chair of the Congressional AI Caucus, I have heard about the different ways in which the Federal agencies are adopting and looking to adopt AI to improve their operations and to be able to more effectively serve Amer-

icans. Some of these include the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the USDA, the Veterans Affairs Administration, the Department of Labor, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The AI in Government Act will enable these Federal agencies and others to scale AI adoption, while reducing and addressing the potential risks of using AI.

I again want to thank Chairwoman MALONEY and the Oversight Committee staff for working with me and my staff on this important bill.

I also want to thank Senators PORTMAN, HARRIS, and GARDNER for their leadership on this bill in the Senate.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation.

□ 1530

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, artificial intelligence is leading to breakthroughs in productivity in industries across the Nation such as science, transportation, healthcare, and education. The American people deserve a government that takes full advantage of modern technology in a responsible manner.

H.R. 2575 will help assure the proper governance and oversight over the Federal Government's use of a rapidly advancing and promising technology area.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 2575, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2575, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEPUTY SANDEEP SINGH DHALIWAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5317) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, as the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5317

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

SECTION 1. DEPUTY SANDEEP SINGH DHALIWAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315

Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 5317, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, as the Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building.

Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal was born in Punjab, India, before his parents decided to emigrate to Houston, Texas.

Before joining the Harris County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Dhaliwal owned a successful trucking business.

It was his sense of duty and a desire to build a bridge between the department and the Houston area Sikh community that compelled him to join the Sheriff's office.

He joined the force as a detention officer in 2009 and was later deputized and graduated to the rank of patrol deputy. He was assigned to northwest Harris County where he would stay for the rest of his career.

Deputy Dhaliwal was the first observant Sikh to serve in the Harris County Sheriff's Office and was one of the first observant Sikhs in Texas to receive an accommodation to observe his religion while serving as a police officer.

He served with distinction and was a shining example of the important contributions that religious minorities make to our country.

Deputy Dhaliwal also spent countless hours volunteering for Sikh communities across the Nation.

Tragically, he was shot and killed while conducting a routine traffic stop. He was only 42 years old and is survived by his wife and three children.

Naming a post office in his honor is a fitting tribute to a man who served selflessly, made the ultimate sacrifice for his community, and left this country a better place.

I would like to thank the honorable Member from Texas, Representative

FLETCHER, for this legislation to honor a dedicated public servant and trailblazer for the rights of religious minorities.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5317 which would name a post office in my home State of Texas after Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal.

Dhaliwal joined the Harris County Sheriff's Office out of a sense of duty and a desire to build a bridge between the department and the Houston area Sikh community. He was also one of the first observant Sikhs in Texas to receive a policy accommodation allowing him to wear the turban and beard associated with the Sikh religion during his service as a police officer.

After being promoted to the rank of patrol deputy, he was assigned to northwest Harris County.

In September of 2019, Dhaliwal was shot and killed from behind during a routine traffic stop leaving behind a wife and three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation honoring a local law enforcement hero, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from the great State of Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER). I congratulate my friend on this bill.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman MALONEY for all of her efforts to bring this important bill to the floor of this House.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal. He was my constituent, and he was killed in the line of duty nearly a year ago today on September 27, 2019.

As we reach this sad anniversary for our community, I am grateful that this bill to pay tribute to Deputy Dhaliwal's lasting impact on our community is on the floor of the House today. This legislation will designate the postal facility on Addicks Howell Road in Texas' Seventh Congressional District as the Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building.

Deputy Dhaliwal was widely regarded as a role model for Americans of all faiths wishing to serve their communities. He was the first observant Sikh to serve in the Harris County Sheriff's Office, and he was also one of the first officers in Texas to receive a policy accommodation to practice his religion while serving as a police officer.

As my colleagues have noted, he was born in Punjab, India, but his parents soon decided to emigrate to Houston where Mr. Dhaliwal grew deep roots.

He did have a successful business, but seeking to build a bridge between law enforcement and the Sikh community and the greater Houston community, he joined the Harris County Sheriff's Office, first as a detention officer in

2009 and one year later he was deputized and graduated to the rank of patrol deputy.

He was assigned to district 5 which covers much of northwest Harris County, an area he would patrol for the rest of his career. Through his years of service, he improved law enforcement's cultural understanding of Sikhs and was an outstanding example of the tireless contributions that religious minorities and marginalized communities make to our country.

Deputy Dhaliwal was also known to have a giving heart, coordinating relief efforts after Hurricane Harvey and traveling to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria to help a colleague's relatives.

He volunteered countless hours for Sikh communities across the Nation serving as the director of homeland security for United Sikhs, helping to advise Sikh communities on dealing with potential hate crime threats, and advocating for their religious rights.

Deputy Dhaliwal is survived by his wife and three young children. He represented the very best of our community. He worked for equality, connection, and community through his life of service to others. The senseless slaying of Deputy Dhaliwal is a solemn reminder of the risks assumed by police officers daily in serving and protecting our communities.

Renaming this post office facility in his honor will serve as a permanent reminder of Deputy Dhaliwal's commitment to and sacrifice for the community that he lived in and served. It will show that we stand in solidarity with the people of Houston, of Harris County, and the Sikh community across the country as they celebrate the life and mourn of loss of this remarkable and selfless hero.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman MALONEY for her support of this important bill, I thank my colleagues in Texas for joining me unanimously in bringing it forward as cosponsors, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" in favor of the bill.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5317, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5317.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS (SEAL)
MATTHEW G. AXELSON POST OFFICE BUILDING**

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend

the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4672) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, as the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4672

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

**SECTION 1. PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS (SEAL)
MATTHEW G. AXELSON POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, shall be known and designated as the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4672 to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, as the Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building.

Petty Officer Axelson was born June 25, 1976, in Cupertino, California. He was raised locally and graduated from Monta Vista High School in 1994.

Petty Officer Axelson attended California State University at Chico and graduated with a degree in political science. He joined the Navy in 2000 and went on to earn a position as a member of its elite special warfare team, the SEALs.

Only a few short months after he was deployed to Afghanistan, Petty Officer Axelson and two other members of his unit were ambushed and killed by enemy forces in June of 2005. The surviving member of his team would go on to write the book "Lone Survivor" that depicts the courageous actions of the four SEALs on that day.

Petty Officer Axelson was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, the

second highest military award for valor in the United States. Naming a post office in his honor will serve as a tribute to a true American hero taken from us far too soon.

I would like to thank Representative KHANNA, a distinguished member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for this legislation to honor this American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4672 which would name a Cupertino, California, post office after Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Axelson, a Navy SEAL.

Petty Officer Axelson was born and raised in Cupertino. After graduating from college, he joined the U.S. Navy, eventually earning a spot as an elite Navy SEAL serving on SEAL Team 10.

He was deployed to Afghanistan in 2005 and served as part of a four-man special reconnaissance element that participated in Operation Red Wings, a mission to counter fundamentalist forces in the Kunar province of Afghanistan.

On June 28, 2005, Petty Officer Axelson's unit was assigned to kill or capture Ahmad Shah, a high-ranking Taliban leader in the Hindu Kush mountains. He and two other team members were killed in action as part of an ambush by enemy forces, but not until after the four-man group fought ferociously back against a significantly larger force. Axelson continued to fight alongside his teammates after being wounded in the head and chest, but he ultimately succumbed to his wounds. Axelson was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest military award for valor.

The sole remaining survivor of the team wrote a book about the courageous actions of these men called "Lone Survivor" which was later turned into a movie of the same name.

Mr. Speaker, Petty Officer Axelson's actions are a profile in courage. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I now close urging passage of H.R. 4672.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4672.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CLARA LUPER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5597) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the "Clara Luper Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5597

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

SECTION 1. CLARA LUPER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, shall be known and designated as the "Clara Luper Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Clara Luper Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 5597 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the Clara Luper Post Office Building.

Clara Luper made her mark in a time when people of color could not even walk through the front door of Oklahoma City businesses. She had a vision for equality, a heart for service, and a commitment to justice. She knew that Oklahoma and this country could be a place where everyone is treated with respect, dignity, and humanity.

In August of 1958, Ms. Luper and 14 of her NAACP youth council students organized one of America's first sit-ins when they entered Katz Drug Store in Oklahoma City to order a hamburger and a Coke. They were denied service but refused to leave. Though they were verbally and physically assaulted, they persisted.

Within days of the sit-in, Katz Drug Stores integrated their lunch counters not just in Oklahoma City, but in three other States as well.

Her initiative helped inspire the 1961 Greensboro, North Carolina, sit-in at the Woolworth's lunch counter, which fueled momentum within the civil rights movement.

Ms. Luper continued her fight for freedom. She was arrested 26 times, integrated the history department at the University of Oklahoma by becoming its first African-American graduate of the master's program and worked tirelessly across the State in pursuit of her vision for justice. We should commemorate this heroine of the civil rights movement by naming a post office in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the honorable gentlewoman and my very good friend from Oklahoma, Representative HORN, for this legislation to honor a heroine of the civil rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5597, which would name a post office in Oklahoma after Clara Luper.

Luper believed that Oklahoma and the United States should be a place where everyone is treated equally with respect.

In 1958, she and 14 of her NAACP youth council students organized one of the first U.S. sit-ins at a Katz Drug Store in Oklahoma. They tried to order a hamburger and soda knowing that they would be refused solely because of the color of their skin.

Though they were assaulted, they stayed with their cause. And within days, Katz Drug Stores integrated their lunch counters in Oklahoma and three other States.

This sit-in helped inspire the 1961 sit-ins at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, which was a critical moment during the civil rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the great State of Oklahoma (Ms. KENDRA S. HORN).

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman MALONEY for taking up this important bill to honor Clara Luper and her sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to urge passage of H.R. 5597, a bill to rename the downtown Oklahoma City Post Office in honor of Clara Luper.

Clara Luper, known as the mother of Oklahoma's civil rights movement was a teacher, a publisher, and so much more. On August 19, 1958, Luper and 13 NAACP youth council students led the Nation's first lunch counter sit-in at Katz Drug Store in downtown Oklahoma City.

These sit-ins inspired similar action across the south during the civil rights movement, including the Woolworth's lunch counter sit-in in Greensboro, North Carolina.

When Luper and the NAACP students sat down at that lunch counter, they knew they would be refused. They also knew what was on the line. In Ms. Luper's words, "Within that hamburger, was the whole essence of democracy."

Each day they returned to the drugstore with more people asking to be served. Though verbally and physically assaulted, they persisted. Sitting in peaceful protest, their fearlessness and determination resulted in Katz Drug Stores integrating lunch counters, not just in Oklahoma City, but also in Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa. And they went on to integrate lunch counters and businesses throughout Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma City was ground zero for America's civil rights movement, and we have a responsibility to share that proud history and make sure that the story of the Oklahoma sit-in movement is never lost. Renaming the downtown post office in honor of Clara Luper is just one small step we can take to honor those who struggled and fought for civil rights in Oklahoma and across the country.

We have come a long way because of the sacrifices of Clara Luper and those who stood with her in the civil rights movement, but there is much more work left to be done. This bill will take a step forward but, to me, the best way we can honor Ms. Luper is to uphold her legacy through a commitment to justice and equity in our laws and policies.

Today, 62 years after Clara Luper and the NAACP youth council students first sat down at Katz Drug Store to stand up for justice, she and the sit-inners are inspiring a new generation of Oklahomans to take action through peaceful protest, to challenge injustice and systemic racism.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Clara Luper Post Office can stand as a testament to her enduring legacy, her courage, and her historic fight for justice, and I urge passage.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5597, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5597.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REVEREND CURTIS WEST HARRIS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3847) to

designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 117 West Poythress Street in Hopewell, Virginia, as the "Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3847

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

SECTION 1. REVEREND CURTIS WEST HARRIS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located 117 West Poythress Street in Hopewell, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3847, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 117 West Poythress Street in Hopewell, Virginia, as the "Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building".

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Curtis West Harris was born in Dendron, Virginia, on July 1, 1924. After graduating from high school and the Virginia Union University in Richmond, he worked at Allied Chemical.

After an executive order was issued to prohibit discrimination at companies that received contracts from the Federal Government, Reverend Harris successfully sued Allied Chemical for violating the order.

Reverend Harris continued the fight for social justice and would be arrested more than a dozen times for acts of peaceful protest and civil disobedience.

In 1960, he joined the national board of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He would eventually head its Virginia chapter for more than 30 years.

Reverend Harris was one of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's top lieutenants, joining Dr. King's 54-mile march in 1965 from Selma to Montgomery. Reverend Harris continued to lead

marches and engage in other forms of action for decades despite repeated threats against his life and his family. He later would be elected to the Hopewell City Council and became Hopewell's first Black mayor in 1998.

Reverend Harris died on December 10, 2017, at the age of 93. He was buried in Appomattox Cemetery, the same cemetery he fought to integrate in 1960.

Naming a post office after Reverend Curtis West Harris would celebrate the memory of a civil rights icon who fought throughout his life for social justice.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished Member from Virginia, Representative MCEACHIN, for this legislation to honor a civil rights leader and hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3847, which would designate a Virginia Postal Service facility as the "Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building".

Reverend Harris was a native Virginian who attended the Carter G. Woodson High School and Virginia Union University. After college, Reverend Harris began to work at the Allied Chemical Plant in Hopewell, Virginia. He successfully sued Allied Chemical after an executive order that prohibited discrimination at companies that received government contracts. This began Reverend Harris' lifelong fight for social justice.

In 1960, he was sentenced to 60 days in jail for staging a sit-in at a segregated drugstore. He also protested the segregation of Hopewell's cemetery and swimming pool. He joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's national board and would eventually head up the Virginia chapter.

During this time at SCLC, Reverend Harris became close to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King and joined him on the 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery.

Reverend Harris was an influential and well-respected member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 3847, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1600

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3847.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORMANDIA MALDONADO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3870) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, as the "Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3870

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

SECTION 1. NORMANDIA MALDONADO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3870, to designate the facility of the United States Post Office located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, as the Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building.

When Normandia Maldonado came to the United States in 1960, she brought her love for the arts and her passion for serving the community. She began her career as a dancer and teacher while also becoming actively involved in the Washington Heights community as an activist and a leader.

Ms. Maldonado promoted Dominican culture in New York City and was a pioneer in the development of Dominican history in the United States. She cofounded the second oldest Dominican cultural institution in New York, the Instituto Duarte of the United States.

Ms. Maldonado also founded a ballet company, Casandra Dameron Hall of Fame, and was a founding member of the Dominican Day Parade.

Ms. Maldonado was an artist, activist, leader, and legend who made piv-

otal contributions to the Washington Heights community, Dominican culture in America, and all New Yorkers.

I would like to thank my colleague and friend, Representative ESPAILLAT, a distinguished member of the New York delegation, for introducing this measure to honor a great artistic and community leader.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3870, which would name a New York City post office after Normandia Maldonado.

Normandia Maldonado was born in the Dominican Republic, where she developed a love for the arts and a passion to serve her community. She took this love and passion to New York City in 1960, when she came to the U.S. to star in the Cuban film "Busquen A Ese Hombre."

She began to plant roots in the Washington Heights community and worked to promote Dominican culture in the area. She cofounded Club Civico y Cultural Juan Pablo Duarte, which is the second oldest Dominican cultural institution in New York. She also founded what is now known as the Dominican Day Parade.

Her contributions have impacted countless Dominicans and New Yorkers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 3870, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Normandia Maldonado, an icon of Dominican culture, and my bill H.R. 3870, which designates the U.S. Post Office located at 511 W. 165th Street in Washington Heights as the "Normandia Maldonado Post Office Facility."

Normandia Maldonado is renowned for her decades of artistic leadership within the Dominican diaspora of New York City, where she co-founded Club Civico y Cultural Juan Pablo Duarte, Inc., directed and released various films, and helped establish the Dominican Day parade.

But, perhaps even more so, she is revered as a pioneering activist who was instrumental in the establishment of the Dominican population within the mosaic of New York City.

From the time she arrived in New York City in 1960, the Dominican diaspora leaned on her fiery yet elegant and inspirational character.

And much like the United States Postal Service, Normandia ALWAYS answered the call to service, especially for the Dominican community and our fellow New Yorkers.

She taught in neighborhood schools.

She led efforts in the community to build a statue in honor of Juan Pablo Duarte, the Dominican Republic's foremost founding father.

And she established the Cassandra Damiroń Hall of Fame to ensure that fellow Dominican artists' accomplishments and talent receive the recognition they deserve.

In the wake of the Administration's unprecedented attacks on the Postal Service, I am honored to enshrine and underscore Ms. Maldonado's altruistic spirit, fortitude, and commitment to public service via this designation at the facility on 165th Street.

This will stand for decades in the community and hopefully come as a reminder—and perhaps a mandate—to the Postal Service employees working there, who I know will weather this Administration's storm of punitive policies and will continue to dutifully serve the people of Washington Heights and New York City.

I want to thank my friend and fellow New Yorker, Chairwoman CAROLYN MALONEY, for her help in bringing this to the floor, Government Operations Subcommittee Chairman GERRY CONNOLLY, and the staff of the Committee on Oversight and Reform for helping us through this process.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN of Illinois). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3870.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OFFICER ROBERT GERMAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5062) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, as the "Officer Robert German Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5062

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

SECTION 1. OFFICER ROBERT GERMAN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Officer Robert German Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Officer Robert German Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 5062, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, as the Officer Robert German Post Office Building.

Robert German was born in Burlington, Ontario, on March 4, 1983. He moved with his family to central Florida at the age of 5.

After high school and college at South Georgia College, he moved back to central Florida to work in airport operations. There, he regularly worked with security and local police departments, which inspired him to serve his community by pursuing a career in law enforcement.

After graduating in 2007 from Seminole State College Law Enforcement Academy, Officer German decided to serve the town of Windermere, where he hoped the tight-knit community would allow him to build personal relationships with fellow officers and residents.

On the night of March 22, 2014, Officer German was shot and killed. His untimely death marks the first time in the history of the Windermere Police Department that an officer was slain in the line of duty.

Officer German exemplified the best of Windermere's police department. Dedicating a post office after Officer Robert German would honor his courage and dedication to his community.

I would like to thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) for this legislation to honor a dedicated public servant taken far too soon.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5062, which would name a Florida post office after Officer Robert German.

Robert German, affectionately known as Robbie, moved to central Florida when he was 5 years old. After graduating with a business degree, he began working in airport operations, where he coordinated with security and police departments. These interactions inspired him to become a law enforcement agent.

Officer German was shot and killed in the line of duty on March 22, 2014.

Officer German's courage, dedication, and passion for his community are to be commended.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I likewise urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5062, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5062.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DOROTHY BRADEN BRUCE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4975) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, as the "Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4975

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

SECTION 1. DOROTHY BRADEN BRUCE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4975, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, as the Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building.

Dorothy Bruce served as a cryptanalyst with the U.S. Army Signal Corps' Signal Intelligence Service during World War II. Dorothy Bruce served with thousands of other women as code breakers who were vital to the war effort in the Pacific.

Dorothy's unit was critical in discovering the locations of Japanese ships in the Pacific, identifying and intercepting enemy supply convoys and protecting the lives of countless American servicemembers.

She passed away at the age of 99 last year.

Naming a post office after Dorothy Bruce will serve as a bright example for women and girls pursuing careers in science and math and will honor her remarkable service to the country in one of its darkest hours.

I want to thank the honorable Member from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) for this legislation to honor one of our Nation's quiet, unsung heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4975, which would name a Virginia post office for Dorothy Braden Bruce.

Dorothy Bruce served as a cryptanalyst with the U.S. Army Signal Corps' Signal Intelligence Service during World War II.

Sworn to secrecy, Dorothy's unit worked to disclose the locations of Japanese ships in the Pacific. Her unit also identified and intercepted enemy supply movements.

The contributions of Bruce and her unit were crucial in defeating the Axis Powers in the Pacific.

Her story is featured in the best-selling book "Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II."

Bruce serves as a shining inspiration for women and girls pursuing careers in STEM fields.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER), the sponsor of this incredibly important legislation.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of the gentlewoman from New York and the comments of the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4975.

Midlothian resident Dorothy Braden Bruce—or Dot, as she was widely known—embodied the true spirit of central Virginia and our Commonwealth.

In World War II, Dorothy's work to break Japanese codes was one of the most pivotal Allied code-breaking efforts in the war.

Having been recruited by the military to serve in a top-secret group of code-breaking women, she intercepted enemy movements, supply shipments, and potential threats to American servicemembers.

For 70 years, Dorothy Bruce kept her story a secret. She had sworn an oath of secrecy. It wasn't until an author reached out to her a few years ago that

she learned that she could finally talk about her by-then declassified work in the service of our country. It was at this time that even her grown children first learned of their mother's pivotal work.

Dorothy Bruce didn't ask for credit, and she didn't seek the limelight. She knew that she had protected the lives of American servicemembers in the field of combat, and she knew their families were prospering and growing in the following decades, thanks to the diligence of her top-secret code-breaking unit. For her, that was an achievement worth celebrating, though quietly and secretly.

Meanwhile, Dorothy Bruce became a dedicated member of our central Virginia community. She worked as an educator, and she raised a loving family. Last year, she passed away at the age of 99.

This legislation honors Dorothy Braden Bruce's life serving our country and her service to others across Virginia.

Her story continues to inspire, and that is why I am working to make sure our community will always remember Dorothy Bruce's story and the stories of her fellow women code breakers.

My legislation would name the Sycamore Square post office in Midlothian, Virginia, near where she once lived at the Spring Arbor Assisted Living, after her.

With this bipartisan bill passing today, we are one step closer to future generations of trailblazers walking through the doors of the Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building.

I would like to thank every member of the Virginia delegation of the House for signing onto this bill at introduction in order to recognize Dorothy Bruce's work.

She was a trailblazer. Her ingenuity and her determination as a code breaker did not just blaze a path for a generation of future code breakers and women in public service, but it saved thousands of American lives.

□ 1615

For women pursuing careers in science and math and intelligence, Dorothy is a reminder of the pioneering contributions of women in these fields throughout our Nation's history.

Today, I would also like to thank Dot's loving family for their work to amplify her story and reaffirm the importance of the female code breakers of World War II. Their story is worth knowing and worth celebrating.

This bill is just a small act to remember and recognize Dorothy Braden Bruce's remarkable life of courage, dedication, selflessness, and service to country.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I also urge passage of H.R. 4975, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4975.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALTHEA MARGARET DAILY MILLS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2969) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the "Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2969

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

SECTION 1. ALTHEA MARGARET DAILY MILLS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 2969, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building.

Althea Mills began her education in Pughsville, which was Winter Haven's first Black community. When she moved at the age of 13 to Pennsylvania to live with her aunt, Ms. Mills was able to attend integrated schools before returning to Winter Haven, which was not integrated.

In 1963, Ms. Mills filed a lawsuit against the Polk County Board of Education. The result of the lawsuit allowed her son to attend Winter Haven High School, which was all White at that time. Ms. Mills' successful lawsuit would later be credited with the integration of all Polk County public schools.

Ms. Mills was also the first Black employee of the United States Postal Service in Winter Haven. She later would manage the Florence Villa Post Office.

Althea Mills passed away in 2008. Naming a post office after her would commemorate an unsung hero in the fight for desegregation in Florida and a trailblazer for civil rights who improved the lives of countless students.

I want to thank the distinguished gentleman from Florida for this bill to honor a great public servant and civil rights pioneer.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2969, which would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building.

Althea Margaret Daily Mills had a crucial role in the desegregation of Florida. When asked about her motivation to challenge the Polk County Board of Public Instruction, Mills said: "Our instructors were just as good, but some of my son's textbooks would go to page 3 and then skip to page 35. You can't learn like that." This lawsuit eventually led to the public integration of all Polk County public schools.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 2969.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleague, Congressman SOTO, for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2969.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN HENRY TURPIN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4034) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, as the "John Henry Turpin Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4034

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

SECTION 1. JOHN HENRY TURPIN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, shall be known and designated as the “John Henry Turpin Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “John Henry Turpin Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4034, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, as the John Henry Turpin Post Office Building.

John Henry “Dick” Turpin was a U.S. Navy sailor born in 1876. Over his distinguished and accomplished career, Turpin likely became the first African American qualified as a master class diver, in 1915, and one of the first African-American Navy chief petty officers.

Mr. Turpin’s three-decade career in the Navy included service during the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and World War I. During World War II, Mr. Turpin volunteered to make inspirational visits to Navy training centers and defense plants. He survived two Navy disasters: the sinking of both the USS *Maine* in 1898 and the USS *Bennington* in 1905.

Naming a post office after John Henry “Dick” Turpin would honor his distinguished service and unwavering commitment to our country.

I would like to thank the honorable Member from Washington, Representative KILMER, for this legislation to honor this great public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4034, which would designate the facility

of the United States Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, as the John Henry Turpin Post Office Building.

After a distinguished career serving in the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and World War I, and being disallowed from reenlisting during World War II because of his age, Mr. Turpin instead volunteered to tour the Navy training facilities and defense plants to speak to African-American sailors.

After his retirement from Active Duty in the Navy, Turpin worked as a master rigger in Bremerton, Washington. His service is to be commended, and because of that, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I also urge passage of this bill, H.R. 4034, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4034.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEPUTY DONALD WILLIAM DURR, CORPORAL ZACH MOAK, AND PATROLMAN JAMES WHITE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2246) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Cherokee Street in Brookhaven, Mississippi, as the “Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2246

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

SECTION 1. DEPUTY DONALD WILLIAM DURR, CORPORAL ZACH MOAK, AND PATROLMAN JAMES WHITE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Cherokee Street in Brookhaven, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the “Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 2246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Cherokee Street in Brookhaven, Mississippi, as the Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building.

Donald William Durr, 39, died in the line of duty on May 27, 2017. William was a deputy with the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Department, where he had been employed for 2 years. In the weeks just prior to his passing, he had completed training to become the department’s DARE officer and educator.

Prior to joining the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Department, he was a police officer with the Brookhaven Police Department for 4 years. William enjoyed spending time doing youth and children ministries, where he would often use his talents on the guitar.

James White, 35, died in the line of duty on September 29, 2018, by gunfire. James was employed by the Brookhaven Police Department for 3 months and was previously employed with the Lawrence County Sheriff’s Department, where he worked for many years.

He was a soldier in the Army National Guard and served his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was also a Purple Heart recipient.

Zach Moak died in the line of duty at the age of 31, on September 29, 2018, by gunfire. Zach was employed with the Brookhaven Police Department for 3 years. He previously worked for Wesson and the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Department.

Zach enjoyed spending time working and helping people in his community. He also loved spending time with his family.

These fallen heroes deserve the recognition they will receive by having a post office named in their honor. Our communities are better for their service.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honorable Member from Mississippi, Representative GUEST, for his legislation to honor these fallen heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2246, which would name a Mississippi post office after three brave citizens who died in the line of duty.

Donald William Durr was a deputy in the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department when he was killed in the line of duty. Just prior to his passing, he had completed training to become a DARE officer and educator. He was also a talented musician and ventriloquist who enjoyed spending time with his family.

James White had only briefly been employed with the Brookhaven Police Department when he died in 2018. He had previously been employed with the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department, and before that, he was a soldier in the Army National Guard and served our country in Operation Iraqi Freedom, receiving a Purple Heart.

Zach Moak was a patrolman with the Brookhaven Police Department. He had previously worked for Wesson and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. In his free time, he loved to spend time with his family and help out in his community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 2246, a bill to designate the United States Postal Service facility at 201 West Cherokee Street in Brookhaven, Mississippi, as the Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building. These three men lost their lives in the line of duty, and with the passage of this legislation, we will ensure that their sacrifice is not forgotten.

Donald William Durr, age 36, died in the line of duty May 27, 2017. William was a deputy with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department where he had been employed for 2 years after serving as a police officer with the Brookhaven Police Department for 4 years. William is survived by his wife, one son, his mother, and his sister.

James White, age 35, died in the line of duty September 29, 2018, by gunfire. James was employed with the Brookhaven Police Department for 3 months and was previously employed with the Lawrence County Sheriff's Department where he worked many years. He was a soldier in the Army National Guard and served his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. James was also a Purple Heart recipient and was the father of two.

Zach Moak, age 31, died in the line of duty September 29, 2018, by gunfire. Zach was employed with the

Brookhaven Police Department for 3 years. He previously worked for Wesson and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Departments. Zach enjoyed spending time working, helping people in his community, and in the company of his family.

President Ronald Reagan once said there could be no more nobler vocation than the protection of one's fellow citizens. No single group is more fully committed to the well-being of their fellow Americans and to the faithful discharge of duties than our law enforcement. Law enforcement we know lives by creed. That creed is to serve and to protect. In the performance of their duty, danger is a routine part of their job, and we, on occasion, lose some valiant men and women.

Because of the sacrifice of these three officers, we want to make sure that their valiant deeds will never be forgotten.

I hope you will join me in supporting this legislation to dedicate this post office in the memory of three heroes who gave their lives in honorable service to their community.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2246.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ERNEST "ERNIE" T. PYLE POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4734) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the "Ernest 'Ernie' T. Pyle Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4734

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

SECTION 1. ERNEST "ERNIE" T. PYLE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Ernest 'Ernie' T. Pyle Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ernest 'Ernie' T. Pyle Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 4734 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the Ernest Taylor Pyle Post Office Building.

Ernest or "Ernie" Pyle began his career in media writing for Indiana University's campus student newspaper, the Indiana Daily Student.

Mr. Pyle took a job as a reporter for the La Porte Herald in Indiana, moving through a variety of publications, before working with the Scripps-Howard News Service where he covered aviation and travel throughout the 1930s.

But it was during World War II that Mr. Pyle made his greatest contributions to American journalism and the American war effort.

Beginning in 1942, Mr. Pyle began reporting from the front lines of both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war, bringing the experiences and stories of soldiers back home to America.

His simple storytelling style of writing and first-person perspectives endeared him to Americans back home and abroad alike.

His reporting led directly to congressional legislation that provided combat infantry with an additional \$5 to \$10 a month to compensate them for more dangerous positions. This benefit would eventually lead to the creation of combat pay as we know it today.

Through the course of the war, Mr. Pyle wrote and reported from the front lines in battles ranging from Anzio in Italy, to the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, to Okinawa in the Pacific.

Near the end of the war on April 18, 1945, Mr. Pyle was reporting on the U.S. Army's 305th Infantry Regiment in the South Pacific when he was killed by enemy fire.

Following his death, President Harry Truman stated, "No man in this war has so well told the story of the American fighting man as American fighting men wanted it told."

Ernie Pyle was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for journalism for his correspondence in the war, as well as the Medal for Merit and the Purple Heart posthumously. Today his legacy lives on through his depictions of soldiers in World War II.

I thank the honorable gentleman from Indiana for this legislation to honor this American patriot and hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4734, which would name an Indiana Post Office after Ernest T. Pyle.

Ernie Pyle was born near Dana, Indiana. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve before attending Indiana University. At Indiana University he studied economics and journalism and wrote for the student newspaper.

During World War II, Pyle served as a war correspondent. He reported from the front lines of both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war. His accounts from the front helped provide Americans with valuable unseen perspectives of war.

His reporting helped lead to the creation of combat pay. Near the end of the war in April 1945, Pyle was reporting on the island of Iejima when he was killed by a lone Japanese machine gunner. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for journalism, as well as the Medal for Merit and the Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON).

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 4734, which will designate the United States Post Office at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the Ernest 'Ernie' Taylor Pyle Post Office.

I was proud to introduce this legislation with the support of the entire Indiana delegation to honor the life and achievements of a great Hoosier.

Born in Dana, Indiana, on August 3, 1900, Ernie Pyle was one of the most beloved and impactful war correspondents in World War II. Beginning in 1942, Pyle began reporting from the front lines in battles ranging from Anzio in Italy, to the beaches of Normandy on D-Day, to Okinawa in the Pacific. It was here that he brought the experiences and stories of the everyday soldier back home to America. His simple storytelling style and first-person perspectives endeared him to Americans back home and abroad alike.

While reporting from Italy, Pyle wrote in his column that our troops in combat should receive additional compensation for risking their lives as he was doing, eventually prompting Congress to pass a bill nicknamed "The Ernie Pyle Bill" that provided combat infantry with an additional \$5 to \$10 a month. This benefit would eventually lead to the creation of combat pay as we know it today.

Near the end of the war on April 18, 1945, Pyle was reporting on the U.S.

Army's 305th Infantry Regiment on the island of Iejima when he was killed by Japanese gunfire. Following his death, President Harry Truman stated, "No man in this war has so well told the story of the American fighting man as American fighting men wanted it told."

Ernie Pyle was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for journalism for his war correspondence as well as the Medal for Merit and the Purple Heart posthumously.

Today his legacy lives on through the work of dedicated nonprofit organizations and in museums and libraries, such as the Ernie Pyle Library in New Mexico that has been designated a national historic landmark and the Ernie Pyle World War II Museum in his home town of Dana, Indiana, in my congressional district.

I am grateful to this body for taking up this legislation to honor the legacy of a great Hoosier and an American hero. I urge a "yes" vote on this bill.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4734, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4734.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LANCE CORPORAL ANDY "ACE" NOWACKI POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3275) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 Wetmore Avenue in Grand River, Ohio, as the "Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3275

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

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL ANDY "ACE" NOWACKI POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 Wetmore Avenue in Grand River, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY)

and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3275 to designate the facility of the U.S. Post Office located at 340 Wetmore Avenue, Grand River, Ohio, as the Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office Building.

Andrew, known as Andy or Ace to those who knew him, learned the importance of duty, country, commitment and community at a young age, as his parents had many friends who were police officers and veterans.

Andy graduated from Brush High School in 1998 and joined the Marine Corps.

Andy also attended the Cleveland Heights Police Academy becoming a patrolman for Grand River in 2001. He was a dedicated member of the Ready Response Team, the Honor Guard, and the Bike Patrol, always looking to protect and serve his community.

□ 1645

On February 26, 2005, he was killed by a roadside bomb on his second tour of duty in Iraq. He was serving as a gunner on a Humvee that was protecting a truck convoy south of Baghdad.

Andy bravely served his country and community, and his memory in both of these roles should be commended.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished Member from Ohio, Representative JOYCE, for his legislation to honor this American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 3275, which would name the United States Postal Service facility located at 340 Wetmore Avenue in Grand River, Ohio, as the Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office.

Known as Andy or Ace to his loved ones, he graduated from Brush High School in 1998 and joined the Marine Corps Reserves shortly after.

He attended the Cleveland Heights Police Academy and became a patrolman for Grand River in 2001. As a patrolman, he was a dedicated member of the ready response team, the honor guard, and the bike patrol.

He was killed by a roadside bomb on his second tour in Iraq on February 26, 2005, as he served as a gunner on a

Humvee that was protecting a convoy south of Baghdad.

Andy was always looking to protect and serve his country and those around him. He served his country and his community bravely, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise humbled by the opportunity before this House today to help preserve the legacy of a true American patriot and local hero in northeast Ohio, the late Lance Corporal Andrew Nowacki.

Lance Corporal Nowacki was tragically killed in action on February 26, 2005, while protecting his fellow marines during his second tour of duty in Iraq.

He was just 24 years old.

However, his dedication to protecting his community and serving his country made him a hero long before he gave the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.

Andrew, known as Andy or Ace to those closest to him, graduated from Brush High School in 1998 and signed up for the Marine Corps Reserves shortly thereafter.

He later attended the Cleveland Heights Police Academy and joined the Grand River Police Department in 2001.

Always looking to protect and serve others, Andy was a dedicated member of the ready response team, the honor guard, and the bike patrol.

Andy's commitment to community, dedication to service, and desire to help others is something we should forever honor, and his sacrifice is something we should never forget.

My bill, H.R. 3275, would rename the United States Post Office in Grand River, Ohio, the Lance Corporal Andy 'Ace' Nowacki Post Office, ensuring he will forever be remembered by the community he cared so deeply for and contributed so much to.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help preserve Andy's legacy and vote "yes" on H.R. 3275.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I also urge passage of H.R. 3275, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3275.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DR. C.O. SIMPKINS, SR., POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5384) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the "Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5384

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

SECTION 1. DR. C.O. SIMPKINS, SR., POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 5384 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office.

Born and raised in Mansfield, Louisiana, Dr. Simpkins attended Wiley College and Tennessee State University for his undergraduate studies before earning a degree in dentistry from Meharry Medical College.

Following his undergraduate education, he joined the U.S. Air Force, obtaining the rank of captain before being honorably discharged.

After his military service, he returned to Shreveport, Louisiana, to open a dental practice. During this time, he became very involved with the civil rights movement and was a close friend of Dr. Martin Luther King.

This drew the attention of racist organizations like the Ku Klux Klan, and his home and office were firebombed. Fearing for his safety, Dr. Simpkins moved to New York, where he continued to advocate for civil rights.

After living in New York for 26 years, Dr. Simpkins returned to Shreveport,

reopened his dental practice, and pursued a career in politics. He won a seat in the Louisiana State House of Representatives, where he served for one term before returning to his dental practice full time.

He retired from his practice in 2011. Dr. Simpkins passed away on December 4, 2019, at the age of 94. We are pleased to honor his legacy and memory by naming a post office in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JOHNSON, the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Liberties, for this bill to honor this community and civil rights leader.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5384 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office.

Dr. Simpkins joined the U.S. Air Force after school, attaining the rank of captain before being honorably discharged.

Following his military service, he returned to Shreveport and opened a dental practice.

He became involved in the civil rights movement, serving with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unfortunately, his involvement drew the attention of racist organizations, such as the Ku Klux Klan, tragically resulting in his home and office being firebombed.

Fearing for his safety, Dr. Simpkins moved to New York, where he continued to be an advocate for civil rights.

After living in New York for 26 years, Dr. Simpkins returned to Shreveport, reopened his dental practice, and pursued a career in politics. He won a seat in the Louisiana State House of Representatives, where he served for one term before returning to his dental practice full time. He continued working at his dental practice until retiring in 2011.

He passed away on December 4, 2019, at the age of 94.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 5384, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5384.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LANCE CORPORAL RHONALD DAIN RAIRDAN POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend

the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4785) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1305 U.S. Highway 90 West in Castroville, Texas, as the "Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4785

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

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL RHONALD DAIN RAIKIDAN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1305 U.S. Highway 90 West in Castroville, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4785 to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 1305 U.S. Highway 90 West in Castroville, Texas, as the Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office.

Rhonald Dain Rairdan was born on April 22, 1984, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. He was a 2003 graduate of Medina Valley High School, where he was a member of the ROTC drill team.

Dain was raised in an Air Force family and lived in many different places, but he wanted to be a U.S. marine his entire life.

Four months after joining the Marine Corps, Lance Corporal Rairdan was deployed to the Middle East to join the Marine-led offensive to take control of Fallujah.

Lance Corporal Rairdan's unit was tasked with hunting for weapon stockpiles and policing the damaged city as residents tried to regain a sense of normalcy.

On January 26, 2005, the helicopter he was onboard crashed near Rutbah, Iraq, killing 30.

Dain died doing what he loved, protecting the United States.

Castroville, Texas, was his adopted home, and naming this post office for

him will allow the residents there to remember and honor his dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Member from Texas, Representative HURD, for this legislation to honor this American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4785, which would name a post office in Castroville, Texas, after Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan.

Dain, as he was called by his loved ones, was raised in an Air Force family and lived all over the country.

He considered Castroville to be his adopted home, and it is where his celebration of life would eventually be held.

Dain grew up wanting to join the Marine Corps because he wanted to protect his country. Four months after joining the Marines, he was deployed to the Middle East to join the Marine-led offensive to take control of Fallujah.

On January 26, 2005, Dain was onboard a helicopter near Rutbah, Iraq, when it crashed. Twenty-eight marines were killed alongside Dain.

He died serving this Nation and protecting us, a most honorable calling.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD).

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4785, which will honor the bravery of Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan, who died serving his country in Iraq.

Dain, as he was called by his friends and family, grew up in an Air Force family, moving to and living in many places around the country, but his adopted hometown was Castroville, Texas.

It was in Castroville that Dain joined the Air Force JROTC program at Medina Valley High School. It was here that he realized his passion for service and, in 2005, joined the U.S. Marine Corps.

According to his friends and family, being a marine was what he wanted to do his whole life. Four months after joining the Corps, Dain deployed to the Middle East, where his unit was tasked with hunting for weapon stockpiles and policing damaged cities as residents tried to regain a sense of normalcy.

Tragically, on what was supposed to be his last mission before leaving Iraq, Dain and 30 other servicemembers were killed when their helicopter crashed in western Iraq.

□ 1700

With that crash, we lost so many brave, incredible American patriots who embodied Semper Fidelis—Always Faithful.

This was true for Dain especially. His commitment to his country left an unwavering impact on the lives of those who knew or served with him. He made his country, family, and friends proud.

While his legacy will undoubtedly live on through his family and all those who knew him, the renaming of the Castroville, Texas, Post Office in his name will forever enshrine his love of our great Nation.

I thank every one of my Texas colleagues for joining me in this bipartisan effort to allow folks in Castroville to remember Lance Corporal Rairdan, and I hope the rest of my colleagues in this Chamber will do the same.

As we reflect on the bravery of one man who gave everything for country, let's remember that our mission in the Middle East isn't finished. He died for this mission, and we must ensure it is complete.

God bless all of our servicemen and -women.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4785.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SERGEANT DAVID KINTERKNECHT POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4200) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 South 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado, as the "Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4200

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT DAVID KINTERKNECHT POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 South 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office".

(c) REPEAL OF PREVIOUS DESIGNATION.—Section 1 of Public Law 115-366 is hereby repealed, and the designation made and references deemed in subsections (a) and (b), respectively, of such section shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 4200, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 321 South 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado, as the Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office.

Sergeant Kinterknecht was born on May 23, 1968, in Montrose, Colorado. His roots in Montrose run deep. Throughout his childhood, he attended public schools in Montrose and eventually graduated, in 1986, from Montrose High School.

After graduation, he attended Mesa State College and Delta Montrose Technical College, where he trained and completed his education to achieve his lifelong dream of becoming a police officer.

He worked for several different departments, starting with the Telluride Marshal's Office, the San Miguel County Sheriff's Office, and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office.

In the last 10 years of his career, he worked for the Montrose Police Department, and he was also a volunteer for the Montrose Fire Protection District. In his free time, he was a member of the Montrose Area Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 56.

Sergeant David Kinterknecht was shot and killed while responding to a routine domestic violence call in 2009. Two of his fellow officers were also wounded in the tragedy. He died at the age of 41, survived by his wife, two daughters, and three stepsons.

Naming this post office after Sergeant Kinterknecht would honor his life of courageous, selfless service to his community and the ultimate sacrifice he made for the safety of others.

I would like to thank the honorable Member from Colorado, Representative TIPTON, for this bill to honor this dedicated public servant who was taken too soon.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4200, which would name a Colorado post office after Sergeant David Kinterknecht. Sergeant Kinterknecht was a law en-

forcement officer who was killed in 2009 while responding to a routine domestic violence call.

This bill would repeal and replace a bill passed in Congress that named a mail processing facility after Sergeant Kinterknecht. This mail processing facility is not commonly used by those in Montrose.

Instead, to ensure that Sergeant Kinterknecht is remembered as he deserves, Congressman TIPTON wishes to name a more commonly used post office after the sergeant. This would allow Montrose residents, including Sergeant Kinterknecht's family and friends, to be able to see a post office named after him.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TIPTON).

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4200.

I would like to thank my colleagues for the kind words in regard to Sergeant Kinterknecht and the sacrifice that he made on behalf of our communities.

H.R. 4200 will make a technical correction to prior legislation signed into law to designate the primary USPS facility in Montrose, Colorado, after Sergeant David Kinterknecht, who was killed in the line of duty on July 25, 2009.

Sergeant Kinterknecht was born and raised in Montrose and graduated from Mesa State College and the Delta Montrose Technical College.

His career in law enforcement began in the 1980s, and throughout his career, he served in the Telluride Marshal's Office, the San Miguel County Sheriff's Office, and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office.

Sergeant Kinterknecht was a respected law enforcement officer, a dedicated public servant, and a family man. His death was mourned throughout the entire State of Colorado, and the passage of H.R. 4200 will help preserve and honor the memory of Sergeant Kinterknecht in his community.

I am grateful for the entire Colorado delegation signing on to this legislation to honor someone who gave his all for his community in support of all he loved.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4200, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4200, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4200.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RICHARD G. LUGAR POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3105) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3105

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

SECTION 1. RICHARD G. LUGAR POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Richard G. Lugar Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of S. 3105, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the Richard G. Lugar Post Office.

Richard Lugar was born in Indianapolis in 1932. After attending high school, he studied at Denison University and Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. He then served in the U.S. Navy as an intelligence officer and returned to Indianapolis soon after. He first served in local government on the school board and then became city mayor.

In 1976, Richard Lugar was elected to the United States Senate. While in office, he made significant bipartisan reforms to the farm program, started the biofuels research program, and preserved the Federal school lunch program.

Senator Lugar also left a mark on United States foreign policy. He served

34 years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he was a leader in reducing nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

With Senator Sam Nunn, Senator Lugar helped pass and implement the Nunn-Lugar program, which dismantled the weapons of mass destruction and their associated infrastructure in former Soviet Union states.

Senator Lugar was also instrumental in the expansion of the NATO alliance, the creation of a program to end the global AIDS epidemic, and the ratification of various antiterrorist treaties.

For his lifetime of service, Senator Lugar was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013, and he held 47 honorary degrees.

Senator Lugar passed away shortly after his 87th birthday on April 28, 2019. Naming a post office after Senator Lugar would help honor his lifetime of public service.

I would like to thank Senator BRAUN and Representative ANDRÉ CARSON, who introduced the House companion for this bill to honor Senator Lugar's lifetime of work to save our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise to speak on S. 3105, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the Richard G. Lugar Post Office.

Senator Lugar left the United States Senate as the longest serving Member of Congress in Indiana history. During his time in the Senate, he was internationally recognized. Senator Lugar was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her Majesty the Queen of England even bestowed on him the rank of honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in honor of his work to make the world more secure from weapons of mass destruction.

This House already passed the House version of this bill, H.R. 3152, last October. I thank Senator BRAUN for sponsoring this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I just would like to urge my colleagues to support this bill unanimously.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill to name a U.S. Post Office in Indianapolis in honor of Senator Richard Lugar, the former distinguished Senator from Indiana who passed away last year.

S. 3105, follows my bill, H.R. 3152, a bipartisan bill supported by every Member of Indiana's House Delegation, which was successfully marked up and reported out of Committee by a unanimous vote last year, and then passed by the House by another unanimous vote last October. At the time, it was a wonderful start as we worked to celebrate Senator Lugar's inspiring legacy. Now, it is an even more timely reminder of the importance of

public service and comity—and the importance of recognizing the people committed to serving our country, each day.

I was fortunate to know the late Senator Lugar, and I respected him deeply for his commitment to community and country.

He understood what it meant to be a true public servant, and the values he expertly displayed have inspired my work in Congress since.

He was a brilliant scholar, a brave member of our armed forces, and a dedicated public servant who championed people and principle over party.

His distinguished life is a testament to the type of leader that Indiana cultivates. And his public service is an unquestionable example of his deep commitment to our country.

That commitment to community and those values are the same as the ones that inspire the public servants working at the United States Postal Service. As this bill is considered today, I think it is both fitting and timely for us to reflect on the importance of the public service done at USPS.

At a time when public servants—especially Postal Service workers—are under attack from the current administration, this bill is a reminder of why we name our public buildings after the men and women who serve our nation with distinction and honor.

As the former Mayor of Indianapolis during the turbulent year of 1968, Richard Lugar helped lead our city away from violence after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by working with Robert F. Kennedy, who broke the terrible news to Hoosiers gathered that day for a campaign speech. Those two proponents of peace over violence helped make Indianapolis one of the few major cities that did not erupt in painful destruction after Dr. King's murder.

Naming public buildings after a man like Senator Lugar is not only an act of commemoration and celebration of a great man, but it is also a fine example for our youth and the next generation about the virtues of public service in a democracy like our own.

Now, more than ever, the Postal Service will play a critical role in safeguarding and ensuring an accurate vote tally—the absolute bedrock of a democratic system.

I was honored to introduce the legislation that passed the House last year, and I remain proud to help add the late Senator Lugar's name to a building that means so much for the public service and the democratic values we hold so dear.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3105.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4894) to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 1, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 183]

YEAS—402

Adams	Castor (FL)	Dunn
Aderholt	Castro (TX)	Emmer
Aguilar	Chabot	Engel
Allen	Cheney	Escobar
Allred	Chu, Judy	Eshoo
Amash	Cicilline	Espallat
Amodei	Cisneros	Estes
Armstrong	Clark (MA)	Evans
Arrington	Clarke (NY)	Ferguson
Axne	Clay	Finkenauer
Babin	Cleaver	Fitzpatrick
Bacon	Cline	Fleischmann
Baird	Cloud	Fletcher
Balderson	Clyburn	Flores
Banks	Cohen	Fortenberry
Barr	Cole	Foster
Barragán	Comer	Fox (NC)
Bass	Conaway	Frankel
Beatty	Connolly	Fudge
Bera	Cook	Fulcher
Bergman	Cooper	Gabbard
Beyer	Correa	Gaetz
Bilirakis	Costa	Gallagher
Bishop (GA)	Courtney	Gallego
Bishop (NC)	Cox (CA)	Garamendi
Blumenauer	Craig	Garcia (CA)
Blunt	Crawford	Garcia (IL)
Bonamici	Crenshaw	Garcia (TX)
Bost	Crist	Gibbs
Boyle, Brendan	Crow	Gohmert
F.	Cuellar	Golden
Brady	Cunningham	Gomez
Brindisi	Curtis	Gonzalez (OH)
Brooks (AL)	David (KS)	Gonzalez (TX)
Brown (MD)	Davidson (OH)	Gooden
Brownley (CA)	Davis (CA)	Gosar
Buchanan	Davis, Danny K.	Gottheimer
Buck	Davis, Rodney	Granger
Bucshon	Dean	Graves (GA)
Budd	DeGette	Graves (LA)
Burchett	DeLauro	Graves (MO)
Burgess	DelBene	Green (TN)
Bustos	Delgado	Green, Al (TX)
Butterfield	Demings	Griffith
Byrne	DeSaulnier	Grothman
Calvert	DesJarlais	Guest
Cárdenas	Deutch	Guthrie
Carson (IN)	Diaz-Balart	Haaland
Carter (GA)	Dingell	Hagedorn
Carter (TX)	Doggett	Harder (CA)
Cartwright	Doyle, Michael	Harris
Case	F.	Hartzler
Casten (IL)	Duncan	Hastings

Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui

McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (KY)
Rose (NY)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)

Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suozi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiffany
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
(NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—1

Biggs

NOT VOTING—27

Abraham
Bishop (UT)
Brooks (IN)
Carbajal
Collins (GA)
DeFazio
Gianforte
Grijalva
Huizenga

Keating
LaMalfa
Loeb sack
Marchant
McClintock
McHenry
O'Halleran
Palazzo
Quigley

Riggleman
Rogers (AL)
Rooney (FL)
Ruppersberger
Schneider
Simpson
Timmons
Walden
Wright

□ 1919

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.” So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 965, 116TH CONGRESS

Barragán (Beyer)	Kirkpatrick (Gallego)	Pingree (Clark (MA))
Blumenauer (Beyer)	Kuster (NH)	Pocan (Raskin)
Butterfield (Kildee)	Porter (Wexton)	Porter (Wexton)
Chu, Judy (Takano)	Langevin (Lynch)	Richmond (Fudge)
Clay (Davids (KS))	Lawrence (Kildee)	Roybal-Allard (Aguilar)
Cohen (Beyer)	Lawson (FL)	Rush (Underwood)
Davis, Danny K. (Underwood)	Lieu, Ted (Beyer)	Serrano (Jeffries)
DeSaulnier (Matsui)	Lipinski (Cooper)	Sewell (AL)
Frankel (Clark (MA))	Lofgren (Jeffries)	(DelBene)
Garcia (IL) (Raskin)	Lowenthal (Beyer)	Thompson (MS)
Hastings (Wasserman Schultz)	Lowey (Tonko)	(Fudge)
Jayapal (Raskin)	Meng (Clark (MA))	Trahan (McGovern)
Kaptur (Dingell)	Moore (Beyer)	Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Khanna (Gomez)	Napolitano (Correa)	Welch (McGovern)
Kind (Beyer)	Pascarell (Pallone)	Wilson (FL)
	Payne (Wasserman Schultz)	(Hayes)

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1929

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois) at 7 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.

CHARGING HELPS AGENCIES RE-
ALIZE GENERAL EFFICIENCIES
ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2193) to require the Administrator of General Services to issue guidance to clarify that Federal agencies may pay by charge card for the charging of Federal electric motor vehicles, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 2, not voting 25, as follows:

Adams	Demings	Kelly (IL)
Aderholt	DeSaulnier	Kelly (MS)
Aguilar	DesJarlais	Kelly (PA)
Allen	Deutch	Kennedy
Allred	Diaz-Balart	Khanna
Amash	Dingell	Kildee
Amodei	Doggett	Kilmer
Armstrong	Doyle, Michael F.	Kim
Arrington	Duncan	Kind
Axne	Dunn	King (IA)
Babin	Emmer	King (NY)
Bacon	Engel	Kinzinger
Baird	Escobar	Kirkpatrick
Balderson	Eshoo	Krishnamoorthi
Banks	Espallat	Kuster (NH)
Barr	Estes	Kustoff (TN)
Barragán	Evans	LaHood
Bass	Ferguson	Lamb
Beatty	Finkenauer	Lamborn
Bera	Fitzpatrick	Langevin
Bergman	Fleischmann	Larsen (WA)
Beyer	Fletcher	Larson (CT)
Bilirakis	Flores	Latta
Bishop (GA)	Fortenberry	Lawrence
Bishop (NC)	Foster	Lawson (FL)
Blumenauer	Fox (NC)	Lee (CA)
Blunt Rochester	Frankel	Lee (NV)
Bonamici	Fudge	Lesko
Bost	Fulcher	Levin (CA)
Boyle, Brendan F.	Gabbard	Levin (MI)
Brady	Gaetz	Lieu, Ted
Brindisi	Gallagher	Lipinski
Brooks (AL)	Gallego	Loeb sack
Brown (MD)	Garamendi	Lofgren
Brownley (CA)	Garcia (CA)	Long
Buchanan	Garcia (IL)	Loudermilk
Buck	Garcia (TX)	Lowenthal
Bucshon	Gibbs	Lowey
Budd	Golden	Lucas
Burchett	Gomez	Luetkemeyer
Burgess	Gonzalez (OH)	Lujan
Bustos	Gonzalez (TX)	Luria
Butterfield	Gooden	Lynch
Byrne	Gosar	Malinowski
Calvert	Gottheimer	Maloney,
Cárdenas	Granger	Carolyn B.
Carson (IN)	Graves (GA)	Maloney, Sean
Carter (GA)	Graves (LA)	Marshall
Carter (TX)	Graves (MO)	Massie
Cartwright	Green (TN)	Mast
Case	Green, Al (TX)	Matsui
Casten (IL)	Griffith	McAdams
Castor (FL)	Grijalva	McBath
Castro (TX)	Grothman	McCarthy
Chabot	Guest	McCaul
Cheney	Guthrie	McCollum
Chu, Judy	Haaland	McEachin
Ciilline	Hagedorn	McGovern
Cisneros	Harder (CA)	McKinley
Clark (MA)	Harris	McNerney
Clarke (NY)	Hartzer	Meeks
Clay	Hastings	Meng
Cleaver	Hayes	Meuser
Cline	Heck	Mfume
Cloud	Hern, Kevin	Miller
Clyburn	Herrera Beutler	Mitchell
Cohen	Hice (GA)	Moolenaar
Cole	Higgins (LA)	Mooney (WV)
Comer	Higgins (NY)	Moore
Conaway	Hill (AR)	Morelle
Connolly	Himes	Moulton
Cook	Holding	Mucarsel-Powell
Cooper	Hollingsworth	Mullin
Correa	Horn, Kendra S.	Murphy (FL)
Costa	Horsford	Murphy (NC)
Courtney	Houlahan	Nadler
Cox (CA)	Hoyer	Napolitano
Craig	Hudson	Neal
Crawford	Huffman	Neguse
Crenshaw	Hurd (TX)	Newhouse
Crist	Jackson Lee	Norcross
Crow	Jacobs	Norman
Cuellar	Jayapal	Nunes
Cunningham	Jeffries	Ocasio-Cortez
Curtis	Johnson (GA)	Olson
Davids (KS)	Johnson (LA)	Omar
Davidson (OH)	Johnson (OH)	Pallone
Davis (CA)	Johnson (SD)	Palmer
Davis, Danny K.	Johnson (TX)	Panetta
Davis, Rodney	Jordan	Pappas
Dean	Joyce (OH)	Pascarell
DeGette	Joyce (PA)	Payne
DeLauro	Kaptur	Pence
DelBene	Katko	Perlmutter
Delgado	Keller	Perry
		Peters

Peterson	Scott, David	Torres (CA)
Phillips	Sensenbrenner	Torres Small
Pingree	Serrano	(NM)
Pocan	Sewell (AL)	Trahan
Porter	Shalala	Trone
Posey	Sherman	Turner
Pressley	Sherrill	Underwood
Price (NC)	Shimkus	Upton
Raskin	Sires	Van Drew
Reed	Slotkin	Vargas
Reschenthaler	Smith (MO)	Veasey
Rice (NY)	Smith (NE)	Vela
Rice (SC)	Smith (NJ)	Velázquez
Richmond	Smith (WA)	Visclosky
Roby	Smucker	Wagner
Rodgers (WA)	Soto	Walberg
Roe, David P.	Spanberger	Walker
Rogers (AL)	Spano	Walorski
Rogers (KY)	Speier	Waltz
Rose (NY)	Stanton	Wasserman
Rose, John W.	Stauber	Schultz
Rouda	Stefanik	Watkins
Rouzer	Steil	Watson Coleman
Roy	Steube	Weber (TX)
Roybal-Allard	Stevens	Webster (FL)
Ruiz	Stewart	Welch
Rush	Stivers	Wenstrup
Rutherford	Suozzi	Westerman
Ryan	Swalwell (CA)	Wexton
Sánchez	Takano	Wild
Sarbanes	Taylor	Williams
Scalise	Thompson (CA)	Wilson (FL)
Scanlon	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (SC)
Schakowsky	Thompson (PA)	Wittman
Schiff	Thornberry	Womack
Schrader	Tiffany	Woodall
Schrier	Tipton	Yarmuth
Schweikert	Titus	Yoho
Scott (VA)	Tlaib	Young
Scott, Austin	Tonko	Zeldin

NAYS—2

Biggs Gohmert

NOT VOTING—25

Abraham	LaMalfa	Ruppersberger
Bishop (UT)	Marchant	Schneider
Brooks (IN)	McClintock	Simpson
Carbajal	McHenry	Timmons
Collins (GA)	O'Halleran	Walden
DeFazio	Palazzo	Waters
Gianforte	Quigley	Wright
Huizenga	Riggleman	
Keating	Rooney (FL)	

□ 2002

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at a wildfire summit with the President, to discuss aid for the devastating wildfires that have recently swept through Oregon, I was unable to return for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 183 and "yea" on rollcall No. 184.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was unable to make roll call votes 183 and 184. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

No. 183, "yes" on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass and No. 184, "yes" on Motion to suspend the Rules and Pass.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 965, 116TH CONGRESS

Barragán (Beyer)	Clay (Davids)	Frankel (Clark)
Blumenauer	(KS)	(MA)
(Beyer)	Cohen (Beyer)	García (IL)
Butterfield	Davis, Danny K.	(Raskin)
(Kildee)	(Underwood)	Grijalva (Raskin)
Chu, Judy	DeSaulnier	Hastings
(Takano)	(Matsui)	(Wasserman Schultz)

Jayapal (Raskin)	Lowey (Tonko)	Rush
Kaptur (Dingell)	Meng (Clark)	(Underwood)
Khanna (Gomez)	(MA)	Serrano
Kind (Beyer)	Moore (Beyer)	(Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick	Napolitano	Sewell (AL)
(Gallego)	(Correa)	(DelBene)
Kuster (NH)	Pascarell	Thompson (MS)
(Clark (MA))	(Pallone)	(Fudge)
Langevin	Payne	Trahan
(Lynch)	(Wasserman Schultz)	(McGovern)
Lawrence	Pingree (Clark)	Watson Coleman
(Kildee)	(MA)	(Pallone)
Lawson (FL)	Pocan (Raskin)	Welch
(Evans)	Porter (Wexton)	(McGovern)
Lieu, Ted (Beyer)	Richmond	Wilson (FL)
Lipinski (Cooper)	(Fudge)	(Hayes)
Lofgren (Jeffries)	Roybal-Allard	
Lowenthal	(Aguilar)	
(Beyer)		

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 3114

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 3114, a bill originally introduced by Representative LEWIS of Georgia, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSE of New York). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 14, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 14, 2020, at 6:20 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 87.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 88.

Appointments:
Commission on Combating Synesthetic Opioid Trafficking.

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

HONORING COURAGEOUS SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS

(Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, today I stand here to honor and thank the courageous servicemembers and veterans who have served and protected this Nation.

I was appalled when the President, the Commander in Chief, referred to them as "losers" and "suckers."

These brave men and women sacrificed for us, some giving their lives:

Veterans like my constituent JL Demps, Jr., a U.S. Army Specialist, who at 18 was deployed and had to leave his wife and 2-month-old son;

Or Manuel Suarez Rodriguez, who was drafted out of high school to serve in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division in Korea;

Or Gary Malfield, a Comms Officer, who served in Vietnam reviewing heartbreaking messages on the status of Marines who were wounded or killed.

Gary put it best by saying, "Many of them lost their lives, but none of them were losers." I couldn't agree more. They deserve better, Mr. Speaker, and should never be disrespected the way this President did.

HONORING MERLE T. SCHALL

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Merle T. Schall.

Lieutenant Schall was a member of the United States Navy from Elderton, Pennsylvania.

On the evening of November 6, 1943, at approximately 2200 hours, Lieutenant Schall took off for what would be his final journey.

His plane was shot down while serving as cover and guidance for a ship below in the Pacific Ocean as he and his fellow Navy men approached Bougainville Island in an effort to regain control from the Japanese who had invaded the island the year before.

Sadly, Lieutenant Schall did not survive. On Wednesday, August 26, I had the pleasure and honor of meeting Michael, Lieutenant Schall's nephew, at the Indiana County Courthouse in my district. I was pleased to present Michael with his uncle's much-deserved medals. Lieutenant Schall is a recipient of a Purple Heart, Air Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, the Honorable Service Lapel Pin, and the Gold Star Lapel Button.

It was an honor to celebrate his service and his life that he sacrificed to this country at the Indiana Courthouse that day.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated each year between September 15 through October 15.

This month provides our Nation the opportunity to recount the rich cultural legacy the Hispanic community has made for our country.

Due to the pandemic, the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York is holding a series of events virtually to chronicle the critical contributions the Hispanic community has made to Buffalo and western New York.

This year, the Hispanic Heritage Council is also celebrating 10 years of work raising community awareness of the contributions our Hispanic friends and neighbors have made towards strengthening our community's future.

America is stronger because of its diversity. Our lives are enriched through a greater appreciation of other experiences and cultures.

We are thankful for the opportunity to spotlight the contributions of the Hispanic community this month and grateful to have the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York committed to this mission this year and every year.

HONORING COLEMAN CREST FARM

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coleman Crest Farm in Lexington, Kentucky. This farm is one of Lexington's oldest African-American-owned family farms with a remarkable legacy.

James Coleman, the farm's first owner, was born into slavery in 1845 in Uttingertown, Kentucky. Incredibly, in March of 1888, James Coleman purchased the land he and his parents had worked on for years as slaves.

The farm has passed through four generations of Colemans since that time, all while enduring and prevailing over racial discrimination, the Great Depression, and two world wars.

In 2001, James Coleman's great-grandson, Jim, and his late wife, Cathy, purchased the farm. Tomorrow on September 15, Cathy Coleman's birthday, a groundbreaking of a new house at the farm will take place dedicated to Cathy's memory. The farm will be used to help shape the future for Black farmers as Lexington youth are exposed to the agricultural opportunity as a means to realize the American Dream.

I am honored to pay tribute to the entire Coleman family today in the people's House.

RECOGNIZING JOHN HENRY TURPIN

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John Henry Turpin, a distinguished U.S. Navy sailor and a lifelong resident of Bremerton, Washington.

John's 30-year career in the Navy included service during the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and World War I. He is believed to be

the first Black American to qualify as a master diver and was one of the first Black Americans to achieve the rank of Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy. John's outstanding legacy of service to our country is made even more significant by the era of prejudice and discrimination during which he served.

I am proud that today the House of Representatives unanimously passed the bipartisan bill that I introduced to designate the U.S. Postal Service facility on Pacific Avenue in Bremerton as the John Henry Turpin Post Office Building in recognition of his achievements and his service.

It is fitting that today Democrats and Republicans stood together in honoring his lifelong and selfless commitment to the defense of America and American values, and in ensuring that his accomplishments are permanently remembered in the city of Bremerton.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW WEBB AND WILLIAM GIANAKOPOLOUS

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize two brave police officers in my district for their outstanding actions and bravery.

Sergeant Matthew Christopher Webb and Corporal William Gianakopolous exemplify the best of our Nation.

Webb and Gianakopolous responded to a house fire and an armed man following a woman during the very same shift.

At 1 a.m. on July 6, Webb and Gianakopolous helped evacuate residents and a family pet from a fire where they bravely went into the burning structure several times.

Then at 5 a.m. on the same day, they responded to a call of a man following a woman where the officers found him hiding with two knives in his possession.

Mr. Speaker, Officers Webb and Gianakopolous, exemplify courage, commitment and honor that our Nation, State, and south Jersey deserve, and we thank them for their heroism.

The virtue and integrity of the majority of our hard-working men and women in blue cannot go unnoticed, especially in these trying times.

William and Matthew, thank you. May God bless you and God bless America.

□ 2015

COMMENDING WALTER PUDDIFER, TOM GARNER, HUGH LOFTING II, DAN DIGREGORIO, DAVID MACDONALD, AND BURNETT H. WILSON III

(Ms. HOULAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before the House of Representa-

tives to commend Walter Puddifer, Tom Garner, Hugh Lofting II, Dan DiGregorio, David MacDonald, and Burnett H. Wilson III for their heroism.

On Tuesday, August 4, in our community of Chester County, amidst fast-moving floodwaters, these six men risked their own lives and saved a father and children from sinking in a vehicle.

It is so important in these trying times to try to recognize the brave, heroic acts that everyday Americans are committing.

This story is not an isolated incident. There are countless stories across the country of people stepping up to save lives: healthcare workers, essential workers, and, indeed, the average person who sees somebody in need and drops everything to help.

Mr. Speaker, I thank these brave Pennsylvanians, and I enter their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for their selfless and courageous acts of service.

HONORING PAUL BECKHAM

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of an amazing leader, Paul Beckham, who sadly passed away on August 30.

Paul was dedicated to improving my alma mater, Young Harris College, through his work on the Board of Trustees. He served as its chairman for 8 years and improved the lives of countless students and faculty members.

Paul had a diversified background in business, marketing, sports, and finance that included television operations.

Impressively, he served as Turner Broadcasting System's president. He also served as president of Private Networks, Inc., which is the wholly owned subsidiary of TBS responsible for developing nontraditional television opportunities, including the Airport Channel.

Remarkably, he was also chairman and cofounder of Hope-Beckham with Bob Hope when they purchased the events division of Whittle Communication LP of Knoxville.

Paul was also a devoted member of his church, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, and was active in multiple charitable and community organizations.

His life was marked by service to others and working to improve the greater good.

I am immensely grateful for the life he lived. He impacted countless individuals in all his pursuits, and I was grateful to know him.

Paul's family and friends will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

I know his legacy will remain for many years to come.

SUPPORTING ALTHEA MARGARET DAILY MILLS POST OFFICE BUILDING

(Mr. SOTO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our bill, H.R. 2969, which passed the House today.

This bill names the Florence Villa United States Post Office located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building.

Ms. Althea Margaret Daily Mills is an unsung hero in the fight for desegregation in Florida.

Ms. Mills began her education in Pughsville, Winter Haven's first Black community. When she was 13, she moved to Pennsylvania to live with an aunt. There, she was able to attend integrated schools.

In 1963, Mills filed a lawsuit against Polk County Board of Public Instruction to end the dual school system and allow her son to attend the then-all-White Winter Haven High School. This lawsuit eventually led to integration of all Polk County public schools.

When asked about her motivation to challenge the system, Mills would later say: "Our instructors were just as good, but some of my son's textbooks would go to page 3 and then skip to page 35. You can't learn like that."

Ms. Mills was also the first Black career employee of the United States Postal Service in Winter Haven and eventually became a manager of the Florence Villa Post Office, which will bear her name.

Mr. Speaker, although she passed in 2008, her legacy lives on, and I thank my colleagues for the support of this bill.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC TIMELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, we are here today with the GOP Doctors Caucus for the next hour to discuss the COVID epidemic.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to be down here with my colleagues for the first time in some time since the House has not been in session for quite a few weeks.

Collectively on the floor tonight, there are over 200 years of clinical experience with the GOP Doctors Caucus. I myself practiced 37 years before I retired and ran for Congress in 2008.

Tonight, I want to go over the timeline just briefly of the pandemic that we currently are experiencing.

Remember, about 8½ months ago, we knew that there was a virus that had spread from China, from Wuhan, China, to the U.S.

In that timeline, on January 9, the World Health Organization announced

that there was a pneumonia in Wuhan, China.

By January 20, three cities in the U.S. had already begun to limit flights and to check passengers from flights that landed in Los Angeles at LAX, at San Francisco, and at JFK International.

On January 21, the first confirmed case was a person who lived in Wuhan but came back to the U.S.

By January 31 of this year, the President had stopped all flights from China to the U.S. and then subsequently, as we all know, from Europe to the U.S.

So, literally, from not knowing what this virus was in the first month, what RNA sequence it was, we had limited the travel of this virus.

Through the month of February, I became involved with the *Diamond Princess* cruise ship. It turned out I had a very good friend on that ship. It was docked with 3,500 people onboard. The average age of the passengers on that ship was 75 years of age.

My friend is a physician. I talked to him on the phone.

I must give a shout-out to HHS, who really led the evacuation of that ship, bringing all Americans back home, quarantining them. Not a single American died, and I think we can take some pride in that.

I am a former U.S. Army officer. I served in the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. We were trained, and it was beaten in our heads, you do not leave anyone behind.

I think a number that is left out is our U.S. State Department has repatriated over 90,000 U.S. American citizens from overseas back home to the U.S., where they can receive the care that they need.

We have recognized that we got the RNA sequence of the virus and literally, within 6 weeks, began to approve treatments for this virus we didn't know a lot about.

I want to say, in my 37 years—this December, I would have graduated from medical school 50 years ago—I don't ever remember a time in my life where we found a disease, an infectious disease, where within 8 months we had cut the mortality rate by over 40 percent. That is literally unheard of.

It is a huge shout-out to the men and women who get up every day and go into our hospitals—we all know them at home—and put their lives on the line to treat us as patients and to take care of us. When given the proper equipment, they are doing a phenomenal job on the front lines.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friends and colleagues who are still in practice every day for that.

We had an opportunity in May. Once we had realized that this had ramped up and a lot of Americans had been affected by this, the White House started something called Operation Warp Speed.

Literally, in the history of this country, I don't remember a time—typically, when we have a vaccine, a treat-

ment for a disease, there is usually anywhere from 3 or 4 years to 10 or 15 years to get that vaccine approved and get it to market.

What we want is a safe, effective vaccine like you would for polio.

As a child, I remember as a little boy when the polio vaccine came out. Literally overnight in this country, we eliminated polio as a risk. Many of my friends developed polio. They got it before the vaccine was available. I was very fortunate and did not, as were many children. We have essentially eliminated that from the Earth today.

We began Operation Warp Speed, which was to develop a vaccine. Well, how is that going to happen? We kept hearing it would be done in about a year. How can you safely do that in a year?

What usually happens in vaccine development is you sequence the RNA. The virus, you sequence it. After that virus is sequenced, you send your information over to the FDA, and they approve that you can begin clinical phase 1 trials. Phase 1 trials are typically 45 or 50 patients.

You then get the information from the phase 1 trials back to the FDA, the approval boards, and they give you permission to go to phase 2 and then to phase 3 trials.

If all of that is successful, then you begin to manufacture the vaccine and then deliver the vaccine to health departments, to doctors' offices, to hospitals and pharmacies and so forth to use the vaccine, just like we do for the flu.

What has happened this time is that all of these things have occurred simultaneously. So the phase 1 trials, the FDA gets the information. Phase 2 trials, they get the information. If it looks good, they can go ahead with phase 3 trials. That is why right now we have three trials in phase 3 trials in 8 months, which is unheard of, I can tell you. These are tens of thousands of patients who are enrolled in these trials.

Hopefully, by the end of this year, we will have a vaccine that is both safe and effective to treat our people in this country, our ones at most risk.

I am going to stop now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS). The first person I would like to recognize tonight is my good friend, Dr. MIKE BURGESS, a fellow OB/GYN doctor representing Texas' District 26.

He is a senior member of our GOP Doctors Caucus and has been active in the caucus since it began. Dr. BURGESS serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee as a senior member.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Dr. ROE, for yielding and for convening this hour.

I think it is so important that the people hear directly from us, the doctors who are serving in the United States House of Representatives.

When Dr. ROE was delivering his remarks, I was reminded of how the information about this illness came to us

and how serious it seemed that a city in China, a city of 10 million people, would be shut down.

Clearly, this was a significant illness and must be taken quite seriously, but I will say the committee on which I serve, the Subcommittee on Health for the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the very committee that the Congress before had worked on the reauthorization of the Pandemic All-Hazards Preparedness Act, would not hold a hearing on this during the month of February. It was a missed opportunity.

We had created the legislation that reauthorized pandemic preparedness. The President had signed that into law in June 2019. Now, 6 months later, we are faced with this possible worldwide pandemic.

You would think there would have been enough curiosity on the committee to do some real-time oversight. Did we get it right? Were we focused on the right conditions? Were we responding to the right signals?

But we don't know because we didn't look. We had to do hearings on flavored tobacco, horse racing, ticket stubs, all kinds of other things.

It was not until the end of February, tacked on to the waning moments of a budget hearing, that we heard from the Secretary of Health in the principle subcommittee that deals with health in this United States House of Representatives.

Dr. ROE also has talked about the speed with which the development of the vaccine is progressing, and it is truly remarkable.

Just as a data point, for people who may not remember, when Ebola was careening through western Africa, in August 2014, we basically had a vaccine that was at the same place as our candidate vaccines were at the end of August 2014, the end of phase 1 trials. The final approval by the Food and Drug Administration came in December 2019.

Clearly, that 5-year time horizon is just too long in this situation, and the administration recognized that. The President recognized that and leaned into the process of developing a vaccine.

One of the more remarkable things I have seen is that the Food and Drug Administration is going to license the production of appropriate vaccine candidates prior to their approval.

Now, they can't be sold until they get that final approval, so there is a financial risk that is taken by the companies that proceed with the production of that vaccine.

But for those who remember the fall of 2019, when H1N1 was such a problem in this country, remember the vaccine was developed and then another month went by before there was sufficient quantity of the vaccine to begin vaccinating the most vulnerable populations. That is not going to happen under the watch of Donald J. Trump.

I, for one, am grateful for the leadership that the President has provided in this regard. I am grateful for the lead-

ership that the House Doctors Caucus has been providing as we go through this very difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Tennessee for yielding.

□ 2030

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Dr. BURGESS is correct. It is one thing to manufacture a very small amount of vaccine, and vaccines are only one part of the prevention part.

We all know about washing our hands and face coverings, and the American people are doing that. Certainly, I have traveled a lot, as we all have, and I have seen great compliance in my home State of Tennessee with this very deadly virus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), my good friend, and he is that indeed. I have had the privilege of getting to know Dr. BUCSHON and his family. I have been to his district, Indiana 8 in Evansville.

He has been here five terms, has served a little over 10 years as U.S. Navy Reserve, and is a retired cardiothoracic surgeon.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives tonight with my fellow Doc Caucus members. I want to thank Dr. ROE for putting this Special Order together. It is really important that the American people hear from the medical professionals in the Congress about this really critical issue.

I remember back in medical school, one of my first rotations, I was on pediatrics. I understood vaccines to a certain extent, but then one of my first patients I had had whooping cough because they hadn't been vaccinated. So that is when I started to understand what it actually means to have safe and effective vaccines, not only for children but also for other diseases.

In this situation, what we need to do, as the American people, is we need to work to restore our way of life in America and around the world.

And how are we going to do that as it relates to COVID-19? Well, we are going to have to have a safe and effective vaccine.

And what I have been impressed with really over the last few months, up to about 6 months, is the unprecedented response from this administration as it relates to developing a vaccine so that we can restore our way of life in America and around the world.

And what have they done? Working along with Congress, of course there has been financing to help finance research and development of the vaccine, but also other things.

Operation Warp Speed has really put in an unprecedented streamlining of the process. Let me just say this: not eliminating the process of developing a vaccine, which would potentially make it problematic with safety and efficacy and whether it works or not, but streamlining the process, doing things together with private-sector compa-

nies, helping design the research protocols after they have helped pick the best candidates for an effective vaccine.

So, the Federal Government working in concert with the private sector helping to pick the best candidates, not just people throwing out, "Hey, I have got a great candidate here," but looking at the science of these developments, this research, helping to pick the best candidates and then streamlining the process by helping to design the further protocols, as Dr. ROE has mentioned, the phase one, two, and three trials and working in concert. So the Federal Government doesn't just sit back and say, like would normally happen: "Well, do your research. Go through the process. Show us that this works."

See, the government, under this administration, is working in concert at the same time, so that once we have this vaccine get to the point where it has been developed, people at FDA already know what has been happening with this vaccine. It is unprecedented, really.

I think Dr. BURGESS just mentioned the manufacturing process, already manufacturing the vaccines before they develop, so as soon as it gets proven to be safe, number one, effective, number two, look, we are going to have vaccines available. Again, that would not happen without Operation Warp Speed.

Let me just say this in closing, and then I will turn it back to Dr. ROE. These are career scientists at FDA, NIH, Health and Human Services. These are people who have worked—many, for decades—on vaccine development.

The narrative that politicians are driving this is just not true. The reality is—and I think Dr. Collins, Francis Collins from the NIH, testified in front of Congress last week or the week before—that science is driving this. We want safe and effective vaccines.

Let me just say this. When there is a vaccine available and when the healthcare providers, other people who are at high risk and everyone has had their chance to be vaccinated, I will take this vaccine myself because I have confidence that the process we are going through will ensure safety and it will ensure efficacy. The vaccine will work.

Let's help restore our way of life.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I think you have to ask, any time you put something like this, Operation Warp Speed, together is: What is the goal? And the goal of that is to produce 300 million doses of an effective, safe vaccine to protect the American people. And also, it is to provide therapeutics and diagnostics along with that.

And this is under the umbrella of Health and Human Services; the FDA; the CDC; the NIH; BARDA, which is the Biomedical Advanced Research and

Developmental Authority; and the Department of Defense. So it is a multi-department approach of the entire government and the private sector. It is a private-public partnership to try to help defeat this virus and put our American people back at ease and back at work.

Look, every day when I go home, they say: Dr. ROE, when are we going to be able to get back to normal?

And yesterday was the first day I had attended an in-person church service in 6 months, the longest time in my life I remember not being in church, and people were so glad to be there and to have some semblance of normalcy.

This morning I got up. As I drove back, I saw parents putting their children on schoolbuses—something as simple as that, just to put your child on a schoolbus. I saw a mother this morning hug her little boy, and he jumps on with his mask on, jumps on the schoolbus ready to go to school. I think people are craving that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP), my good friend, who is the vice chair of the Doctors Caucus, as Dr. BUCSHON is. He is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve—I have to salute him. I never made it past O-4—for over 20 years. He served in Iraq and also served on the Veterans' Affairs Committee and chaired the Subcommittee on Health.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, this is such a unique experience for all of us tonight. Here we are on the floor of Congress, and we have got almost a dozen healthcare providers coming to share our years of experience and knowledge and education with the American people as far as what we are trying to do in this country to develop a vaccine for the coronavirus. I mean, vaccines save lives. That is nothing new. Vaccines prevent illness. We know this.

I know growing up, my mom's first cousin had gotten polio when she was 4 years old. She spent the rest of her life in a wheelchair, disfigured, disfigured hands. She still found a way to make a living. But think if she had just had that vaccine a little bit sooner, if we had actually come up with it.

And to this day, the challenges that we face—I look at Rotary International, of which I am a member, and their goal is to rid the world of polio and try to get everyone in the world vaccinated.

This is not new science. But I will tell you this: With the virus that we are facing today, it is called novel for a reason. It is new and it is different, and we know more today than we knew 6 months ago. That is what is so important is that we continue to learn and get better and take care of people.

We know that some people are more at risk than others. We know that some people are more vulnerable to this than others. When we look at the symptoms for those who have tested positive and have gotten this, the symptoms can go anywhere from no

symptoms at all to may be a cough or a cold or flu-like symptoms or loss of taste and smell to respiratory problems, difficulty breathing, all the way, as we know, to death.

But therapeutics have come into play as we are studying this and understanding and identifying this virus and being able to treat it.

Early on, we were taking a concept that is not new, which is to take what we call convalescent plasma, take plasma from somebody who has had this disease and gotten better, developed the antibodies, so that they can use it to help someone else. And we have seen that it has been effective. We have seen that it has helped.

We have seen antivirals like the Remdesivir come forward that are working and helping people get better. Not everyone gets better, so the fight always continues.

We are using steroid treatments to reduce some of the inflammation that occurs from this viral attack, especially on the lungs, because it is the damage to the lungs that does the most.

So think about this and what we are doing today. If someone tests positive, especially if they have no or very few symptoms, go home and quarantine; check your temperature. You can check your oxygen level in your blood which, if it is going down, then you are getting sicker. It is a pulse oximeter. You put it on your finger. You can get them on Amazon. And if you are getting sicker, then the time to be treated is sooner rather than later. And that is what we are doing.

So, as has been mentioned a couple of times tonight, the mortality rate has gone down 40 percent, which is almost unheard of, and that is without a vaccine. That is with the therapeutics that have been developed.

We are doing something that probably no other country is doing to the level that we are doing. We are testing healthy people, people with no symptoms. Why? Because we know that people without symptoms can spread this, and it is important that we know who they are. No other country is doing the amount of testing that we do.

I was out with the National Guard during the August break. I went to four sites. We did about 1,000 tests on people driving up or walking up. It is amazing what we are doing with our country and how we are trying to respond to this.

So, on to Operation Warp Speed. This is about a commonsense path forward to find a safe and effective vaccine, and we are doing it in a way that no one has ever seen before.

Right now, in record time, you have seen pharmaceutical companies that usually compete against each other coming together to share knowledge and to come forward to try and develop a vaccine. We have six that are in phase three right now, three that are up and running.

I want to point out one thing about this being safe and effective.

AstraZeneca had one patient in a trial who developed an illness; and just like any other trial, when something like that happens, you put it on pause. You put it on pause to make sure that that illness was not a result of the trial or the vaccine. That is how you develop a safe and effective vaccine.

We are asking for about 30,000 volunteers for every one of these trials. That is the standard. Some will do even more. It is really incredible what we have done in such a short amount of time, and I applaud the people who are stepping up to be in these trials so that we can develop a vaccine right here in America.

The public-private collaboration is unique. It is new, and, as has been mentioned, the risk we take is that we are developing the vaccines and manufacturing before they have been through phase three, and if they don't get through phase three, then it is wasted. But if they do, then immediately we have it and we start treating the most vulnerable people. Ultimately, we want 300 million vaccines to treat all of America.

There are a lot of lessons learned. We have learned a lot. There is still more to learn. Only science will solve this, folks. That is who is going to solve it.

I just want to say this. When I look at Operation Warp Speed and all that we have done in this country so far, if there is going to be a pandemic in this world, there is no other country that I would rather be in than the United States of America.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, before the gentleman leaves, I know we had the opportunity, and we do about weekly, to be on a phone conference call with Operation Warp Speed leaders. One of the things that they asked us to do, and I do this here tonight, is to ask more African Americans to sign up for the vaccine trials.

□ 2045

In one particular large trial there were only 5.5 percent I believe African Americans in the trial, and they need to get that up.

So if you are out there, I am asking you to volunteer for this trial. Certainly, we need that. I think they had enough Latinos and senior citizens like myself, but I think that we do need that.

Mr. Speaker, you do need that. Basically, you need to study this as you do the population.

I think Pfizer is going to increase their trial to the low 40,000s. So it is a huge—just to let people know—that is a gigantic clinical trial. It is placebo controlled. One group gets a saline, basically a placebo, and the other group gets the vaccines. Then you check later.

By the way, all of these six vaccines, five of them will be two shots; one, and then one 21 to 28 days later. One which

will be developed a little later on, I think into 2021, will be a single shot.

Mr. WENSTRUP. To add to that, this is important, they are trying to make sure that the people in the trials are coming from the groups that are most vulnerable especially, and they want to make sure that that is an adequate number so that we get, again, a safe and effective vaccine.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. How you decide who gets this vaccine is basically you just look at who suffered the most from it.

Where has that been?

It has been your nursing homes and your long-term care facilities.

I want to give the VA a shout-out. I served as the ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee and chairman in the last Congress.

They have used the fourth mission of the VA to go out into many, many nursing homes across this country and to train and bring people up to speed about how to isolate patients so that it doesn't spread.

I remember one State veterans' nursing home in Massachusetts that lost over 70 veterans—that is unbelievable—in one facility. So we are getting much better. It is our elderly and long-term care facilities, over 40 percent of the deaths have been in long-term care and nursing homes.

Certainly, our healthcare workers and our first responders should be the first ones when a safe and effective vaccine is created.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS). Dr. HARRIS is the cochair of the Doctors Caucus. Dr. ANDY HARRIS is a Navy veteran and very active Member who will have the reins next year.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. ROE for his service. Congress will miss him next year. We will miss his expertise especially in this time of crisis in the Nation.

But I am going to make my remarks very brief to remind the American people who are watching what we were talking about back in spring about the possibilities of how this pandemic comes to an end. The possibilities really were, well, the virus weakens on its own, but we haven't seen that at all, or a vaccine is developed.

I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, because I have had NIH grants, an NIH grant is usually written for a 3-year period with a renewal because that is usually how long it takes to even begin to make a discovery. With vaccines it is typically 5 to 10 years.

What we are talking about now, because of what this administration has done, is to have a vaccine being administered, being declared safe by the FDA potentially within 10 months of conceptualizing a vaccine.

As Dr. ROE knows, I sit on the Health Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, and foundations for Operation Warp Speed were laid by this administration years ago when they increased funding to the Biomedical Ad-

vanced Research and Development Authority which we call BARDA. One of the things they did is decide to heavily invest in vaccine technology and vaccine production, because it is one thing to discover the vaccine and to prove it is safe, it is another thing to make hundreds of millions of doses. Think about it, Mr. Speaker, you actually have to make the glass vials and you have to have the facility that can produce that. That is exactly what this administration has done through BARDA over the last few years, have those facilities in the United States.

This isn't like some of the PPE that we have to outsource overseas. We have the ability in this country to create hundreds of millions of vaccines, and we likely will by next year. Again, this is very, very unusual.

Mr. Speaker, as you will hear from a lot of the doctors tonight, it is very unusual to be able to do this within months, to be able to tell the American people that there is light at the end of the tunnel and that we see the end of this pandemic because, again, as the American people know, your own local school board may have said: We really can't go back to school full-time until there is a vaccine.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we are going to have that vaccine because this administration has cut through the red tape with Operation Warp Speed, ensuring a safe and effective vaccine that can be produced for hundreds of millions of people. That is really phenomenal. Because once we take care of the United States, then we can actually take care of the world health and this pandemic. That will be truly a wonderful thing.

I want to thank Dr. ROE for leading this tonight and for giving me the opportunity to remind the American people that from the very beginning we said the vaccine was the solution, and this administration is delivering that solution.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to Dr. HARRIS before he leaves, let's have a little discussion. The Doctors Caucus can get down in the weeds sometimes, and I realize that we do. But let's explain to people what herd immunity is.

What does it actually mean? You heard about this, and you hear all these folks get on TV and the talking heads start talking about it.

What does that actually mean?

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, if you think about it, the herd is h-e-r-d, just like a herd of critters. In this case we talk about humans.

If you think about it, Mr. Speaker, your chance of contracting, in this case, a respiratory virus is proportional to the number of people you come in contact with who could spread it to you.

Conventional wisdom is that if 60 or 70 percent of the people have had the virus or are immune to the virus, either naturally by having the virus or

by having a vaccine, then your chance of contracting it goes way down because your chance of coming in contact with someone who has that virus or is not immune to it has gone way down. You achieve functionally what is called herd immunity; that is, your chance of developing that virus is much, much lower. So it means that you can begin to do some of the things, to draw back on some of those restrictions that we have now that people are so upset with.

That is what a vaccine promises to deliver because certainly a percent of the population now has immunity by having had the virus, but a much larger percent will have immunity because they are vaccinated and therefore can't get it nor can spread it to someone else. It is a very important public health concept.

It looks like if these vaccines are approved by year end or early next year, by next summer—I tell this to people in my district—we could actually have a normal summer.

Wouldn't that be nice?

We could actually have a normal summer.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Actually, we had a normal summer at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park this year. We had 1.7 million people come in July which was a record, I understand.

One of the things I want to also mention briefly while Dr. DUNN comes up is: Should you wear a mask, or should you not wear a mask?

A mask is an inconvenience. I am standing here way away from anybody, 20 feet away from anybody, but the way a mask probably works is this—these are not good enough to keep a virus from getting in. But if you walk through a room with coronavirus and you walk through a room filled with people, Mr. Speaker, you potentially will infect 2½ of those people.

Why?

Because it is probably spread by droplets. So if I have this mask on it prevents—if I sneeze or cough or whatever—a droplet from getting out or certainly not spreading very far. That is why if you touch a surface you want to wash your hands and cleanse the surface.

To give an example of how infectious measles is, if I have the measles and I walk through that same room, I probably can infect as many as 15 to 18 people. So it is aerosolized. It is like a pollen in the air. That is how it is spread as opposed to just a droplet spread, which means that the coronavirus is not spread nearly as easily as some other viruses are.

I wore a mask for over 30 years in the operating room. If it turns out it doesn't help all that much, then you have been inconvenienced. If it helps, then you maybe have saved a life.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to introduce Dr. DUNN. My friend is a U.S. Army veteran. I served with Dr. DUNN on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. He is extremely active on that

committee. It has been a real pleasure to serve with Dr. DUNN in the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN).

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROE for putting on this opportunity for us to address the American people directly and reassure them that this Operation Warp Speed is truly an amazing accomplishment for our country.

Mr. Speaker, if you were born after 1969 you didn't get a chance to celebrate with us on the original moonshot, those heady days of the Apollo landing and all the run-up science to get that done.

This is America's new moonshot. This is an amazing program. By leveraging the private sector and all parts of the private sector, as well as all of the agencies and all of government effort, we are making progress on medical science at a rate that has literally never been seen before. Every living Nobel Prize laureate with a Nobel Prize in medicine is cooperating with the government and rushing forward. The science on all these areas is really making a difference and making a difference very quickly.

The administration put \$10 billion with a B—bravo—in supplemental funding into the Operation Warp Speed and separately another \$1.5 billion into developing Shark Tank testing. So we are not only working on vaccines, we are working on testing for the virus, we are working on prevention of the virus, and we are working on therapeutics, that is medicines that are true antivirals.

We already have new protocols so that we are improving the treatment. The mortality rate for this disease has plummeted.

I mentioned that innovative and creative people are coming out and working on all facets of this disease. I have a story. This is a mask. Every one of you has a mask. This is a different kind of a mask. This is made out of a polyester fiber, and it is impregnated with bionic silver. It is virucidal. It kills the virus. It kills bacteria as well. So when you take your mask off, Mr. Speaker, and you put it down on the table, it sets about sterilizing itself. When I pick it back up, it will be sterile. That is an amazing accomplishment. That happened just this year, just since this started.

It is amazing these things can happen. All the science and all the medical experimenters and all the researchers are running flat out. We are pushing new frontiers in medicine. We are doing things that we never thought we would do in my lifetime in medicine. We have broken the mold, and I am so grateful to all the brilliant innovative men and women who are pushing out these frontiers and helping everybody. Medicine will never be the same after this just because of the advances in this time to this threat. We will be treating all of our diseases differently in the future.

Before I close I would like to associate myself with the comments Chairman ROE made earlier about the heroism of the medical care people and the healthcare people at all levels, including the ambulance drivers and the police who have to go out and respond to people. It is heroic for them to go out there and do that and continue to work in very difficult and challenging circumstances. But I think what this amounts to is America's shining moment in medicine. I can't think of a better time I have ever seen American medicine respond.

It has been a pleasure working with Chairman ROE.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. It has been. One of the things that the CARES package did was—this is not Operation Warp Speed—but the CARES package also provided the way we shift when seeing patients in person through telehealth.

The VA, for instance, about 1 year ago did 70,000 or 80,000 telehealth visits a month for their PTSD treatments. That number went to over 900,000 in May of this year. That is unbelievable when you can do that. I think many practices now, including my own at home, have used telehealth to see patients, and I myself have used telehealth which saved me a many-hour drive one way or the other.

The pandemic is not all bad. We have learned some good things and some things I think that are going to persist after we get through this particular pandemic.

I also might add, this is not the first pandemic we have had. That is why I know we were going to be fine. There was an H3N2 pandemic in 1968, a coronavirus pandemic, and we got through that as a country. We have responded so much better this time with the therapeutics, monoclonal antibodies antivirals, just the way we treat it.

Anticoagulation hasn't been mentioned. We know this is an inflammatory response. It causes coagulation in the kidneys, the heart, and the lungs. So we have learned that.

Hats off to our medical professionals who have gone out and literally—it is unbelievable how fast they have upped their knowledge of this.

I appreciate the gentleman's comments.

□ 2100

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE), who I just introduced. He is double-boarded in internal medicine and dermatology, is a relatively new representative from Pennsylvania 13th, and has had 31 years in practice.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Tennessee, for yielding and for his leadership in the Doctor's Caucus.

Dr. ROE has educated us that perhaps as physicians in the United States Congress there might not be a more impor-

tant time that we present ourselves, our abilities to communicate, and understand the nature of this novel coronavirus and its impact on the world, and specifically, on Pennsylvania.

Over the past 6 months, the American people have united against what we have come to realize is an invisible enemy. We have done our part to slow the spread of the coronavirus and to serve our neighbors. Each and every one of us have made sacrifices during this pandemic. And together, we work to make a difference; we work to save lives.

As we look ahead to the future, Americans are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the coronavirus vaccine, and I am confident that our researchers, our scientists, are equipped to win this race.

Right now, constituents in Pennsylvania and around our country are making incredible progress in this pursuit as part of Operation Warp Speed—the Trump administration's historic initiative to develop a coronavirus vaccine.

Under the leadership of President Trump, the Department of Defense and the Department of Health and Human Services, together with so many in the private sector, are in the midst of what is truly an unprecedented search for a safe and effective vaccine, all in record time, with significant amounts of vaccine that will be developed for the people of America.

This process, as the doctors with me here tonight have testified, is driven by science but it is rooted in safety. And let's be certain: A vaccine will only be approved if it is proven to be both safe and effective.

Operation Warp Speed is taking all of the precautionary steps that are required to develop any vaccine. But here is the difference: As part of Operation Warp Speed, vaccine manufacturers can undertake several steps of vaccine development at the same time, mitigating the financial risk without, again, compromising the safety or the efficacy of the vaccine.

We know that Operation Warp Speed is unprecedented. To achieve the results for the American people, the Federal Government has invested over \$10 billion to support the development of this coronavirus vaccine. While we, as Members, as healthcare professionals, recognize that there are no guarantees in science, this strategy is setting up manufacturers for success, and it is offering hope for the American people.

If anyone can deliver substantial qualities and quantities of a safe and effective vaccine within a year of the discovery of a new virus, it is the United States of America.

Thanks to Americans' unparalleled ingenuity and drive, we are better positioned to develop therapeutics and a vaccine than any other country. And Americans know that we are up to the challenge because we have seen challenges before.

In the late 1940s, the polio virus was responsible for disabling more than

35,000 average people per year in the United States. And in 1954, Dr. Jonas Salk developed the polio vaccine at the University of Pittsburgh in my home State of Pennsylvania. Since then, the polio vaccine has been widely distributed in the United States and across the world. We have witnessed previously significant progress. And it is our hope—and that is why we bind together as the Doctor's Caucus and present in this Special Order a discussion of how this vaccine is being developed today, right now. And we look forward to that.

We trust in American ingenuity. We recognize that American ingenuity will win, and we are confident that we will see that in short order.

Again, I thank my colleague, my mentor, Dr. PHIL ROE for organizing this Special Order and allowing us to present this important information to America.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, next I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER). Dr. BUDDY CARTER is our only pharmacist—soon to be two—in the U.S. Congress. We are glad to have Dr. Carter from Georgia One. He has been an incredibly important member of the Doctor's Caucus in providing his perspective because he has run a business for many, many years, has seen patients for many, many years, and brings his perspective to our caucus.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership.

We are going to miss him. I know Dr. ROE is retiring, and there is going to be a great void there with him not being here, but I thank him for his service to the Doctor's Caucus and his service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the amazing work our Nation's top scientists are doing to get a safe and effective coronavirus vaccine to the American people.

Earlier this year, President Trump initiated Operation Warp Speed, a collaborative effort between the Federal Government and the private sector to research, develop, and distribute a coronavirus vaccine.

The merits of this initiative were quickly realized, and Congress came together in a bipartisan fashion and invested \$10 billion to support the effort. The focus of the initiative works by accelerating development of vaccines through staggered clinical trials, completely overseen by Federal regulatory authorities. You have heard that time and time again tonight as each of the physicians here have explained how this is taking place.

Traditionally, a vaccine would undergo several separate phases of trials, with the average trial lasting nearly 7 years. Mr. Speaker, we don't have 7 years. Our country—our world—needs a vaccine now, and that is why Operation Warp Speed is on track to deliver vaccines in record speed, potentially even

by the end of the year. This is nothing short of a miracle. It is phenomenal.

And it is critically important to stress that any vaccine approved by the FDA will be safe and effective.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a practicing pharmacist for over 30 years. I have witnessed the process by which the FDA approves medications. They will not approve it unless it is safe and effective. Don't think for one minute that any administration or any person is going to have an impact on that. They are not. It will be safe and effective if it is approved by the FDA.

I repeat: Only vaccines that are proven to be completely safe and effective will be allowed for use.

But recently, we have heard dangerous rhetoric from certain politicians and candidates about Operation Warp Speed, rhetoric and comments that are lies based in politics instead of science; even doubting the thousands of scientists who have spent their life working to find cures and casting fear on the American people.

I have outright confidence in this administration's commitment to safety and science. And I can tell my constituents and the American people right now, I will be in line to get the vaccine when approved.

Our communities are suffering, and we are losing loved ones. This effort will save thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of lives.

I commend this administration and the thousands of scientists working to find a cure, and I thank them for all they are doing to save lives, to produce a safe and effective vaccine.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 10 minutes remaining.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, this should be about people not politics.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my good friend, who is a dentist, who served both in the Army as an artilleryman and in the United States Air Force as a dentist, and has been a very active member of our caucus.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I can't thank Dr. ROE enough for this initiative and his leadership. And so many people have gotten up at the mike and said he was their mentor. He actually was my mentor, and I really appreciate him very much.

Mr. Speaker, as a healthcare professional for nearly 40 years and a member of the House Doctor's Caucus, I am very pleased to report on the Trump administration's groundbreaking, unprecedented initiative to develop a safe and effective vaccine and treatment for COVID-19, called Operation Warp Speed.

I remember well as a boy back in the 1950s, and several of my schoolmates were stricken with polio. And I remember well standing in line at our elementary school to take the new vaccine,

which virtually has eliminated polio in the United States of America.

Well, our Nation's best scientists and researchers, doctors, and manufacturers are now collaborating and working around the clock to research, test, approve, and manufacture a vaccine in record time. This is the very key to restoring our way of life and rebuilding our economy to get back to those normal summers that we were talking about a while ago.

The President has capitalized on the ingenuity and the drive of the private sector and the scientific community, putting the United States at a better position than any other country in the world to develop a vaccine that the entire world can then benefit from.

The goal of Operation Warp Speed is to deliver 300 million doses of a safe and effective vaccine by January 2021. And by removing all unnecessary red tape and barriers, the President is on track to meet this goal.

The administration is cutting the development time to a matter of months by allowing development steps to occur simultaneously. Despite what the media may incorrectly report, the testing standards for this are the same as any other vaccine developed here in the United States of America. No safety shortcuts are being taken. The health and safety of the public remains the number one priority of this administration, and we have every reason to be hopeful.

The advances that the scientific community has made since the beginning of this pandemic are nothing short of remarkable and are directly responsible for a 40 percent decrease in the mortality rate from COVID-19 that we have seen.

Our knowledge about this novel virus grows every single day. And with our Nation's leaders and brightest minds working together, we will defeat this disease with unprecedented speed.

As a practicing dentist for nearly four decades, I believe that prevention is the best treatment, and that is exactly what this vaccine will do. While finding treatments and the therapeutics to fight this disease and its symptoms are a very worthwhile cause, actually blocking the virus from infecting us in the first place is the very strongest defensive strategy that we can have.

President Trump and his administration are bravely blazing a trail forward and leading our country out of this challenging time of global pandemic. So thanks to Operation Warp Speed, the world is only months away from a safe and reliable vaccine.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I might point out that I have never seen a Republican or Democratic virus in my life. Just like I have never seen a Republican or Democratic cancer. This just affects people. The virus will be safe, it will be effective, and it will be voluntary. It will be a person's decision, or their family's decision, who actually receives the vaccine.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY), who I served with on the Committee on Education and Labor, my good friend, and the newest member of the GOP's Doctor's Caucus.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ROE for yielding, and thank him for gathering everyone together.

Mr. Speaker, I will give a summary here this evening. Since the end of January, the world has been attacked essentially by a virus that none of us can see. I will say that since May 15, our administration has put in play Operation Warp Speed, and this is meant to save American lives.

Mr. Speaker, \$10 billion was allocated by this body to develop a safe and effective vaccine in record time. It has literally been today's Manhattan Project. It is combining the resources and the brilliant minds of private industry and governmental researchers in an unprecedented effort of cooperation. We have used decades of previous research combined with today's new technology and research to help us end the COVID-19 pandemic.

The objective is to deliver 300 million doses by the end of December, early January, to the citizens of the United States.

What do vaccines do? I think it is very important for people to understand what vaccines do.

They stimulate the immune system to produce antibodies exactly as it would happen if you were exposed to the disease. After you get vaccinated, you develop immunity to that disease without having to get the disease first.

We have two trials, two companies—Moderna and Pfizer—that are furthest along in their developments; 20,000 individuals so far have been accrued in the trials—half have been getting the vaccines, half placebo, and we need more.

The highest at-risk populations are those being targeted: The elderly, those with comorbidities, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans. As we have heard earlier, Black Americans are under-enrolling in the vaccine and we need them to enroll.

So how can this process, which normally takes years, be done in 8 months?

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It is that research is being done concurrently rather than in parallel; our phases are going at the same time; and production is going at the same time, fully understanding that we may have millions of doses of a vaccine that we will never use.

How do we develop this at warp speed? Just to give folks one example, how do we develop a vaccine this quickly?

If you can imagine the space shuttle, the space shuttle is a transport mechanism. It carries things out to the space station. We already have the space shuttle. We use that in vaccines. But

what we have now is a different payload, a different payload going out to the space station. And the space shuttle is taking that into viruses with a different payload now specific to the coronavirus.

What all Americans are talking about now is not only the development of a vaccine but a safe vaccine. We have proof that the processes that are in place to develop safe vaccines are working.

As we have talked about, AstraZeneca stopped its trial because there was one untoward event. We have done research, and now they have started that trial again. Stopping trials is very commonplace in vaccine development, and the American people need to understand this.

We went through this once before with polio. Polio in the fifties was killing thousands and disabling many, many more. Jonas Salk developed the vaccine. What he did was remarkable, but what he did also was led by example. He took the vaccine himself, and he had his family take the vaccine.

This is what the Doctors Caucus is going to do. I will take the vaccine. The other members of the Doctors Caucus will take the vaccine because we need to tell the American people that we, physicians who have trained our entire lives in medicine, believe that what we are doing and what we are doing for the American people is safe.

What this will come out to is that we will have 300 million doses. Right now, our government is working on how to get those doses out to the American people. In an unprecedented effort, the CDC is working with HHS and the Department of Defense to develop a mechanism to get the vaccine out and to track the vaccine.

Finally, I will say this to the American people. There are two ways out of this pandemic, two ways on the pathway back to normalcy. One is to become infected with the virus, develop antibodies, and you recover. The second is to take the vaccine, develop antibodies without ever having the disease, and we can move forward as a Nation.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for being here tonight. I look forward to continuing this debate and this discussion here on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of my time.

LETTER SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 4(b) OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 965, 116TH CONGRESS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,

Washington, DC, September 14, 2020.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 965, we are writing to inform you that the Committee on Small Business has met the requirements for con-

ducting a business meeting outlines in regulation E.1 of the remote committee proceedings regulations, inserted into the Congressional Record on May 15, 2020, and that the Committee is prepared to conduct a remote meeting and permit remote participation.

In meeting these requirements, the Committee held a non-public business meeting rehearsal on September 11, 2020; a public full Committee hearing with remote participation on June 10, 2020; and a public subcommittee hearing with remote participation on June 24, 2020.

Thank you,

Nydia M. Velázquez, Chairwoman; Jared Golden, Member of Congress; Abby Finkenauer, Member of Congress; Andy Kim, Member of Congress; Jason Crow, Member of Congress; Dwight Evans, Member of Congress; Adriano Espaillat, Member of Congress; Chrissy Houlahan, Member of Congress; Sharice Davids, Member of Congress; Judy Chu, Member of Congress; Bradley S. Schneider, Member of Congress; Antonio Delgado, Member of Congress; Angie Craig, Member of Congress.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 10 a.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at 9 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4894, the Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2020, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5249. A letter from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's annual report for calendar year 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture.

5250. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting notification of the President's intent to exempt all military personnel accounts from any discretionary cap sequestration in FY 2021, if a sequestration is necessary, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 905(f); Public Law 99-177, Sec. 255(f) (as amended by Public Law 105-33, Sec. 10207(b)); (111 Stat. 704); to the Committee on Appropriations.

5251. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting a report of violations of the Antideficiency Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; Public Law 97-258; (96

Stat. 926); to the Committee on Appropriations.

5252. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Luke M. McCullum, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5253. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert D. McMurry, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5254. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Maryanne Miller, United States Air Force Reserve, and her advancement to the grade of general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5255. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael A. Bills, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5256. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Rear Admiral Michelle C. Skubic, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of vice admiral for a period not to exceed 14 days before assuming the duties of the position for which the higher grade is authorized, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4208); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5257. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a report titled, "Evaluation of the TRICARE Program: Fiscal Year 2020 Report to Congress Access, Cost, and Quality Data through Fiscal Year 2019", pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1073 note; Public Law 104-106, Sec. 717(c); (110 Stat. 376); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5258. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Lieutenant General Daniel R. Hokanson, United States Army National Guard, to wear the insignia of the grade of general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4208); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5259. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Report to Congress from the Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 262r(a); Public Law 95-118, Sec. 1701(a) (as amended by Public Law 105-277, Sec. 583); (112 Stat. 2681-202); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5260. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the Bank's statement with respect to transactions involving exports to Mexico, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3); July 31, 1945, ch. 341, Sec. 2 (as

added by Public Law 102-266, Sec. 102); (106 Stat. 95); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5261. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Matrix: Flood Act Civil Money Penalty ("CMP") Calculation received July 22, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5262. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Head Start Designation Renewal System (RIN: 0970-AC77) received September 8, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

5263. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the report "Reducing Barriers to Using Telehealth for Pediatric Populations Final Report"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5264. A letter from the Section Chief, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of 5F-ADB, 5F-AMB, 5F-APINACA, ADB-FUBINACA, MDMB-CHMICA and MDMB-FUBINACA in Schedule I [Docket No.: DEA-446] received August 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5265. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the threat of foreign interference in United States elections that was declared in Executive Order 13848 of September 12, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5266. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a notification that the Administration intends to enter into a trade agreement regarding tariff barriers with the European Union received August 27, 2020, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 4202(a)(2); Public Law 114-26, Sec. 103(a)(2); (129 Stat. 333); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5267. A letter from the Regulations Writer-Federal Liaison Officer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — Waiver of Recovery of Certain Overpayment Debts Accruing During the COVID-19 Pandemic Period [Docket No.: SSA-2020-0045] (RIN: 0960-AI51) received August 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5268. A letter from the Regulations Writer-Federal Register Liaison, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Improved Agency Guidance Documents [Docket No.: SSA-2020-0002] (RIN: 0960-AI47) received August 28, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5269. A letter from the Chief Privacy Officer and Chief FOIA Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Privacy Office Fiscal Year 2020 Semiannual Report to Congress for the period October 1, through March 31, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

5270. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare Program; Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals and the Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System and Policy Changes and Fiscal Year 2021 Rates; Quality Reporting and Medicare and Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Programs Requirements for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals [CMS-1735-F] (RIN: 0938-AU11) received September 14, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

5271. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), and Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency [CMS-3401-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AU33) received September 8, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

5272. A letter from the Deputy Director, ODRM, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare Program; FY 2021 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update [CMS-1733-F] (RIN: 0938-AU09) received September 8, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York: Committee on Oversight and Reform. H.R. 1668. A bill to leverage Federal Government procurement power to encourage increased cybersecurity for Internet of Things devices, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-501, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. SCANLON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1107. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2574) to amend title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to restore the right to individual civil actions in cases involving disparate impact, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2639) to establish the Strength in Diversity Program, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2694) to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 908) condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19; and for other purposes (Rept. 116-502). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1267. A bill to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge" (Rept. 116-503). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1668 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself and Mr. COLLINS of Georgia):

H.R. 8235. A bill to provide for the modernization of electronic case management systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 8236. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the importation or transportation of child sex dolls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. GOLDEN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 8237. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the scope of procedural rights of members of the uniformed services with respect to their employment and reemployment rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 8238. A bill to establish the Office of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 8239. A bill to facilitate the development and distribution of forensic science standards by establishing in the National Institute of Standards and Technology the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 8240. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Route 66 National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself and Mr. HICE of Georgia):

H.R. 8241. A bill to eliminate or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Ms. MENG, Mr. REED, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. JUDY CHU of Cali-

fornia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. BEYER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TONKO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. KATKO, Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DEAN, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma):

H.R. 8242. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the National Women's Hall of Fame; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. O'HALLERAN (for himself, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. GALLEGÓ, Mr. STANTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 8243. A bill to modify the boundary of the Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington (for herself and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 8244. A bill to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:

H.R. 8245. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make payments to hospitals in COVID-19 hot spots to provide hero pay to eligible workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SIRE:

H.R. 8246. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a program enabling communities to better leverage resources to address health, economic development, and conservation concerns through needed investments in parks, recreational areas, facilities, and programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 8247. A bill to make certain improvements relating to the transition of individuals to services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, suicide prevention for veterans, and care and services for women veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. VELA, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 8248. A bill to establish a grant program in the Department of Defense to increase the number of women, LGBT individuals, and underrepresented minorities in military and civilian leadership positions of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. TLAI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. NOR-

TON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COOPER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. RUSH, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 8249. A bill to prohibit the denial of the right to vote in elections for public office on the grounds of owing fines, fees, or restitution relating to a conviction of a criminal offense; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

H.R. 8250. A bill to extend certain deadlines for the 2020 decennial census; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H. Res. 1108. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 13, 2020, through September 20, 2020, as "Balance Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 8235.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8 and Article III, Section 1

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 8236.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 8237.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 8238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 8239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 8240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, CLAUSE 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE:

H.R. 8241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MORELLE:

H.R. 8242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution

By Mr. O'HALLERAN:

H.R. 8243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 8244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:

H.R. 8245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, § 8, cl. 1 and Article I, § 8, cl. 18.

By Mr. SIRE:

H.R. 8246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 3(d) (1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 8247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. VEASEY:

H.R. 8248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 12—"To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;"

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 8249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 8250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 2, Clause 3; and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 38: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 369: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 732: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 898: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 955: Ms. PRESSLEY and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 1109: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 1139: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 1287: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1325: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 1329: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1349: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1407: Mr. WRIGHT and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 1448: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 1450: Mr. PASCARELL, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 1529: Mr. TRONE, Ms. WILD, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1754: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 1765: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1857: Ms. PORTER, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 1968: Mr. HURD of Texas.
H.R. 2074: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 2200: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 2208: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 2431: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 2442: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 2478: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2529: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2610: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 2653: Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 2897: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 2948: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 3296: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3659: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3975: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4022: Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 4052: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 4078: Ms. FINKENAUER.
H.R. 4092: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 4564: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 4701: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4838: Mr. STANTON and Mr. COX of California.
H.R. 4861: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 4924: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 4960: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 4991: Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 5046: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. COOK, and Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 5053: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 5141: Mr. POCAN and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 5309: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 5325: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 5427: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 5516: Mr. HURD of Texas and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 5572: Ms. FINKENAUER and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 5605: Mr. ABRAHAM and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 5701: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5711: Mr. LEVIN of California and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 5788: Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 5873: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 5986: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 6141: Mr. HURD of Texas.
H.R. 6142: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 6153: Mr. TIFANY.
H.R. 6365: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 6399: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 6572: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 6754: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 6794: Mr. PETERS, Mr. GALLEG0, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 6821: Mr. KELLER, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 6829: Mr. WESTERMAN and Mr. ABRAHAM.
H.R. 6849: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. FUDGE, and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 6858: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 6860: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 6906: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 6971: Mrs. HAYES and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6977: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 6986: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 7032: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 7073: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 7151: Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 7197: Mr. VELA and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 7227: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 7324: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 7388: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 7443: Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 7463: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas,

Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 7478: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 7481: Mr. DELGADO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. TONKO, and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 7502: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 7504: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 7640: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 7642: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. KIND, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. TITUS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. CLAY, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CORREA, Mr. LONG, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 7718: Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MENG, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. VELA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 7777: Mrs. BUSTOS and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 7794: Mr. VARGAS and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 7799: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 7806: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 7809: Mrs. LESKO, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 7816: Mr. COHEN, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 7819: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 7841: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 7883: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. HAGEDORN.
H.R. 7887: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 7895: Mr. PERRY, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 7909: Ms. WILD, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 7927: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 7939: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 7965: Mr. LIPINSKI and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 7966: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 7974: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 8012: Mr. WRIGHT.
H.R. 8046: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 8053: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 8094: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 8107: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 8109: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 8117: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 8137: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 8151: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 8162: Mr. REED.
H.R. 8169: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 8178: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COOPER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms.

CASTOR of Florida, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 8187: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H.R. 8196: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 8200: Ms. WILD, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 8201: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. GOODEN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 8204: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 8221: Mr. VELA.

H.R. 8227: Ms. TITUS.

H. Res. 114: Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. MCADAMS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. STEWART.

H. Res. 835: Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 908: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr.

BERA, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Ms. SHALALA.

H. Res. 1008: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H. Res. 1033: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H. Res. 1062: Mr. GALLEGGO, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. COLE.

H. Res. 1078: Ms. SPEIER and Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 1085: Mr. TRONE.



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No. 158

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.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.

Mighty God, teach us to trust You more fully, to wait quietly for the unfolding of Your providence, to pray fervently, and to worship more humbly. Reassure us with Your wisdom, power, and love that Your providence will prevail.

Lord, You are our shelter for every storm. Remind our lawmakers to remember how Your purposes have prevailed in our Nation's history so they need not fear for the future.

Lord, provide them with a firm faith that will enable them to meet the daunting challenges of these times. Lengthen their moments of prayer until their lives become a continual aspiration after You.

We pray in Your matchless 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 (Mr. HAWLEY). The Senator from Iowa.

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

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

RUSSIA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the poisoning of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, which happened last month, was a very disgusting thing to

hear about. Such action in Russia or by Russia is not unprecedented. In 2015, the leading democracy advocate in Russia, Boris Nemtsov, was gunned down within the sight of the Kremlin. The square in front of the Russian Embassy in Washington is now named in his honor, echoing the effort that I led to name the street in front of the old Russian Embassy after the dissident Andrei Sakharov.

Nemtsov's protege in the Russian opposition, Vladimir Kara-Murza, was then poisoned—poisoned twice but miraculously survived and continues to work for Russian democracy. The good news is that Mr. Navalny is reportedly conscious.

Now, a silver lining may also be that Putin's latest attempted assassination is bringing our allies toward a consensus to treat Putin as a pariah.

There are reports of senior German politicians reconsidering their support for Nord Stream 2 pipeline, which divides our European allies. This pipeline is opposed by countries like Poland and the Baltics that truly understand that Putin will use it as a strategic influence tool, as well as by the Trump administration and bipartisan majorities in Congress.

I hope all of these happenings are a start of a new era of cooperation with our Russian allies to counter Russian influence.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

ISRAEL

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, when I address the situation in the Middle East, it is often to discuss instability, terror, or other threats to the United States and its partners, like Israel. Those threats still exist, but I am very glad to be speaking today about peace breaking out, and it is breaking out more quickly than we can even stage the official ceremonies to memorialize the diplomatic achievements.

A few weeks ago, with major help from the United States and the Trump administration, Israel and the United Arab Emirates reached the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years. The Abraham Accord is named for the shared religious roots that Christians, Jews, and Muslims all hold in common. It will make the UAE just the third Arab nation, and the very first in the gulf, to normalize relations with Israel. In the words of Prime Minister Netanyahu, "full and official peace, full diplomatic agreement, with embassies, investment, commerce, tourism, and direct flights between Tel Aviv and Dubai and Abu Dhabi."

We have come a long way—a long way indeed. What a moment.

Farsighted leaders in both countries made sacrifices to make this deal possible. Prime Minister Netanyahu and Sheikh Muhammad bin Zayid understand that both Arabs and Israelis will benefit from the peace and prosperity that tearing down barriers can bring. America will also benefit from these two regional friends working more closely together and reducing tensions across the challenging region.

Now, to be sure, work is not finished, and no single step like this should be confused for an overnight miracle. In this case, we in Congress have an obligation to review any U.S. arms sales package linked to the deal. As we help our Arab partners defend against growing threats, we must continue ensuring that Israel's qualitative military edge

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



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remains unchallenged. But the winds of change are blowing, and they are bringing good news for peace all across the region.

Of course, a few extreme voices, perhaps correctly sensing that their moment is slipping away, are not at all happy. A predictable cast of characters wasted no time condemning the agreement and branding the UAE as traitors to the Arab or Muslim world.

Unlike Iranian clerics or al-Qaida terrorists, everyone who is actually living in the 21st century is celebrating this major progress. This major step forward is being documented in a signing ceremony at the White House tomorrow. But in just the couple of weeks that have elapsed between the announcement of the Abraham Accord and the official ceremony tomorrow, another Arab state has joined the parade toward peace. On Friday, September 11, Israel and Bahrain announced their agreement to open formal diplomatic relations. After Egypt, Jordan, and the UAE, this makes the fourth historic step toward normalization by Israel's Arab neighbors.

Along with President Trump, Prime Minister Netanyahu and King Hamad of Bahrain called the agreement "a historic breakthrough to further peace in the Middle East." Indeed, reports suggest that still more Arab states may not be far behind. This is a new course with the potential to fundamentally—fundamentally—change the Middle East.

Dennis Ross, former senior diplomatic adviser to President Obama and a longtime practitioner of the peace process, wrote just yesterday that these agreements are bona fide "breakthroughs" that are changing "the political landscape of the Middle East" and the Israel-Palestine stalemate for the better. That is Dennis Ross, from the Obama administration. That is how former Obama administration officials are praising the Trump administration's successes.

I am grateful for this administration's work to encourage peace. I am proud of this historic opportunity that American leadership and diplomacy has made possible.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. McCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, on a totally different message, I had hoped, Republicans had hoped, and the American people had hoped that the Senate would be spending this week finishing up another bipartisan agreement on coronavirus relief. We want to get hundreds of billions more dollars into the pipeline for kids, for jobs, for healthcare.

Unfortunately, Senate Democrats chose to block it all. Our Democratic colleagues voted against hundreds of billions of dollars to help Americans fight the virus. This wasn't even a vote on final passage, just a procedural vote to break the Democratic leader's filibuster and move forward with some-

thing. Senate Democrats, nevertheless, filibustered the aid.

Then, just a few short days later, they went right back to signaling that a Democratic Senate majority paired with a President Joe Biden would abolish the filibuster and permanently vandalize this institution to more easily force radical change on the country. This threat to permanently disfigure the Senate has been the latest growing drumbeat in the modern Democratic Party's war against our governing institutions.

There was former Senator Reid starting the "nuclear" exchange back in 2013. There have been years of unprecedented tactics to try and deny President Trump the government the people elected. There has been the least fair, least thorough, and most rushed impeachment inquiry in modern history.

Now, the most shameless—the most shameless—hypocrisy: Senate Democrats happily use the filibuster to block coronavirus relief and Senator TIM SCOTT's police reform bill at the very same time they are conspiring to destroy that very tool so they can ram through their radical agenda if they ever win power. Grade A hypocrisy and nothing more.

We have had former President Obama call for "eliminating the filibuster, another Jim Crow relic," about 1 month after his own party used it to kill Senator TIM SCOTT's police reform bill. We have some of former Vice President Biden's allies in the Senate daydreaming about ending the filibuster even as they themselves use the filibuster to kill pandemic relief for working families.

Democrats want completely different sets of rules depending on whether they hold power—different sets of rules depending upon whether they hold power. They want to assert minority rights when they have the minority and steamroll them if they get a majority.

Here is NBC News:

Democratic insiders are assembling a coalition behind the scenes to wage an all-out war on the Senate filibuster. . . . Veteran party operatives, activist groups and supportive Senators are coordinating message and strategy.

This takes measuring the drapes to a new level. The Democratic leader and his colleagues aren't just measuring the drapes; they are calculating how much kerosene it would take to burn the drapes down.

They aren't just threatening to pass radical policies like Medicare for none or the Green New Deal—no, no, no. The far left wants to hot-wire democracy itself—things like packing the Supreme Court with new seats or packing the Senate by handing out new statehood to one individual city.

I said it a few months ago. Today's Democrats have lost patience with playing by the rules and want to wage war on the rule book itself. They are saying as much out loud.

Perhaps our colleagues think promising a shameless power grab is the

only way to energize their radical, far-left base, but the real effect—the real effect—is to make the stakes in these issues completely and totally clear to the American people.

The Framers designed the Senate to be the country's firewall against ill-considered and radical change. That is what the Senate was all about in the beginning. If our Democratic friends have concluded their worst ideas could never clear the high bar—if they think their ideas could never clear the high bar, it is their bad ideas that need to be scrapped, not the core checks and balances of our government.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

RACISM

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, the events of the last few months—what we have been seeing in the streets and the protests and all the issues that surround that—I think, have forced the country to grapple with our history on the issue of race and, in particular, what we teach young Americans about what that means and how it fits in the broader story of America.

Is America, in fact, a nation founded on racism, one that makes our very founding and its principles almost irredeemable? It is an important question. You can't ask Americans or any generation to sacrifice or defend a nation they believe is so deeply flawed, so it is one that I think we have to talk about.

This country was founded in the year 1776, and it was founded by this declaration that all men are created equal; that your rights come from God, from your Creator. Now, we take those words for granted today. They were extraordinarily radical ideas 244 years ago. Up until that time, every person on Earth was told that your rights are whatever the sovereign allowed you to have, whatever the King allowed you to have. You didn't have any rights that were natural to you. So the very principle itself was pretty radical.

The problem is that, from the very beginning, many people, including those who put their name on that document, and our laws at the time did not reflect that founding principle, and our story can largely be summarized as the 244-year journey to more fully live up to the promises made at our founding.

For our first 89 years as a nation, human beings were owned as slaves. And beyond just the horrors of slavery, they were the subject of torture, of rape, of seeing their children sold away—away from them—never to see them again.

When that horrible institution finally came to an end, it was followed by another hundred years of separate and unequal, where Black Americans were told where they could live, where they could work, where they could go to school, and more. They were told where they could eat, where they could sit or not, where they were allowed to stay overnight. They were even told what side of the road they would be allowed to walk on in many parts of this country. They were denied the right to vote, either directly or through intimidation and threats.

It was a time when, in many parts of this country, any Black man was one false accusation away from losing his life at the hands of a lynch mob.

This is a shameful truth, an undeniable part of our history, a stain on our legacy as a nation. But it is not the whole story. From the very beginning, it was clear that the promise of our founding and our failure to live up to it—these two things could not ultimately coexist. From the very beginning, within a year and even before the founding of our Nation, there were already Americans working to end slavery. Sometimes they paid for it with their lives.

Ultimately, it became the single most divisive issue in the country, to the point that it was resolved only through a bloody civil war. For the next hundred years, during the era of separate and unequal, it was also Americans who worked to end segregation and Jim Crow laws, Americans of every walk of life: little children who would brave angry mobs to desegregate a school, the protesters and those in the streets who faced down “Bull” Connor’s dogs and beatings, little girls who died when their church was bombed.

Ours is not simply the story of a people who, for 189 years, failed to live up to the promise of America. Ours is also the story of the Americans who ultimately succeeded in making us a nation that was closer to who we were supposed to be.

That is why, at least for me, when they play the “National Anthem” and the flag that I face and put my hand over my heart to honor—that flag—that is not the flag of slave owners; that is the flag of the abolitionists. That is the flag of Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, who were American heroes. The flag that I pledge allegiance to is not the flag of a segrega-

tionist. It is the flag of the Freedom Riders, the people who made the march from Selma to Montgomery. That is the flag of Rosa Parks and Dr. King.

Our history does not simply belong to the villains. It belongs, even more so, to the heroes who, frankly, made us more American in each successive generation.

I have heard in some corners people suggest that our founding documents themselves are documents embedded in racism because I imagine many of the people who signed it, indeed, were or did not live up to the words they signed their names on. But that would be forgetting the fundamental fact that every single great movement in American history—every movement for equality in the history of this Nation—has not been a rejection of our founding documents, has not been a rejection of our founding principles, has not been a call to overthrow the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence. Every one of these movements—great movements in the history of this country towards equality—has been an appeal to those principles, a demand that we live up to those principles.

Dr. King said the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence—an appeal to our founding documents, which he called a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

As we talk now about what is taught to our children in our schools and in our lives, I think our children deserve to know the truth about their country—all the truth. We must teach our children about the times in which our Nation fell short. We must teach them about the people responsible for our falling short. We must point to the times even now when we fall short. That is the only way you learn the lessons of history and the only way to avoid repeating them. But we must also teach them that it was Americans who dedicated and even lost their lives to end these evils.

While we are at it, we should teach them, too, about the greatness of our country. Teach them about the young Americans who died far from home for the freedom and the liberty of others, who lost their lives at Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal and Normandy and the Ardennes and Chosin and Fallujah, on San Juan Hill and in Manila Bay. Teach them also about how, when disaster strikes anywhere on this planet, it is their country that responds first and with the most—Fukushima, Japan, and West Berlin; after an earthquake hit Haiti; after floods impacted Pakistan—how it is Americans and their charities and their government that have literally saved the lives of millions of people on the African continent from starvation, from the ravages of HIV-AIDS. Teach them how, on a summer night in 1969, the entire world stopped and watched with amazement as man first stepped foot on the Moon and there planted the flag of their country.

Our children deserve to know the truth about their country, that in the history of mankind, there has never been a great power that has used its means to help more people and more places than anywhere in human history—no other great power in human history has done what the people of this Nation have done, both individually through the monies we give to charities and through their government. This is also true about America.

Our children deserve to know that they are citizens not of a perfect country but of the single greatest Nation in the history of all of mankind. They deserve to know that they are the heirs to a 244-year journey to achieve in one land a nation where all people are viewed as equal under the law, whose rights come from their Creator. They deserve to know that their country is a special one—one worth defending, one worth protecting, and one worth passing on to the generations that will follow them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

WILDFIRES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, because of raging fires in my home State of Oregon, many communities in my home State have been reduced to ashes. A number of others are experiencing what is known as the ice box effect, where, in effect, smoke blocks out the Sun, and it gets quite cool. Virtually all of Oregon is now choking on smoke—that is whether you are inside or outside at this point. Countless thousands of Oregonians are under evacuation orders. Many are quite literally fleeing for their lives and abandoning their homes as the flames approach.

When I was home this weekend, I initially thought that a number of my communities had been hit by a wrecking ball. That really understates the situation because usually when you get hit by a wrecking ball, there is a little bit left that is not just ashes. Now thousands of people in my State have lost their homes. They have lost their businesses. They have lost lifelong memories.

I brought a flag to a family who lost in one of the fires the service flag of a loved one that they had cherished, and it just struck me that it is those kinds of memories, and losing them, that are as painful in many instances as losing houses and businesses.

The death toll has been rising. Others are still missing and unaccounted for.

Amid all the panic and loss, one of the aspects that left me, as I came back to Washington, with a bit of hope is that we lost so much, but we didn’t lose our spirit. We didn’t lose what we call the Oregon Way—neighbor helping neighbor, volunteers helping evacuees get food and water and shelter. Everybody steps up when a crisis arrives; nobody cares a whit about anybody’s politics.

I have come to the floor today with a specific purpose, and that is to ask the

Senate to match the same standard I saw of volunteers, neighbors, and Oregonians helping Oregonians this weekend, to show the same kind of can-do spirit.

The Presiding Officer of the Senate is new to this body. He has a State with a lot of rural terrain. I am going to be asking him and every Member of the Senate, all 100 of us, to say: Let's make today the day when the Senate chose to finally get serious about fire that has harmed so many these last few weeks. Let's make this the day when the Senate chose to take a dilapidated and out-of-date fire policy and replace it with a modern strategy for the real, on-the-ground conditions that have caused fires to magnify the pain that is being felt by millions today.

The reason I am making this request of the Senate—that the Senate replace the way forest policy has been made in the past—is that those past processes—and, as my colleague already knows since he has been here now, the Senate moves often with glacially slow Senate processes, and those processes are now being totally overwhelmed by the massive infernos that are blanketing our communities and blanketing the West with smoke that is literally up to our eyeballs. The Presiding Officer in the Senate is a tall fellow. I am 6 feet 4 inches. That is what I felt this weekend. I and everybody else had smoke up to our eyeballs.

The process the Senate has for dealing with these new kinds of forest calamities—and there is no other way to describe it—those old procedures lack the urgency, lack the speed, lack, frankly, the resolute discipline for the incredibly big job that needs to be done and done quickly.

So today I want to begin by offering three policies that I believe could be supported by every Senator, Democrats and Republicans. The first is that Congress should pass a 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps Act. I have actually seen press in Missouri calling for this kind of approach, where young people are involved, securing jobs where they pay a living wage, and they can go in and shore up these communities threatened by fire.

I want to emphasize that, having served on the Energy Committee now for several years, having authored the two major bills in the forestry area—the bill with Senator CRAPO—so we no longer waste so much money not budgeting for fire, brought about the end of fire borrowing so the big fires get taken care of in the disaster fund—don't shortchange prevention—and then secure rural schools, which I think is also a policy that benefits people all over the country in rural forested areas.

I will just offer the first. All over America, there are millions of acres of overstocked timber stands. They are hazardous fuels. It is urgent that we go in there, and we can use these hard-working young people to clean out those overstocked stands and reduce

the risk of fire. Fire is inevitable. I know of no bill—none—that can abolish fire. The question is, Can we take concrete steps to reduce the suffering and the damage of these big fires?

(Ms. ERNST assumed the Chair.)

I just gave one example of what the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps could do. In my home State, there are more than 2 million acres backlogged in terms of these hazardous fuels that need to be reduced. You could have the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps—thousands of young people—going into every State and taking action to reduce these risks. There are a lot of other things that could be done by the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps.

I learned this weekend that we are going to need to deploy new cell phone connectivity because a lot of people have lost those connections. In fact, one of the challenges in trying to determine how many people we have lost is that we believe when the fires first hit, a lot of people went to a friend's house and then the friend is not able to communicate because they lost cell phone connectivity.

This is about having young people work on communications, having them clean out hazardous fuels, and having them work on stabilizing soils to prevent massive flooding, because, make no mistake about it, all over the West—in Oregon, Washington, and California—we are going to need those soil stabilization projects to prevent massive flooding this spring. As sure as the night follows the day, it will be a problem.

Using the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps, we can deploy folks into the forest and into our wildland-urban areas, where there is a connection—an interface—because we have a lot of fires in those areas, and the Civilian Conservation Corps can reduce hazardous fuels, prevent catastrophic fires, and they can do it on a grand scale.

An ideal part of it and one of the reasons I think this will appeal to Democrats and Republicans is there doesn't have to be a fight over carrying out our nation's environmental laws. As I mentioned, in Oregon alone, there was already a backlog of more than 2 million acres that need to be treated. Without those treatments, a lightning strike or a carelessly dropped match can start yet another inferno. Just picture that. After everything that we had over the last few days, you have all of these hazardous fuels built up and you have a lightning strike or a carelessly dropped match and, all of a sudden, you have ripped through thousands of other acres in the blink of an eye.

Oregon's forests and the forests of the West badly need this care and investment. It would really be an updated version of one of the most popular programs the government has ever pursued, that came out of the New Deal, and it would be a huge economic boost to rural communities—I see the

Presiding Officer from the State of Iowa—rural communities that feel like government has left them behind.

That is my first proposal—the first of three—that I believe can help us come together as a Senate to reduce the devastating toll of these fires that are not your grandfather's fires. They are bigger and they are hotter and they are more powerful. We can do it together.

The second area that I want to see the Senate focus on is addressing that the fires mean a lot more than spending all your money on just putting big fires out. Forest science has shown that wildfires are a part of the natural life cycle of certain parts of the Nation. If all you do is focus on putting out fires all the time, you disrupt the cycle and that can lead to bigger fires down the road.

But America no longer gets just manageable natural fires. Instead, we get these huge infernos like the ones we have in Oregon, fires that are hot enough to melt a car and sterilize the soil. I ask the Presiding Officer to imagine how hot it has to be to melt a car.

There is a need for another tool to help reduce the devastating effect of these great fires. It is supported by scientists who have been looking at the various tools for dealing with these horrors—Democrats, Republicans—and it basically involves a prescribed fire that can be done safely in the off-seasons, say, in the winter months.

During those months, there is less risk of spread. You can limit the smoke. Civilian Conservation Corps workers working with the scientists at the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Oregon Department of Forestry, collaboratives, and our counties can carefully target these prescribed fires during the off-season and help prevent catastrophic fires in the summer and the fall by using the concept to clean out the dead and dying undergrowth.

Here is the essence of my second proposition. If you use prescribed fire to burn a little when it is safe in the off-season, you can save a whole lot later on by preventing catastrophe during those hotter months of summer and fall.

I have a bill that I have been developing with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I would say to my colleagues that this approach, like the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps, will be ready for cosponsors later this week. I am going to be going to all of my colleagues to ask for support for this second commonsense approach to catastrophe avoidance.

The third proposal brings it all together. Congress must finally kick its aversion to making long-term budget investments in treatment and fire prevention. Managing our forests requires an investment that we essentially look to beyond the next 36 hours. Managing our forests for wildfire resilience needs

to be approached as a longer term proposition, one that can make our communities safer while generating jobs—timber for mills, improving recreation opportunities. And yet this has been an investment the Senate has been unwilling to spend.

Clearly, not enough has been done to deal with fire prevention. The fact that the Congress has constantly been shorting fire prevention is contributing to what is being seen in Oregon and throughout the West right now. Shorting fire prevention is the wrong way to go, and this item, No. 3, is literally a matter of life and death.

Somehow, this Senate can produce hundreds of billions of dollars for tax breaks for special interests. There are outrageous, indefensible subsidies for fossil fuels that compound the climate crisis.

Senator CRAPO and I—my colleague who sits just a few feet away, the Republican of Idaho—worked for years in a bipartisan way to end what is called “fire borrowing.” This is actually the first year when our bill has gone into effect. It got to the point where we needed over 300 citizens’ groups to pass this bill because so often the big fires were fought with prevention money—money borrowed from the prevention accounts, and then the fire just got worst.

Senator CRAPO and I said that is foolish, even by Washington, DC, standards. We were able to get a special fund created where the big fires would be fought from the disaster fund. But still, even with the beginning that Senator CRAPO and I have made on a bipartisan basis, the budget for fire preparedness and prevention is still so woefully short. More has to be done to limit the damage from staggeringly powerful forest fires, and one of the best ways to do it is to start building up that prevention fund that Senator CRAPO and I started here in the U.S. Senate.

We laid the foundation, but it is clearly not enough. I checked, actually, a couple of days ago. There are \$3 billion now in the fund for fire suppression. We are sure going to need that because we have scores of fires still burning in Oregon, but we are going to need to build up preventive funds. And still, prevention as of today, September of 2020, is woefully underfunded.

The Forest Service has the technical tools it needs to improve forest health and to reduce the risk of fire, but, as I mentioned, there is a 2 million-acre backlog just in Oregon. Multiply that all over the West or all over the country where there are forests that are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government and it is pretty clear that America has to decide it is urgent business to build up the budget for fire prevention.

By allowing the fire prevention backlog I have described to build, Congress is just racking up more debt—dangerous debt—and the devastation and the smoke in Oregon and across the West today is the debt coming due.

For those of us in the West who fear it is going to be impossible to pay the enormous bill that we have been handed through a combination of lousy forestry science and a disinterest in real policies that reduce climate change, we know the job is going to be hard, but we can and must do it by coming together like I saw Oregonians do just this last weekend.

Before I wrap up, I want to mention that there sure have been some misguided priorities on all sides of the political spectrum. On one side, some of the timber industry skipped past active management to pursue the golden calf of eliminating environmental laws. On the other side, misguided nonmanagement priorities beat back every attempt to manage our forests based on science. Now add to that the ridiculous new lies and delusions you are seeing online about the causes of these fires, and you have a recipe for distraction as to how the Senate must move forward.

Just today, while visiting California, the President was asked about climate change and fires. He said: No problem. The President said, “It’ll start getting cooler,” and then he blamed “explosive trees.” Sending that kind of nonsense across the land is cold comfort to the families who are mourning the loved ones they have lost in the fires or the thousands of Oregonians who barely made it out before their homes and businesses went up in flames.

The Senate has an obligation to act because around this country—and it is not just in my State but across the West—big-hearted neighbors, animal lovers, county employees, city administrators, local U-Haul businesses, teachers, nurses, and retirees—all of them—are stepping up and pitching in. They are bringing food and clothes and towels, and they are helping with mental health services.

Before I wrap up, I particularly want to thank the incredible firefighters who are working on hardly any sleep, and I thank the first responders, the police and others who are doing so much. One issue they are helping with is cell phones and service. My staff and others in the delegation have been working with these folks.

I see my friend from Virginia, who knows a lot about what it takes to maintain communications networks, and that is what we are working on this afternoon.

One problem that has come up is networks and equipment burn. There is a major strain on the resources for the people on the frontlines who are fighting the inferno—for example, with the repeaters that can amplify a signal and keep our firefighters connected. I am hearing that this country doesn’t have enough repeaters in stock to begin to address such a crisis that the West is experiencing. It is another example of what happens when, year after year, you ignore the urgent need for serious fire prevention.

Before I left Oregon, I told some friends that I was going to come back

and try to bring the Senate together around fire prevention.

One said: Well, you are going to be Mr. Fire Prevention.

I said: No, that is not how it works. I would like to make this the Senate that is known for fire prevention and the Senate that said, between there and here, there are 100 U.S. Senators, and we have differences of opinion. Lord knows that this is the case. But I offered concrete proposals, 21st Century Conservation Corps-prescribed changes in the budget that Democrats and Republicans can come together on. The reason I say that is that we have already done it. That is how Senator CRAPO and I ended fire borrowing.

I close with this: What I saw this weekend was heartbreaking—thousands of families mourning unthinkable loss, trying to figure out how to move forward when their homes and their possessions had been reduced to ash. Yet, when you talk to them, they will tell you that they also know that the problem is not going to get better all by itself—I know there are Senators who want to debate this—and that is because the climate crisis is here, right now, today.

It is no longer a far-off hypothetical danger for Senators to debate in comfortably air-conditioned buildings. The American West—my State—is on fire. Whole neighborhoods and whole communities are being reduced to ashes. Our air quality has had the dubious recognition over the last couple of days of being some of the worst in the world. The climate crisis is happening now to us and to our kids. America and the Senate ignore it at our peril.

I brought today three concrete proposals that I think make a serious contribution to reducing the pain and suffering that have been seen across Oregon and across the West over the last couple of days. I want this to be the day the Senate gets serious about fire prevention as part of a comprehensive effort to fight the climate crisis.

The ideas I have outlined—the three major proposals—ought to become law soon, and they ought to have bipartisan support. They are policies that will protect our communities and the families who live in them and that will protect jobs, protect homes, and protect businesses. They sure are a lot cheaper because they will prevent fires rather than force a bigger pricetag when we need to rebuild communities out of the ashes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I have come to the floor to talk about a different subject, but I want to commend my good friend, the Senator from Oregon, for his comments. We all watched with horror this weekend the images from his State and from those in Washington and California that were literally like something out of Dante’s “Inferno.”

I have enormous respect for the Senator from Oregon, and he can count on

me to be behind him on these proposals. I know they will be reasonable, and I know they will be straightforward. Boy oh boy. If, when we see those images, we are not able to step up with a commonsense, bipartisan, and quick response, then shame on all of us. I commend the Senator for his leadership, and I look forward to working with him.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Madam President, as if that isn't enough—and with the challenges we face with having close to 200,000 of our fellow citizens dead from coronavirus and there still being no national plan on PPE or testing or, my fear, that we could see a repeat of the mistakes that were made on testing and PPE happen on vaccinations if we are not careful—what I actually came to talk about and to remind my colleagues about is something that the Senator from Oregon will also be very, very involved in. I express my grave concern that we are only 16 days away from a potential lapse in government funding.

It is encouraging that Secretary Mnuchin and Speaker PELOSI seem to have reached at least an agreement in principle on this must-pass stopgap funding, but I have been around here long enough to know that when negotiations between and within two Chambers on supposedly must-pass coronavirus relief legislation breaks down and stalls—and when that breakdown lasts for months—that we cannot let the funding of our government get mired in the same complacency and lack of urgency.

I hope and pray that the devastating impact of the 2018-2019 government shutdown is still in the front minds of all of my colleagues here in the Senate. I acknowledge it has been a long year, so here is a little recap for those who need it.

The government shutdown over the holiday of 2018 and into the beginning of the new year of 2019 was the longest shutdown of the Federal Government in history—not of this Congress's and not under this administration but in our country's history.

For 35 days, the Federal Government did not hold up its end of the bargain with taxpayers or the public servants who have dedicated their lives to delivering services to them. The economic impact and human toll were devastating. More than 380,000 Federal workers were furloughed, and another 450,000 were forced to work without pay. While Federal employees eventually received backpay, furloughed workers who happened to be contractors still have not been made whole. To put that in context, contractors, including those who had served the Federal Government as custodians, cafeteria workers, and security guards, had to figure out how to pay rent and buy medicine and put food on the table after two entire paychecks just evaporated.

The economic effects were not just personal either. The Congressional

Budget Office estimates that the 2018-2019 government shutdown cost taxpayers—cost all of us—about \$3 billion. It actually registered as a decrease in 2019's gross domestic product of about two-tenths of a percent. Those will be losses that we will never recover.

As bad as that all sounds, that was only a partial government shutdown. There were 9 out of 15 Departments and several Agencies that were closed.

What we are facing in a couple of weeks would affect the entire Federal Government. To state the obvious, that was when we were not in a global pandemic and an economic recession. Virginians and people across the country continue relying on services from the Federal Government to help keep their families and businesses afloat.

I am sure the administration will take steps to ensure people continue to receive their most essential things, like SNAP benefits to keep their families fed and PPP loans to keep their businesses afloat. Shutting down the entire Federal Government will inevitably lead to disruptions and bare-bone contingency matters.

The American people need and, frankly, deserve better. With food insecurity, housing instability, and job loss all on the rise, now is the time for the Federal Government to do more to help everyday people—not by turning the lights out. Shutting down the government just as we are expecting a surge in COVID-19 cases post-Labor Day and as the flu season is starting and as we are needing to work double time to secure the November election and as the Postal Service needs relief and, as Senator WYDEN just indicated, as the entire west coast is burning—boy oh boy. Calling it a self-inflicted injury doesn't even cut it. If we were to shut down, it would be more like kicking ourselves. Failing to reach an agreement on funding the government would be absolutely disastrous.

I can only hope that there will be bipartisan agreement on this point and that we will be able to put aside any of the unrelated policy differences to fulfill one of our most basic obligations as lawmakers—that of funding the government and keeping our commitments to both our constituents and the Federal workforce that works so tirelessly to serve them.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BROADBAND

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I rise to address broadband connectivity and broadband access in rural States like the Presiding Officer's State and my State of West Virginia.

Our Nation has experienced a very tough couple of months because of the

coronavirus pandemic. With the new normal consisting of teleworking, virtual learning, and telehealth appointments, there is no question that this has forced us to recognize and to reckon with the digital divide in this country. The ability to have affordable and reliable service is more valuable than ever.

However, in 2020, my State remains one of the least connected States in the country. Over the last few months, I have heard from many constituents—hundreds of my constituents—who are having difficulties properly and efficiently working from home, helping their kids with their homework because they lack robust internet access.

You know, I think about those children who either don't have connectivity or don't have an adult in the home who can really help them do their digital learning. We have to get our kids back in school, but in the meantime we have to have this connectivity.

Some examples of this are Randy from Parkersburg, whom I spoke to recently during a tele-townhall meeting that I held with constituents. Randy expressed his frustration with not being able to access the internet, making it difficult for his kids to complete their homework. He was driving to a hot spot.

Laura from Wheeling expressed her concern that her children will fall behind in school without access to their homework online.

And Mandy from Elkins, who is a professor, needs internet because of required online learning at Davis & Elkins.

These are just examples of the few of the concerns that I have heard from my constituents, but, unfortunately, there are many, many more just like those. I am sure you are hearing them as well in the great State of Iowa.

The reality is that broadband build-out in rural areas of West Virginia and across our country are extremely expensive and take more time to complete because, in our case, we have those beautiful West Virginia mountains. I have always said that if we can communicate with somebody on the Moon, we can surely find a way to deliver broadband to individuals, families, and businesses all across this Nation.

Fortunately, the FCC Chairman, Ajit Pai, understands this and has been working with the other Commissioners at the FCC to structure the future of rural broadband deployment. The FCC's upcoming Rural Digital Opportunity Fund—which I am going to call it RDOF, which is how we address it—is the largest Federal investment aimed at closing the digital divide.

RDOF will award \$20.4 billion over the next 10 years for broadband service in rural America, with a special emphasis at the beginning on those who are totally unserved and then moving to those who have some service, but it is inadequate.

The first phase of the funding will be up to \$16 billion deployed through a reverse auction, which is slated to begin next month.

On Friday, I talked with Chairman Pai for an update on the RDOF Program and what it will mean to West Virginia.

We also discussed where my State stands in the process. West Virginia is set to receive a significant amount of funding over the next 10 years to connect 121,000 eligible homes—so that is probably over 200,000 individuals—particularly those in the underserved areas, as I mentioned.

During my call with the Chairman, I received assurances that the FCC has been diligently working to get as many providers into the RDOF Program as possible.

The FCC has already provided feedback to providers on their short-form applications so that they may be prepared to bid in the upcoming auction next month.

Another partner in my quest to close this digital divide is West Virginia Governor Jim Justice. Recently, the Governor signed an executive order to help expand broadband capabilities in West Virginia—very innovatively, I might add. His executive order would remove the regulatory cap on the amount of money that West Virginia's EDA can provide as loan insurance for broadband projects. In other words, the State is going to stand behind these providers to make sure we get our share of the RDOF money.

This is an innovative and bipartisan Federal-State partnership that hopefully will allow more local providers to successfully bid on the majority of the RDOF census blocks in our State.

These areas are oftentimes the most challenging to serve, and we need to ensure that our local providers—that are ready and able to connect their communities with high-speed broadband—have the ability to compete in the upcoming auction.

Our Governor's bipartisan effort is supported by leaders in both the majority and minority party of both chambers of the West Virginia Legislature, including the Senate president, Mitch Carmichael; our house speaker, Roger Hanshaw; the Senate minority leader, Roman Prezioso—whom I would like to thank for his service, as he is leaving the senate—and also the house minority leader, Tim Miley, who is also leaving, and I would like to thank him for his service.

So what is next and how do we continue to improve on this progress? One major undertaking is improving the FCC's broadband maps with more granular data. Far too often these maps show rural areas that are covered, but, in reality, if you are living in and around the area, you know they are not covered. There is no service. It is not the case.

This data collection and correction is tedious but critical, as these maps often determine funding levels and what areas are prioritized, naturally.

As cochair of the Senate Broadband Caucus, I cosponsored the Broadband DATA Act, which this body passed last year and President Trump signed into law in March.

This new law will lead to the creation of a singular Federal broadband map, with new more granular data collected by the FCC from State and local governments, consumers, and other third parties, and will be updated biannually.

It would create an online mechanism where individuals can challenge the coverage maps. Let's say you live in an area and you say: Well, they are saying I am covered, and you know darn well you are living in a place that is uncovered. You can submit that data online, and it will be submitted to the providers.

It also requires regular auditing of data submitted by providers, allowing for crowdsourcing verification. This is important, too, because if you are grading yourself, you are going to give yourself a better grade, but if you are grading yourself and then you have a third-party verifier who is actually making sure that the data you are putting forward is correct, you might be just a little more circumspect about how accurate that data is.

Another step forward would be dovetailing road infrastructure with fiber broadband buildout. We all recognize broadband is infrastructure, and a "dig once" approach would sure save time and money. Digging through those mountains is pretty tough so we only want to dig once if we have to.

This is why I am happy to see that the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration in mid-August made an announcement of a new rule to improve coordination in the use of highway rights-of-way to support the installation of broadband technologies.

In other words, they are making it regulatorily easier at the Federal level to move forward.

This proposed rule would help ensure that the digging required to install utilities would also be utilized for broadband infrastructure. That makes sense, doesn't it? This would help cut down on the expense associated with the deployment into rural areas.

The good news is, this issue is one of the few issues that lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are eager to work on together. We will continue to have obstacles ahead as we seek to close this digital divide, but I believe it is important to note the progress that we have made up to this point.

Five years ago, I created my Capito Connect Plan, which is a roadmap for bringing affordable, high-speed internet access to homes, businesses, and classrooms in my State of West Virginia.

Each year, we have made significant strides, and I am proud of these accomplishments that have been made. Are we all the way there? No. That is why I am talking about it today—how im-

portant it is, especially in this COVID environment.

So, for example, there is the Facebook Fiber Project. I personally asked founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg, during a Commerce Committee hearing, for his commitment to partner with West Virginia on rural fiber deployment. They announced they are investing 275 miles of long-haul fiber right through the southern portion of the State. I just drove by it on my way here. I can see the big coils, and they are moving forward with that.

Other investments are the State's first fiber infrastructure investment from Zayo. They will be constructing a similar build through the northern part of the State.

I have also worked to leverage Federal agencies like the USDA and their ReConnect Program to invest in West Virginia with Federal grants and loans.

Since the launch of my initiative, I have successfully delivered \$37 million in funding for residential broadband projects through the USDA Programs and will continue in those efforts.

Last month, I was in rural Preston County, where I witnessed firsthand as broadband service was being installed to the home of Beverly and Jeff Stemple. This fiber installation project was funded by the USDA's Community Connect project and made possible by those initiatives.

I also visited Lincoln Primary Care in Hamlin, WV, which received a telemedicine grant from the FCC to help provide better care in Southern West Virginia, and they have a great plan that they are going to put in their community health centers and about 5 or 6 counties in 17 locations.

We have had a great deal of success with also identifying new areas for cell towers—one in Lincoln County. We visited with the providers there.

As you can see, all levels of government, along with the private sector, along with our municipalities and our local leaders, have stepped up to the plate to work toward this common goal.

Capito Connect is making a difference of connecting thousands of West Virginians. I have worked with colleagues on both side of the aisle through my committee work and also worked with the administration, which has truly prioritized this issue.

Perhaps one upside to the pandemic—or I would say better maybe lessons learned—is that it has helped us better appreciate the time that we can physically spend with one another. But lessons learned are we cannot disadvantage certain parts of this country because you don't have what I consider to be one of the essentials in order to do business, to have healthcare, and to learn, and that is the deployment of high-speed broadband.

Getting back to the human connection—wow. It is so important, and I know we miss it. A lot of us miss it. But it makes our work on broadband all that much more important.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Tennessee.

FREE SPEECH

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, it seems like every other week we turn on the TV only to hear a pundit declare that we are living in the most divisive time in the history of our Nation. Now, as I am sure many would point out, especially if we were having this discussion on social media, those who lived through the Civil War and other contentious eras might have something to say about that, but we can all agree it is a contentious time.

What I know for sure is this: Every single day I see the American people losing the hope they once had in the absolute inviolability of our fundamental right to free speech and expression. They may not be too worried about official action changing those rights, but what they do see is a dwindling respect for what those rights mean outside of the context of what lawyers and lawmakers understand as protected speech. They are not thinking about Supreme Court cases. They are wondering what changed in the hearts and minds of their countrymen to turn simple disagreements into all-out war. They long for the days when they would have friendly banter with their neighbors and with their friends and discuss the issues of the day.

Well, over the past few months, I have watched this national discourse spiral to the point where most people I talked to back home believe that civil debate is just about impossible, and it worries them. What happened to mutual respect? What happened to point-counterpoint? What happened to civil discourse in the public square? What happened to sitting around the table after a Sunday School class and talking about how what you have discussed applies to the issues of the day? Have we lost it?

I have witnessed obvious efforts to threaten and intimidate conservative activists. I have watched these go unchecked by powerful legal figureheads who should have known better. And what is worse, these threats and intimidation tactics have spilled over into the online platforms millions of Americans use to check the news, stay connected to friends, and share updates on the lives of their families.

Now, I think we can agree that most of our friends in Silicon Valley who are in charge of those platforms harbor some liberal bias. That being said, I think we can also agree that doesn't mean they can't be objective when it comes to things like content moderation. Of course, that is not how it

works out in real life. The modern era's hostility toward debate provides those platforms with a perverse incentive just to flip the switch, shut down conservative voices, and then suggest that we had it coming all along: You shouldn't have been saying such. Well, we all know that this seems to be a one-sided argument.

Now, those in this Chamber who follow technology policy know that Big Tech uses the liability shield granted under section 230 of the Communications Decency Act to justify this type of censorship. In part, the statute reads:

No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be held liable on account of—any action voluntarily taken in good faith to restrict access to or availability of material that the provider or user considers to be obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, excessively violent, harassing, or otherwise objectionable, whether or not such material is constitutionally protected.

Remember that “otherwise objectionable” catchall. That is going to be important. Congress originally constructed those provisions to protect startups and innovators from frivolous content moderation lawsuits that could either bankrupt their firms or severely restrict their access to venture capital. But, in reality, Big Tech has abused this privilege.

Now, listen to this part because this also is as important as that “otherwise objectionable” phrase. Congress originally constructed these provisions of section 230 to protect startups and innovators from frivolous content moderation lawsuits that could either bankrupt their firms or severely restrict their access to venture capital. This was done because the internet was in its infancy, and people wanted to make certain they could get their sea legs underneath them, have a little space, and be able to innovate. If they made mistakes, they would be able to rectify those mistakes and not get sued.

Those days are long gone, and, yes, Big Tech has abused this privilege. They became very comfortable with looking at section 230 and using it as a way to issue take-down notices, as a way to restrict content, and as a way to manipulate prioritization. It came in line with their thought processes and their ideas, but, in reality, we know that this has become an excuse to censor content that they disagree with in principle, and, in doing so, they have damaged—perhaps in some ways irreparably—the integrity of the national discourse.

The problem isn't just that they have unilaterally imposed their own preferred content filter into the browser and news feeds of millions of Americans and manipulated the availability and quality of the information; it is that in the process of doing so, they have trained their customers to expect that filter to cover their real-world interactions with people whose beliefs are much more diverse than those of the Silicon Valley's wealthiest residents.

You know, this is one of those Hollywood versus the heartland sorts of issues. They think they know better than the people across this country, so they feel that they can impose their own filter onto your browser and your news feed and thereby manipulate the availability and the quality of information to which you are going to have access, and they are doing it because they can, they think, because they have been using 230 as their shield.

Last week, I joined my colleagues Senators WICKER and GRAHAM to introduce the Online Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity Act, and I thank them for their willingness to work with me and to move a product to completion and introduction. To introduce this legislation means we are introducing accountability into our dealings with this notoriously opaque and unregulated industry.

To be clear, this piece of legislation isn't meant to construct a new set of guide rails that will let Washington dictate the inner workings of a platform's content moderation strategy. What it does is change the language of the existing statute to clarify some ambiguous terminology. Basically, you are clarifying who can use liability protection, when they can use it, how they can use it, and where it can be applied.

First and foremost, the bill clarifies those scenarios when an online platform's decision to restrict access—restrict it, censoring, diminishing, pushing it back—to certain types of content will result in their losing that section 230 shield. Did they do it because they wanted to or did they do it because it is language that should be shielded and taken down?

This provision will address those famously vague content moderation policies that are almost impossible for users to challenge. How many times have you looked at terms of service and how many times have you looked at community standards and said: I can't figure out what this means. Guess what. Most people cannot. And the online platform—it is fine with them if you can't figure it out. It gives them more latitude.

Next, it conditions the content moderation liability shield on a reasonableness standard. In order to be protected from liability, a tech company may only restrict access to content where it has an “objectively reasonable belief” that the content falls within a certain specified category.

So the purpose of this is to take away the benefit of the doubt. We want them to really think before restricting content. What they have done is just take it down—no fear that their hands would be slapped. And what do we know about Big Tech? They are going to push the envelope until they get their hands slapped.

So, instead of giving them the benefit of the doubt, the next time they decide they are going to go in here and they are going to take something down, we

want to give them pause. They need to think before they do that.

Our update removes the “otherwise objectionable” standard that I mentioned previously, and it replaces it with some specific terms that would protect platforms when they remove content that promotes terrorism, promotes self-harm, or is unlawful.

You know, it is a good thing when Congress can be specific in what they mean and when they can be specific in the intent of the law. Changing this language would provide that specificity that is needed.

Last but not least, the bill clarifies the definition of “information content provider” to include a person or entity that creates, develops, or editorializes information provided through the internet or any other online platform.

Now, this will help online publishers, periodicals, and websites that are news websites. But then you have Big Tech block them because somebody puts up something in the comment section that Big Tech doesn't like. Of course, we all are familiar with Mark Zuckerberg saying that his company, Facebook, works more like a government than a corporation. So, this pulls back on what they have used as their control.

There has been a lot of discussion in this Chamber regarding the best way to handle section 230. Many argue that we would all be better off if Congress wiped the statute off the books and just got rid of it completely. But I will tell you, I fully believe that is a misguided approach. That strategy will not temper the effects of Big Tech's bias because their bias stretches far beyond interactions that raise section 230 concerns.

This isn't a simple issue. Those of us who have been working on section 230 for years are still studying the ripple effects these changes will bring. What we know for sure is that simply closing the book on section 230 via congressional decree would be like casting a protest vote against Big Tech's bad behavior. It would be absolutely pointless.

Until we recognize the importance of clarifying and preserving liability protections for the internet we have now and not—not—the internet we had in 1996, Big Tech will keep pushing the boundaries until private corporations will become judge and jury over not only how Americans discover new information but what information is actually there to discover.

It is time for the U.S. Senate to step up, to do the work, and to write those changes into law.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

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 legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

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

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 nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 77, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 169 Ex.]

YEAS—77

Alexander	Ernst	Menendez
Baldwin	Feinstein	Murkowski
Barrasso	Fischer	Murphy
Bennet	Gardner	Paul
Blackburn	Graham	Perdue
Blunt	Grassley	Peters
Boozman	Hassan	Portman
Braun	Hawley	Reed
Brown	Heinrich	Risch
Burr	Hoeven	Roberts
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Cardin	Inhofe	Rosen
Carper	Johnson	Rounds
Casey	Jones	Rubio
Collins	Kaine	Sasse
Cornyn	King	Schatz
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Leahy	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lee	Shaheen
Cruz	Loeffler	Shelby
Duckworth	Manchin	Sinema
Durbin	McConnell	Smith
Enzi	McSally	Stabenow

Sullivan
Tester
Thune

Udall
Warner
Whitehouse

Wicker
Young

NAYS—12

Blumenthal
Booker
Cantwell
Gillibrand

Hirono
Klobuchar
Markley
Merkley

Schumer
Van Hollen
Warren
Wyden

NOT VOTING—11

Cassidy
Coons
Cramer
Daines

Harris
Kennedy
Moran
Murray

Sanders
Tillis
Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 77, the nays are 12.

The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the confirmation vote with respect to the Scarsi nomination occur at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow; further, if cloture is invoked on the Blumenfeld nomination, the postcloture time with respect to the Blumenfeld nomination expire at 2:15 p.m. tomorrow, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, and following disposition of the Blumenfeld nomination, the Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the Holcomb and Robinson nominations in the order listed; further, if cloture is invoked on the Holcomb nomination, the postcloture time with respect to the nomination expire at 5:15 p.m. tomorrow and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination. I further ask that if cloture is invoked on the Robinson nomination, the postcloture time expire at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader on Wednesday, September 16; finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message

from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House of Representatives for a term of 6 years: Ms. Anne Arrington of Lubbock, Texas.

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 Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. REED):

S. 4566. A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide clarification of delivery of notice of termination of leases of premises and motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 4567. A bill to designate the Rocksprings Station of the U.S. Border Patrol located on West Main Street in Rocksprings, Texas, as the "Donna M. Doss Border Patrol Station"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 4568. A bill to facilitate the development and distribution of forensic science standards by establishing in the National Institute of Standards and Technology the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science, 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 Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. Res. 689. A resolution condemning the crackdown on peaceful protestors in Belarus and calling for the imposition of sanctions on responsible officials; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. ENZI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms.

CANTWELL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. DAINES):

S. Res. 690. A resolution designating September 2020 as "National Workforce Development Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 691. A resolution expressing support for evidence-based programs that facilitate social and emotional learning during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 815

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) 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. 997

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to recognize and honor the service of individuals who served in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1083

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1083, a bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 2548

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2886

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3176, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 3427

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3427, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, and for other purposes.

S. 3471

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3471, a bill to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes.

S. 3718

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3718, a bill to expand the waiver of affiliation rules for certain business concerns with more than 1 physical location, and for other purposes.

S. 3722

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3722, a bill to authorize funding for a bilateral cooperative program with Israel for the development of health technologies with a focus on combating COVID-19.

S. 3829

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3829, a bill to advance the global health security and diplomacy objectives of the United States, improve coordination among the relevant Federal departments and agencies implementing

United States foreign assistance for global health security, and more effectively enable partner countries to strengthen and sustain resilient health systems and supply chains with the resources, capacity, and personnel required to prevent, detect, mitigate, and respond to infectious disease threats before they become pandemics, and for other purposes.

S. 4150

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4150, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide assistance to certain providers of transportation services affected by the novel coronavirus.

S. 4245

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4245, a bill to develop and deploy firewall circumvention tools for the people of Hong Kong after the People's Republic of China violated its agreement under the Joint Declaration, and for other purposes.

S. 4255

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4255, a bill to amend the CARES Act to establish community investment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 4275

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4275, a bill to require recipients of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance to provide employment documentation, and for other purposes.

S. 4334

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4334, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the process by which a member of the Armed Forces may be referred for a mental health evaluation.

S. 4375

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4375, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

S. 4380

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

S. 4402

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from

Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4402, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify certain activities that would have been authorized under Nationwide Permit 12 and other Nationwide Permits, and for other purposes.

S. 4431

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4431, a bill to increase wildfire preparedness and response throughout the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4453

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4453, a bill to protect the continuity of the food supply chain of the United States in response to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 4561

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4561, a bill to clarify and increase the restrictions on political activities that are applicable to the members of the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service, including the Postmaster General and the Deputy Postmaster General, and for other purposes.

S. 4562

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4562, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 578

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 578, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 672

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors 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.

S. RES. 679

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 679, a resolution expressing appreciation and support for essential employees with disabilities or who are blind during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 689—CONDEMNING THE CRACKDOWN ON PEACEFUL PROTESTORS IN BELARUS AND CALLING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 689

Whereas Alyaksandr Lukashenka has ruled Belarus as an undemocratic dictatorship since the first presidential election in Belarus in 1994;

Whereas subsequent presidential elections in Belarus have been neither free nor fair and have been rejected by the international community as not meeting minimal electoral standards, with the jailing of opposition activists frequently used as a tool of government repression before and after the elections;

Whereas, in response to the repression and violence during the 2006 presidential election, Congress passed the Belarus Democracy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-480);

Whereas, in March 2011, the Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 105, which—

(1) condemned the December 2010 election in Belarus as “illegitimate, fraudulent, and not representative of the will or the aspirations of the voters in Belarus”; and

(2) called on the Lukashenka regime “to immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners in Belarus who were arrested in association with the December 19, 2010, election”;

Whereas, in advance of the August 2020 presidential elections in Belarus, authorities acting on behalf of President Lukashenka arrested journalists, bloggers, political activists, and opposition leaders, including three leading presidential candidates (Siarhey Tsikhanouski, Mikalay Statkevich, and Viktar Babaryka), who were barred from running in the election by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Belarus;

Whereas, while the three opposition candidates were imprisoned, two of their wives and one of their campaign managers, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Veranika Tsepkala, and Maria Kalesnikava, joined together and ran in place of the candidates;

Whereas thousands of Belarusian people demonstrated their support for these candidates by attending rallies, including one rally that included an estimated 63,000 participants;

Whereas, on August, 5, 2020, the Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 658, which calls for a free, fair, and transparent presidential election in Belarus, including the unimpeded participation of all presidential candidates;

Whereas presidential elections were held in Belarus on August 9, 2020, under undemocratic conditions with reports of malfeasance on the part of Lukashenka's government, including early voting ballot stuffing, ballot burning, pressuring poll workers, and removing bags full of ballots by climbing out of windows;

Whereas incumbent president Alyaksandr Lukashenka declared a landslide victory in the election and claimed to have received more than 80 percent of the votes cast in the election;

Whereas the leading opposition candidate, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya—

(1) formally disputed the government's reported election results;

(2) explained that her staff had examined the election results from more than 50 polling places; and

(3) found that her share of the vote exceeded Lukashenka's share by many times;

Whereas, on August 10, 2020, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya was detained while attending a meeting with the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Belarus and forced to flee to Lithuania under pressure from government authorities;

Whereas, on August 11, 2020, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Linas Linkevičius announced that Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya was safe in Lithuania and has continued to be 1 of the strongest voices supporting the pro-democracy movement in Belarus within the European Union and globally;

Whereas, on August 11, 2020, the European Union High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, issued a declaration on the presidential election in Belarus stating that the elections were neither free nor fair;

Whereas, on August 18, 2020, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya announced the formation of a Coordination Council to oversee a resolution to the crisis in Belarus and a peaceful transition of power;

Whereas, on August 19, 2020, European Council President Charles Michel announced that the European Union would impose sanctions on a substantial number of individuals responsible for violence, repression, and election fraud in Belarus;

Whereas, on August 28, 2020, United States Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun declared that the August 9th election in Belarus was fraudulent;

Whereas, since the sham election on August 9, 2020, tens of thousands of Belarusian citizens have participated in daily peaceful protests calling for a new, free, and fair election, and the release of political prisoners;

Whereas according to Amnesty International, on August 30, 2020, Belarusians held one of the largest protest rallies in the country's modern history in Minsk and in other cities, which was attended by at least 100,000 people who demanded the resignation of President Lukashenka and an investigation into the human rights violations in Belarus;

Whereas women have played a leading role in the protests, including by forming peaceful solidarity chains of thousands of Belarusians symbolically dressed in white;

Whereas more than 7,000 Belarusian citizens have been detained by government authorities, mostly for taking part in or observing peaceful protests, with many of these arrests followed by beatings and torture at the hands of Belarusian law enforcement;

Whereas authorities in Belarus have consistently restricted press freedom as part of the crackdown, including—

(1) the arrest of dozens of journalists, six of whom report for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty;

(2) blocking more than 50 news websites that were covering the protests;

(3) halting the publishing of two independent newspapers; and

(4) stripping the accreditation of journalists working for foreign news outlets;

Whereas internet access in Belarus has been repeatedly disrupted and restricted since August 9, 2020, which independent experts and monitoring groups have attributed to government interference;

Whereas after employees of state media outlets walked off the job in protest rather than help report misleading government propaganda, Lukashenka confirmed that he "asked the Russians" to send teams of Russian journalists to replace local employees;

Whereas Lukashenka appealed to Russian President Vladimir Putin to provide security assistance to his government, if requested, and Putin confirmed that a reserve police force was ready to be deployed if "the situation gets out of control";

Whereas the Belarus Ministry of Defense threatened to send the army to confront protestors, warning that in case of any violation of peace and order in areas around national monuments, "you will have the army to deal with now, not the police";

Whereas, according to the Viasna Human Rights Centre, at least 450 detainees have reported being tortured or otherwise ill-treated while held in incommunicado detention for up to 10 days, including through—

(1) severe beatings;

(2) forced performance of humiliating acts; and

(3) sexual violence and other forms of violence;

Whereas at least four Belarusians have been killed at protests, and dozens of Belarusians who were detained during the protests are still missing;

Whereas, on or around September 6, 2020, the opposition leader, Maria Kalesnikava, and members of the Coordination Council, including Anton Ronenkov, Ivan Kravtsov, and Maxim Bogretsov, were detained by authorities who sought to forcibly expel them to Ukraine;

Whereas opposition leader Maria Kolesnikova tore up her passport at the Ukrainian border in a successful effort to prevent this expulsion, subsequently disappeared, and was discovered in a Minsk prison on September 9, 2020;

Whereas the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, done at New York December 19, 1966, was ratified by Belarus in 1973, guaranteeing Belarusians the freedom of expression and the freedom of association; and

Whereas, in 2006, President George W. Bush issued Executive Order 13405, titled "Blocking Property of Certain Persons Undermining Democratic Processes or Institutions in Belarus", which authorized the imposition of sanctions against persons responsible for—

(1) undermining democratic processes in Belarus; or

(2) participating in human rights abuses related to political repression in Belarus;

Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) finds that—

(A) the elections held in Belarus on August 9, 2020, were neither free nor fair; and

(B) the results announced by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Belarus are invalid;

(2) stands in solidarity with the people of Belarus, including human rights defenders, bloggers, and journalists, who are exercising their right to freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, and rule of law;

(3) recognizes the leading role of women in the peaceful protests and pro-democracy movement in Belarus;

(4) condemns the unrelenting crackdown on, arbitrary arrests of, and violence against

peaceful protesters, opposition leaders, human rights activists, and independent media by authorities in Belarus;

(5) condemns the unjustified detention and forced or attempted expulsion of members of the Coordination Council in Belarus;

(6) demands the release of all political prisoners and those arrested for peacefully protesting, including those arrested before the August 9, 2020 election;

(7) applauds the commitment by foreign diplomats in Minsk to engage with Coordination Council member and Nobel Laureate, Svetlana Alexievich, and encourages an ongoing dialogue with her and with other leaders of the democratically-oriented political opposition in Belarus;

(8) calls on the Government of Belarus to uphold its human rights obligations, including those enumerated in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(9) calls on the United States Government to impose targeted sanctions, in coordination with the European Union and other international partners, against officials in Belarus who are responsible for—

(A) undermining democratic processes in Belarus; or

(B) participating in human rights abuses related to political repression in Belarus;

(10) encourages the United States Government to continue working with its partners in Europe, particularly the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, to support the people of Belarus; and

(11) supports—

(A) the continued territorial integrity of Belarus; and

(B) the right of the Belarusian people to determine their future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 690—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2020 AS "NATIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH"

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. ENZI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. DAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 690

Whereas investment in the education, training, and career advancement of the workforce in the United States, known as "workforce development", is crucial to the ability of the United States to compete in the global economy;

Whereas collaboration among Governors, local governments, State and local education, workforce, and human services agencies, community colleges, local businesses, employment service providers, community-based organizations, and workforce development boards provides for long-term, sustainable, and successful workforce development across traditional sectors and emerging industries;

Whereas middle-skill jobs, which require more than a high school diploma but not a 4-year degree, comprise 52 percent of the labor market, but only 42 percent of workers in the United States have been able to access

training at that level, creating a discrepancy that may limit growth in changing industries such as health care, manufacturing, and information technology;

Whereas 76 percent of business leaders say greater investment in skills training would help their businesses;

Whereas, during the first 6 months of 2020 in the United States—

(1) tens of millions of individuals filed for unemployment benefits;

(2) more than 50 percent of job losses were concentrated among workers earning less than \$40,000 per year; and

(3) workers with a high school diploma or a lower level of educational attainment were displaced from jobs at nearly 3 times the rate of workers with a bachelor's degree;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress reauthorized the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) with overwhelming bipartisan support in recognition of the need to strengthen the focus of the United States on the skills necessary to fill jobs in local and regional industries;

Whereas the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) supports employment, training, and support services for individuals with barriers to employment, including—

(1) individuals who are low-income;

(2) individuals who are out of work, including the long-term unemployed;

(3) individuals displaced by outsourcing;

(4) individuals living in rural areas or areas with persistently high unemployment;

(5) individuals looking to learn new skills; and

(6) individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the more than 550 workforce development boards and 2,500 American Job Centers are a driving force behind growing regional economies by providing training, resources, and assistance to workers who aim to compete in the 21st century economy;

Whereas ongoing State and local implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) provides unprecedented opportunities to develop the skills of workers in the United States through access to effective workforce education and training, including the development and delivery of proven strategies such as sector partnerships, career pathways, integrated education and training, work-based learning models, and paid internships;

Whereas, in 2018, programs authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.)—

(1) served nearly 6,000,000 young people and adults;

(2) exceeded employment targets across all programs; and

(3) helped more than 1,500,000 individuals, including English language learners, gain skills and credentials to help the individuals succeed in the labor market;

Whereas State programs established under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.)—

(1) ensured that more than 5,400,000 unemployed workers, including more than 500,000 veterans, had access to career services through American Job Centers in 2018; and

(2) are a foundational part of the workforce development system;

Whereas workforce development programs will play a critical role in addressing the expected 2,400,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs over the next decade;

Whereas community colleges and other workforce development training providers across the United States are well situated—

(1) to train the next generation of workers in the United States; and

(2) to address the educational challenges created by emerging industries and technological advancements;

Whereas participation in a career and technical education (referred to in this preamble as “CTE”) program decreases the risk of students dropping out of high school, and all 50 States and the District of Columbia report higher graduation rates for CTE students, as compared to other students;

Whereas community and technical colleges operate as open access institutions serving millions of students annually at a comparatively low cost;

Whereas the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Public Law 115-224; 132 Stat. 1563) supports the development and implementation of high-quality CTE programs that—

(1) combine rigorous academic content with occupational skills; and

(2) served approximately 12,500,000 high school and college students between 2018 and 2019;

Whereas there are more than 500,000 registered apprentices in the United States, and there is growing and bipartisan support for expanding earn-and-learn strategies to help current and future workers gain skills and work experience;

Whereas the federally supported workforce system and partner programs—

(1) have helped rebuild the economy of the United States and provide increased economic opportunities; and

(2) provide a pathway into 21st century jobs that support families while ensuring that businesses in the United States find the skilled workforce needed to compete in the global economy; and

Whereas workforce development is crucial to sustaining economic security for workers in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2020 as “National Workforce Development Month”;;

(2) supports Federal initiatives to promote workforce development; and

(3) acknowledges that workforce development plays a crucial role in supporting workers and growing the economy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 691—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS THAT FACILITATE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING DURING AND BEYOND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 691

Whereas a positive school culture is important for students, teachers, and staff to feel safe, valued, engaged, included, and respected;

Whereas students face intense academic and social pressures in school, including stress, bullying, and social isolation;

Whereas students face increasing anxiety as the COVID-19 pandemic continues, as a result of—

(1) social distancing requirements and increasing social isolation;

(2) fear of illness for themselves and peers;

(3) uncertainty of the future for themselves and schooling; and

(4) financial insecurity that results in hunger or stress at home;

Whereas, when these concerns or childhood trauma are not addressed appropriately, anxiety, depression, social withdrawal, disruptive behavior, drug and alcohol abuse, and violence can result;

Whereas skills developed through social and emotional learning equip young people to handle the challenges they face and help them succeed not just as students, but as healthy and caring adults, productive workers, and engaged citizens;

Whereas social and emotional learning is defined as the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with social and emotional competency, including the ability to—

(1) identify, understand, and manage emotions;

(2) set and achieve positive goals;

(3) feel and show empathy for others;

(4) establish and maintain positive relationships; and

(5) make responsible decisions;

Whereas social and emotional learning programs can be effectively integrated into schools through classroom instruction, both in-person and virtually, and other schoolwide activities that—

(1) provide instruction for school leaders, educators, and staff on social and emotional learning, so they can both model these skills for students and benefit from them personally and professionally;

(2) integrate social and emotional learning through family engagement and in the school curriculum, through instruction and, in some cases, playful learning;

(3) provide systematic instruction in which skills are taught, modeled, practiced, and applied in daily behavior; and

(4) establish safe and caring learning environments that foster student participation, engagement, and connection to their school community;

Whereas social and emotional skills are both teachable and measurable, and evidence-based social and emotional learning programs have already been successfully implemented in schools across the country for students in preschool through high school;

Whereas students exposed to social and emotional learning programs have improved academic outcomes, including greater motivation to learn and commitment to school, increased time devoted to schoolwork and mastery of subject matter, and improved attendance, graduation rates, grades, and test scores;

Whereas these positive outcomes increase in students who are involved in social and emotional learning programs by an average of 11 percentage points over students who are not involved in such programs;

Whereas social and emotional learning programs can mitigate the impact of childhood trauma and also result in reduced problem behavior, improved health outcomes, a lower rate of violent delinquency, and a lower rate of heavy alcohol use;

Whereas programs that increase student connectedness and raise awareness about social isolation have been shown to reduce bullying and improve school climate; and

Whereas social and emotional learning programs help young people appreciate the importance of developing and sustaining positive interpersonal relationships and inclusive communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of evidence-based social and emotional learning programs;

(2) encourages schools and communities to implement programs to facilitate social and emotional learning in both in-person curriculum and virtual curriculum; and

(3) encourages schools to conduct regular in-person and virtual training of their staff to ensure social and emotional learning programs can evolve, grow, and build capacity as needed.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, September 14, 2020, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

NATIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 690, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 690) designating September 2020 as "National Workforce Development Month".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 690) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 15; 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 busi-

ness be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Scarsi nomination under the previous order; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:45 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE ARMY

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

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. SEAN C. BERNABE
BRIG. GEN. PATRICK D. FRANK

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MASTER SERGEANT CHRISTINE INCH, 193RD SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING, PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I'm honored to congratulate Master Sergeant (MSGT) Christine Inch on her well-earned retirement after 23 years of service to our communities, Commonwealth and Country while serving in the 193rd Special Operations Wing, Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

Following the heinous and cowardly attacks of 9/11, MSGT Inch served as the Wing Command Staff Orderly. She ensured that (amongst myriad other duties), before boots or bombs hit the ground in Afghanistan, Airmen—and all United States Service Members'—only flying/psychological operations/broadcasting platform was already over target delivering messages of freedom.

MSGT Inch was instrumental to the mission assurance and success for over 350 Warfighters in five distinct squadrons. She led the standup of the consolidated Group Commander Support Staff as it transitioned from the squadrons to administration at the Group level. Her direct efforts seamlessly realigned positions and duties to better accommodate critical commander support actions throughout 193rd Special Operations Mission Support Group units.

MSGT Inch's adaptability and affability enabled her to provide leadership as needed, as a critical embedded member during myriad time periods within many Squadrons, and helped ensure thousands of this unique unit's Air Commandos to arrive on time, on target and back home into the loving arms of their families and friends.

In addition to her varied duties and responsibilities, MSGT Inch volunteered as the sole administrative support lead during Operation IRON RESPONSE, providing critical security for the 2015 Papal Visit in Philadelphia. In this position, she facilitated essential personnel data and information-sharing among joint partners, which lead to mission success.

MSGT Inch's dedication and tireless efforts, as well as her administrative subject matter expertise contributed to the 193rd Special Operations Communications Squadron earning the U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Harold W. Grant Award as the best small communications unit in the Air National Guard.

MSGT Inch leaves a "can-do" Airman legacy. Her performance and professionalism was exceptional, as she consistently delivered accurate and timely information—eclipsed only by her positive and radiant attitude. Master Sergeant Christine Inch's distinguished career and selfless service to our Nation reflect great credit upon herself, the Air National Guard, the United States Air Force, and the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF ATTORNEY ALLAN M. KLUGER ON HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize attorney Allan M. Kluger, whose career was celebrated by the Friedman Jewish Community Center at their first annual Tribute Gala on Sunday, September 13, 2020.

A native of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Allan graduated from Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School in 1945. After receiving his undergraduate degree in 1949 from Amherst College in Massachusetts, he attended law school at the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1952, Allan began his legal career with the firm Hourigan, Kluger, and Quinn, specializing in business law, estate planning and administration, wills, trusts, and real estate law. During his near seven-decade career, he established himself as a leading attorney in the region and rose through the ranks to president and senior member of Hourigan, Kluger, and Quinn. Allan is a member of the Luzerne County and American Bar Associations and was appointed by the governor to serve on the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission from 1991 to 1998. In recognition of his skill and commitment to the field, he was named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in 2004 and 2005.

In addition to his professional pursuits, Allan is dedicated to giving back to his community. He has served on the boards of and in leadership positions for over 25 organizations, including the Jewish Community Center, the Luzerne County Bar Association, and the F.M. Kirby Center for Performing Arts. He is currently a Trustee Emeritus of King's College, Director Emeritus of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Director and Secretary of Luzerne Foundation/Founding Board, and Director of Luzerne Products, Inc.

Allan has been lauded for his service to others. In addition to being recognized by the Friedman Jewish Community Center, he has received the Mary Bevevino Community Service Award; the Father James Lackenmier, C.S.C. Award for Achievement and Leadership; the B'nai B'rith Outstanding Citizen Award; the First Annual Ethics Award from the Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania; the Wyoming Seminary Distinguished Service Award; the President's Award from the Luzerne County Bar Association; the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen Award; the Lifetime Achievement in Philanthropy Award with his wife, Sue from the Greater Pocono Northeast Chapter of the National Society of Fundraising Executives; the Anti-Defamation League Distinguished Community Service Award; the Pillar of the Community Award from Temple Israel; and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Citizen Award.

It is an honor to recognize a true community leader and former colleague in the legal profession. Allan's career and life have been marked by integrity and a willingness to go the extra mile for his community, and I wish him many more years of health and happiness ahead.

RECOGNIZING CONSTITUTION WEEK AND THE THEODOSIA BURR CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Constitution Week and the Theodosia Burr Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

It is a privilege and duty of the American people to commemorate the two hundred thirty-third anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention. As citizens of this great nation, we must reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787.

Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week. It is fitting and proper to officially recognize this magnificent document and the anniversary of its creation.

Madam Speaker, I join the Theodosia Burr Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American people in recognizing September 17 through September 23, 2020 as Constitution Week and honor the Framers for their contributions.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
SALAM NALIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Salam Nalia, an accomplished international businessman and community advocate in the Central Valley.

Salam began his education at the age of five through missionary school. He then earned a bachelor's degree from Karachi University in Pakistan, a bachelor's degree in accounting and master's degree in business administration from Fresno State.

He has extensive experience and success in the development and implementation of accounting systems, fiscal and grants management, and leadership within nonprofit management. Salam has developed projects focused

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

on maximization of economic resources and development for distressed communities. Some of his domestic projects include the establishment of a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and assisting in establishing a credit union in Fresno, California. Other international projects include the consortium of the UNOCAL gas pipeline project, Petro chemical project and a construction project in Singapore.

Salam has expanded his experience and network internationally as he served as a County Head of Finance for a multi-national company, established international joint ventures, participated in the development of a \$2.5 billion eight-country gas pipeline consortium and other projects related to construction, petrochemicals and textiles. He traveled to many countries around the globe, including Western and Eastern Europe, Thailand, Dubai, and Romania. He was invited and recognized by the Romanian government to be the nation's Honorary Consul General.

His leadership in the community has made a significant impact. Salam has been involved within the community by serving on boards of several organizations, such as the Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno Arts Museum, Citizens Foundation USA, Central Valley Center for the Blind, and other organizations. For the past 27 years, he has worked for the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission. He has served as the Chief Financial Officer and an effective leader managing the fiscal affairs within the nonprofit business. As CEO of the Fresno CDFI, he has successfully led the expansion of the operations and help communities develop infrastructure and enhance job potential. Without a doubt, Salam has made a significant impact to progress the economic and human prosperity within the Central Valley.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the retirement of Mr. Salam Nalia. I wish Salam and his family continued success, health and happiness in this new chapter of his life.

HONORING FATHER LEWIS BROWN,
FORMER MILITARY CHAPLAIN
AND PAROCHIAL VICAR OF ALL
SAINTS PARISH IN CORNING,
NEW YORK

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Father Lewis Brown, former military chaplain and parochial vicar of All Saints Parish in Corning, New York. Father Brown passed away on September 5, 2020, and it is only fitting to remember him thusly today.

Father Brown, known as Father Lew to many, was a native of Elmira who attended Saint Mary's Southside Parish. He would go on to serve as the assistant pastor of the Church of the Assumption in Fairport; Saint Alphonsus in Auburn and Saint Ann of Hornell. He also served as an assistant at Immaculate Conception in Ithaca.

Father Brown served twenty-two years as a United States Navy Chaplain, serving in Okinawa, Japan; the USS *Nimitz*, Arlington National Cemetery and a recruitment base in

Chicago. In 2007, he retired and returned to the Southern Tier, making his home in the Corning area. In 2008, Father Brown became the parochial vicar of my family's church, All Saints Parish.

I have always been inspired by the kindness and peace that Father Brown exuded. I appreciated his military service as a chaplain and the deep dedication he had to the Church, especially All Saints Parish. He was almost always present at our Valentines for Vets events, where we shared special cards with veterans at the Bath VA Medical Center. I will always remember him fondly, as I am sure so many across the Corning area, the state and the nation will as well.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Father Lewis Brown, former military chaplain and parochial vicar of All Saints Parish in Corning, NY.

RECOGNITION OF KAROLE HONAS
SERVICE TO IDAHO AGRICULTURE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Karole Honas on a well-earned retirement after an extraordinary broadcasting career.

Karole grew up in Gooding, Idaho and graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in radio-TV, communications. Shortly after graduation she married her husband, Ken. They have been happily married for 40 years.

Karole started her career at KPVI in Pocatello. After 7 years, she left KPVI to raise her three sons. In 1990, Jay Hildebrandt called and asked her to fill in as an anchor for six weeks while another anchor was on maternity leave. Those six weeks turned into 30 years of co-anchoring with Jay Hildebrandt. Together they were an iconic news team that the community trusted.

In addition to her role at KIFI with Jay, Karole mentored new journalists who were getting started in the industry. She also spent 14 years as an adjunct instructor at Idaho State University. She has served as a member of the advisory board for the School of Journalism and Mass Media in the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. She continues to reach out to students interested in television news, informing of internship opportunities and job openings at her station and elsewhere.

Karole has served on several community boards and committees. As an active member of her community, Karole is committed to leaving this area better than she found it.

It has been my privilege to be interviewed by Karole throughout my political career. Even though we were friends she didn't hold back the tough questions. I have always appreciated her honesty and fairness.

Madam Speaker, Karole Honas has provided an immeasurable service to Eastern Idaho for the last 30 years. I want to thank her for that service and wish her well in a well-earned retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF VINCENT
"VIC" SHUTTERA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great marine, Vincent "Vic" Shuttera who passed away July 30, 2020. Vincent served in the Marine Corps at the first offensive land battle of Guadalcanal and continued his service in the Central Valley. He was a veteran, an honorable friend, a father, and a patriot in the community.

Vincent was born on April 11, 1918 in Stanislaus County to Frank and Hannah Shuttera. After graduating high school, Vincent was selected for the first group of young men to take part in the Boys State program's inaugural year. After a few years of college, Vincent joined the military—a decision that would change his life.

In 1943, Vincent joined the Marine Corps and became a driver of a tank destroyer with a .75 mm gun. He later joined the pistol range and became one of the top marksmen in his unit.

Vincent was stationed in San Diego, then moved to Oceanside's Camp Pendleton. The unit was then transported to the island of Guadalcanal. To support the regimental and headquarters companies, Vincent served there for six months. From his view on the island, he witnessed the sinking of more than 50 war ships in Navy battles.

After his duty in Guadalcanal, Vincent was ordered to New Zealand where he contracted malaria. He returned to the United States on July 3, 1943 still in poor health from malaria. He spent nearly a year in Oak Knoll hospital in Santa Cruz, California. Vincent would finish his service with the Marine Corps with an honorable discharge as Corporal Vincent Shuttera.

After serving in World War II, Vincent started a family, moved to Modesto, California and started a truck driving business, where he worked with large equipment like tractors, scrapers, and bulldozers on farmland.

Vincent dedicated his life to his fellow veterans and telling stories about his experiences in World War II. He was the guest speaker for Boys State, was on the Central Valley Honor Flight, in the Marine Corps League, American Legion Post 4, in the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade, and more.

Vincent is survived by his sons, Steve and Mark Shuttera, and his daughter Vicki Essman. Grandchildren Michelle Launier, Sacbe Shuttera, Brian Day, Brandi Shuttera, Charlie Shuttera, and his great-grandchildren Matthew Silva, Audrey Shuttera, Gavin Launier, Autumn Day, Ahren Shuttera, Luke Launier, and Jacob Day.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of Mr. Vincent Shuttera. His advocacy and service to his country will be remembered for many years to come. We join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT
COLONEL HARRY V. SHOOP

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the late LTC Harry Shoop who passed away on August 19, at the age of 99. LTC Shoop joined the Army in 1940, serving in Ohio's 37th and 38th Infantry Divisions.

He demonstrated integrity and valor in the Pacific during World War II, serving as platoon sergeant for Company B and Company H of the 149th Infantry Regiment. I was proud to present him with his Purple Heart at a 2017 ceremony, when he was also awarded his long overdue Bronze Star and World War II Service Medal.

I am eternally grateful for LTC Shoop for his outstanding 31-year military career. I also thank him for his lifelong commitment to serving the people of Ohio and this great nation.

I pray that God will bring comfort to LTC Shoop's family and friends, and all those in the community grieving his loss.

May God bless them.

CONGRATULATING HANNAH
STRAIN AS A WINNER OF THE
2018 FFA NATIONAL AGRICULTURE PROFICIENCY AWARD

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hannah Strain of Rolla, Missouri for being selected as a winner of the 2018 National Agricultural Proficiency Award for her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo.

The SAE project is one that every FFA member completes, compelling them to apply what they are learning in the classroom while gaining hands-on career experience as an agricultural entrepreneur. Out of the 600,000-plus FFA members nationwide, Hannah is one of 188 national finalists who will be competing this month in Indianapolis. This is an enormous accomplishment for Hannah and a historical milestone for the Rolla FFA chapter.

Hannah started a hay business in conjunction with her family's beef ranch, Elk Prairie Farms LLC, where she manages grazing for the cattle and produces and sells hay to local farmers and ranchers. She won the local, area, and state proficiency award contests, propelling her to the national convention. Hannah excelled at this project because of her knowledge and ability in growing, managing, marketing and selling hay.

Hannah has since moved on to the University of Missouri, where she is studying Agricultural Education and Leadership, hoping to work in community outreach for an agribusiness. It is my great privilege to congratulate Hannah Strain before the United States House of Representatives on her remarkable achievement.

HONORING THE STATE ACCREDITATION OF MADERA COMMUNITY COLLEGE CENTER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the state accreditation of Madera Community College, which becomes the 116th campus of the state's community college system. It is the newest college in California.

In 1958, State Center Community College District began offering classes at Madera High School with 158 students enrolled in 19 evening classes. In 1989, the Madera Community College Center was then relocated and established in a portable building at James Madison Elementary School.

Throughout the years, the institution has grown and expanded by establishing buildings, laboratories, food services, large instruction classrooms, vocational training courses, certifications and offering more than 360 courses. In fall 2009, the Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) was established to offer mechanic and welding programs. Recently, the college added the Center for Agriculture and Technology (CAT) which provides laboratory, vocational training programs and various agriculture programs in plant science, agriculture mechanics, industrial maintenance and welding.

Because of the leadership of then Chancellor Dr. Bill F. Stewart and Vice Chancellor of External Relations Dr. Tom Crow, a donation of 114 acres was made by local landowners to establish the expanded current campus. Today, Madera Community College Center serves more than 6,123 students, with comprehensive and innovative programs in transfer/general education, occupational education, distance learning courses, online learning and developmental education. The Center continues to provide an affordable, quality education for the residents of Madera County and nearby communities in the San Joaquin Valley.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historical moment and the success of the Madera Community College. This could not have been possible without the dedication and contributions of their staff, faculty, administrators and community leaders. I look forward to seeing the future achievements and success of our students, the leaders of tomorrow.

GENE BUDIG

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Dr. Gene Budig of Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Gene was raised in the small town of McCook, Nebraska where his love of baseball began at age 12. He wrote to then St. Louis Browns owner, Bill Veeck, asking for a tryout and received a letter back informing Gene that he could have a tryout under the stipulations that he graduate high school. This formative moment taught

Gene that with a little audacity and a lot of hard work, achieving his dreams was possible.

In his 81 years, Gene served in countless leadership positions across the country, from Major General in the Air National Guard; University President at Illinois State, West Virginia and Kansas; and a newspaper executive and author, just to name a few. Despite his lengthy educational career, anyone who knew Gene knew his deep passion for baseball and that he wore his love for the game, and the Yankees, on his sleeve. Gene was the last President of the American League, where he celebrated diversity and hired Larry Doby, the first Black player in the American League, as an assistant. The Charleston RiverDogs brought Gene back to his childhood barter with Bill Veeck, but this time, he was shaking hands with his son, Mike Veeck. In the 14 years that Gene served as co-owner, it was clear how much the franchise loved Gene. We will all miss his kind presence.

Gene is survived by Gretchen, his wife of 57 years, his three children, and his siblings. The Lowcountry mourns this loss but will remember Gene for the life he lived as a loving father, a leader full of wit and integrity, and an avid fan of all things baseball.

TRIBUTE TO MARC AARONS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Southern California are exceptional. Today, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Marc Aarons on his year as the District Governor of Rotary District 5320.

Marc's Rotary career began in 1997, and since then his involvement in the organization has been expansive. Today, he is a member of the Rotary Club of Newport Balboa and has been recognized with several awards, including the Cliff Docterman Award, for his dedication to the organization. Throughout his years of service, Marc has served as the Rotary Club of Newport Balboa's Treasurer, Vocational Chair, VP Ethics, International Chair, and Immediate Past President.

His service goes beyond Newport Balboa as Marc has served Southern California as Rotary District 5320's District Governor for the 2019–2020 year. Previously, he was an Assistant District Governor from 2013–2015 and a member of the District's Advisory Board from 2015 to 2017. Marc has also served as a member of the Foundation Committee, the Training Committee, and the Membership Committee.

A proud Eagle Scout, Marc's character and dedication to service have been largely influenced by his involvement with the Boy Scouts of America. He has received awards and recognition for his service to the Scouts around the world, including in Sweden, South Africa, and Germany. He also served as the Boy Scout's International Committee Chairman for Orange County.

Marc is a Certified Senior Advisor who has extensively studied the financial, physical, emotional, and personal issues affecting today's business owners. After living in Japan,

Marc speaks fluent Japanese and has vast knowledge of Japanese culture and world markets. Marc is married to Xiaowen and together they enjoy serving their community, trying new restaurants and barbecuing.

In light of all that Marc has done for Southern California and Orange County, I am honored to recognize him today. Marc has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and our community is proud to call him one of our own. I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating Marc Aarons on his term as Rotary District 5320's District Governor.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK WOOLF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Mr. COX to honor the life of a great farmer, veteran and San Joaquin Valley native, Jack Woolf, who passed away on July 28, 2020 at the age of 102. Jack was a pioneering farmer who transformed the west side of California's San Joaquin Valley into an agricultural oasis.

Jack was born on Sept. 6, 1917, along with his identical twin, Leyton, in Scottsdale, Arizona. Growing up, he enjoyed helping his family at their small dairy farm. After graduating from Peoria High School in 1935, he and his twin moved to Los Angeles and enrolled in Woodbury Business College. They obtained their business degrees in two years and graduated Magna Cum Laude.

After college, Jack worked as a cotton merchandiser, but due to escalating tensions in Europe, Jack registered for the draft in early spring 1941. He joined the Army and rose to the rank as Captain. As a member of the 204th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, he landed on Omaha Beach as part of the D-Day Normandy Invasion of Europe. He received seven battle stars. He was discharged as a Major in December 1945.

After a career of military service, he returned to his old job at Anderson Clayton. In 1957, he traveled to Mendota, Calif. to meet with a landowner, Russell Giffen who sold his farming operation to Anderson Clayton. This created a 30 plus year relationship that led to creating one of California's largest and most successful farming operation, Giffen Inc.

In 1949, Jack met his soul mate, Bernice. A few months after they met, they decided to get married and formed a beautiful family. In 1974, Giffen retired from the farming business and asked Jack to sell all the assets. Instead, Jack decided to start his own operation, Woolf Farming Co. of California.

Jack proved to be a leader and successful entrepreneur. His business grew successfully because of vision, loyalty, and passion. His military training and strong character were ingrained into who he was as a businessman and member of the community.

Jack was a member of several boards and organizations including The National Cotton Council, Valley Public Television, Fresno Historical Society, Santa Clara University Board of Regents and the California Tomato Growers Association. He helped establish a graduate

agribusiness program at Santa Clara University and he received an honorary doctorate degree from Fresno State. Both of these institutions offer scholarships in his honor.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of over 70 years, Bernice, his six kids: Anne Franson and husband Don, Nancy Woolf, John Woolf and wife Mary Pat, Mike Woolf and wife Shelly, Stuart Woolf and wife Lisa, Chris Woolf and wife Sarah, 24 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join us in celebrating and honoring the life of Mr. Jack Woolf. Jack strode through life with purposeful steady steps, a man on his way somewhere, always moving forward. His service to his country will be remembered for many years to come. We join his family, friends and community in honoring his life and legacy.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES AMBLER'S RETIREMENT

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Charles Ambler on the occasion of his retirement from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). UTEP bids goodbye to one of its most notable contributors to the institution's transformation from a regional university to a leader in U.S. higher education. Dr. Ambler joined the UTEP faculty in 1984. As a recent Ph.D. graduate of Yale, he devoted himself to supporting UTEP's mission of ensuring the success of its majority Hispanic and first-generation student body. Concurrently, Dr. Ambler established himself as an internationally recognized scholar of African History, publishing numerous articles and scholarly books focused on 19th and 20th century Africa.

Dr. Ambler quickly rose through the faculty ranks earning the title of Professor and serving as Chair of UTEP's History Department. In 1996, Dr. Ambler assumed leadership of UTEP's emerging graduate program, a role he played on and off as Dean and Assistant Vice President until 2019. In the mid-nineties, UTEP was limited to a small number of doctoral programs. He recognized the opportunity at hand, created by lawsuits challenging the lack of graduate programs along the United States-Mexico border region, to greatly expand program offerings. UTEP was able to establish itself as a national leader in graduate education and a major producer of Hispanic doctoral degree holders. Altogether, Dr. Ambler understood it was important for these degree programs to not only be of the highest quality, but to focus on the scholarly issues happening along the border region. UTEP's forward thinking led to the development of a doctoral degree program in U.S.-Mexico border history. This innovation was accompanied by similar degrees with a border focus in areas like International Business, Engineering, and Health Science.

While Dr. Ambler was an internationally recognized African History scholar, he was deeply committed to improving undergraduate education. He regularly taught large sections of undergraduate history and developed strategies to improve the success of UTEP's stu-

dents. Dr. Ambler's strategies and teaching skills included technology-based learning and contacting students who stopped attending class to invite them back. As a result, completion rates in his section and average scores on standardized tests were higher than in other sections of the same class.

Dr. Ambler's influence on education, grants, and studentship has gone far beyond UTEP. He has held several prestigious fellowships, served as President of the African Studies Association, and most recently served as Dean in Residence of the Council of Graduate schools.

Dr. Ambler and his wife Gloria, who recently retired herself after many years of service as a teacher and counselor in the El Paso Independent School District, are vital members of the El Paso community.

UTEP is a better place due in no small part to Dr. Ambler's 35 years of service.

HONORING JOSEPH W. HESTON

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph W. Heston for his 45-year career in broadcast journalism, including more than 20 years on the central coast of California, and congratulate him on his retirement.

Joe's early career began with Westinghouse Broadcasting in 1976 at WJZ-TV in Baltimore. Over the next eight years, Joseph held various production positions at WJZ-TV, WBZ-TV in Boston, and KDKA-TV in Pittsburgh. In 1984, Joe began working with Hearst Television, where he would spend the rest of his career. He joined Hearst at WCVB-TV in Boston, where he was executive producer of programming and assistant program director, before moving to WBAL-TV in Baltimore, where he was vice president and station manager, and WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh, where he also served as vice president and station manager.

Joe's career took him to the California in 1999, where he began his role as president and general manager of KSBW-TV, the Heart Television station serving the Central Coast. His time at KSBW has been marked by a number of milestones. In 2001, KSBW launched its official website, which now averages over 6 million pageviews a month with over 500,000 unique users and is the region's most visited local site. In 2002, Joe oversaw the construction and launch of the market's first HDTV station. In April 2011, Joe oversaw the launch of "Central Coast ABC"—the first local ABC affiliate ever on the Central Coast. In April 2016, he helped launch KSBW's second channel, the Spanish-language network Estrella. During Joe's time as president and general manager, KSBW has been recognized with Radio Television Digital News Association regional Edward R. Murrow Awards for Best Newscast and Breaking News, and regional Emmy Awards for Best Newscast and Best Breaking News Coverage.

Throughout his time on the Central Coast, Joe has always had the priority of giving back to his community personally and through his work at KSBW. Joe is a former member of the Board of the United Way of Monterey County and oversaw KSBW's launch of the early

childhood initiative “Success By 6” with the United Way of Santa Cruz County and Monterey County to create opportunities for low-income infants, toddlers, and young children to receive high-quality education. In 2005, he led the development of the teacher recognition project, the KSBW Crystal Apple Award, and in 2012, he led the implementation of KSBW’s Golden Whistle award for outstanding high school coaches. Heston is also a former member of the Board of Trustees of York School and the Board of the Monterey County Regional Health Development Group. Most recently, after identifying the critical need due to the ongoing public health crisis, Joe led KSBW in raising more than \$525,000 on behalf of area food banks to aid COVID-19-distressed families throughout the Central Coast.

Joseph W. Heston has tirelessly served the central coast of California by providing model leadership and essential quality programming. I wish Joe all the best as he enjoys his retirement with his wife, Elizabeth Heston, and son, Joseph J. W. Heston. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his years of service and congratulating him on his retirement.

SUCCESS FOR SERBIA AND KOSOVO

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, earlier this month, President Donald J. Trump presided over the greatest diplomatic breakthrough in the Western Balkans in the last two decades. Indeed, for over twenty years, the potential of the Western Balkans region has been paralyzed due to the intractable conflict between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Kosovo. This bloody conflict took the lives of over 13,000 people and precipitated NATO intervention and bombardment at the turn of the 21st century.

For over twenty years, a perpetual state of tension and distrust existed between Belgrade and Pristina. Ultimately, those that suffered most are Serbian and Kosovar families. I am grateful that under President Trump’s leadership we have witnessed the first glimmers of hope and progress that will benefit Europe as a whole. On September 4, 2020, President Trump announced that the leaders of Serbia and Kosovo have agreed to enter into an agreement normalizing economic relations between the two nations. Serbian President Aleksander Vucic and Kosovo Prime Minister Avdullah Hofi are courageous for peace and prosperity. President Trump is exactly right to say, “Economies can bring people together.” Mutual economic prosperity incentivized the creation of the European Union itself. By focusing on economic benefits and commercial ties first, these two erstwhile enemies can put aside thorny policy debates that have gotten them nowhere for decades and instead see the immediate dividends of peace. When both sides can prosper, unprecedented progress can be made on complicated issues. The ramifications of this agreement will reverberate far into the future and will reshape the course of history of the Western Balkans.

Additionally, both Serbia and Kosovo also pledged to remove 5G equipment provided by

untrusted vendors—namely China—from their mobile vendors and to prohibit all future bidding by such vendors. This is also marks a major achievement in the Trump Administration’s foreign policy agenda to counter malign Chinese Communist Party influence around the world.

This historic milestone comes amid a litany of Trump Administration foreign policy successes—including successful peace agreements brokered between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain. Notably, on the day of the Serbia-Kosovo announcement, the White House also mentioned that Kosovo and Israel had agreed to normalize ties and establish diplomatic relations, and that Serbia had agreed to move its embassy to Jerusalem by July.

Time and again, President Trump is proving to the world that real success can be achieved by implementing American leadership based on President Ronald Reagan’s maxim of Peace through Strength.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LIZ HARRISON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Liz Harrison, on the occasion of her retirement from television news after 38 years on the air. Liz has been a familiar face and name with ABC 30 in the Fresno, California community.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Liz attended the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, before graduating from the University of Florida with a degree in Broadcasting. Liz is married to Keith Allen, who works alongside her in the television news industry.

Liz joined Fresno’s local ABC affiliate in 1982, a time when women were underrepresented in the news industry. Throughout her career, Liz has served as co-anchor of Action News Live at 5 and at 11. She has covered nearly every type of news story and is proud to have given a voice to so many who’s stories needed to be told. In 2010, Liz and photojournalist Richard Harmelink won an Emmy Award for excellence in reporting for their story on the U.S. military training for war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Liz’s passion for her work led her to take on the intern coordinator position at the station, where she trained and mentored college students as they pursued a career in television news. She has given her time to numerous organizations, including Mighty Moms Foundation, the Art of Life Cancer Foundation, and the Fresno Rescue Mission.

For 38 years, Liz dedicated her career to telling the stories of the San Joaquin Valley. She has left a lasting impact on our community. Liz is dedicated to her family. She is the proud mom to five children and looks forward to spending more time with her grandchildren. She is also a breast cancer survivor and a role model.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Liz Harrison on her career and retirement. I ask

that you join me in wishing Liz continued success as she begins her next chapter, as the owner of a leadership, coaching and teaching business.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 16

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 804, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and fossilized ivory products, S. 1626, to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities, S. 3831, to authorize the position of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, to statutorily establish the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, S. 3969, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reform the Federal Aviation Administration’s aircraft certification process, S. 4159, to amend the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act to accommodate emerging technologies, S. 4286, to authorize appropriations for offsetting the costs related to reductions in research productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, S. 4462, to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an original bill entitled, “Forensic Science Research and Standards Act”, and the nominations of Eric J. Soskin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Transportation, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Theodore Rokita, of Indiana, Sarah E. Feinberg, of West Virginia, and Chris Koos, of Illinois, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Health and Human Services' Coronavirus response, focusing on a review of efforts to date and next steps.

SD-G50

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Allison Clements, of Ohio, and Mark C. Christie, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Navigable Waters Protection Rule under the Clean Water Act, focusing on the stakeholder reaction.

SD-106

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider a motion to authorize the Chairman to issue notices for taking depositions, subpoenas for records, and subpoenas for testimony, to individuals relating to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Crossfire Hurricane Investigation; the DOJ Inspector General's review of that investigation; and the "unmasking" of U.S. persons affiliated with the Trump campaign, transition team, and Trump administration, as described in Schedule A (Items 1-3), a motion to authorize the Chairman to issue subpoenas for testimony and notices for taking depositions to individuals relating to Burisma Holdings and actual or apparent conflicts of interest with U.S.-Ukraine policy, as described in Schedule A (Item 4), and the nominations of John Gibbs, of Michigan, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and John M. Barger, of California, Christopher Bancroft Burnham, of Connecticut, and Frank Dunlevy, of California, each to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

SD-342

1:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SVC-217

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine Federal housing assistance programs.

SD-608

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining

To hold hearings to examine S. 180, to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, S. 1295, to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop and maintain a cadastre of Federal real property, S. 1765, to sustain economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land in the

State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 1870 and H.R. 722, bills to designate a mountain in the State of Utah as "Miracle Mountain", S. 2533, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to Alaska Native elders for determining eligibility for certain programs, S. 2828, to require the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement allowing for adaptive management of certain Federal land in Malheur County, Oregon, S. 2890, to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for sensible development in Douglas County, Nevada, S. 3241, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, New Mexico, S. 3366, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to make the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass available at no cost to members of Gold Star Families, S. 3427, to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, S. 3485, to expand the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to expand revenue sharing for offshore wind, to reauthorize the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act, S. 3670, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Gila River System in the State of New Mexico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 4431, to increase wildfire preparedness and response throughout the United States, S. 4475, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to La Paz County, Arizona, and H.R. 255, to provide for an exchange of lands with San Bernardino County, California, to enhance management of lands within the San Bernardino National Forest.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine whether the reforms to Section 1201 are needed and warranted.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine matters relating to the budget of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine advancing U.S. engagement and countering China in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

SD-106

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine fixing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of J. Philip Calabrese, and James Ray Knepp II, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Aileen Mercedes Cannon, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Toby Crouse, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Michael Jay Newman, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, and Anna Maria Ruzinski, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and Gregory Scott Tabor, of Arkansas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas, both of the Department of Justice.

SR-325

1 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Albania's chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

WEBCAST

SEPTEMBER 23

9:15 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps readiness.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine COVID-19, focusing on an update on the federal response.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine threats to American intellectual property, focusing on cyber attacks and counterfeits during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 24

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the quarterly CARES Act report to Congress.

SD-106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine threats to the homeland.

SD-342

OCTOBER 1

9:15 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine supply chain integrity.

SD-G50

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5563–S5576

Measures Introduced: Three bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4566–4568, and S. Res. 689–691. **Page S5572**

Measures Passed:

National Workforce Development Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 690, designating September 2020 as “National Workforce Development Month”. **Page S5576**

Scarsi Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S5564–71**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 77 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. EX. 169), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5571**

A unanimous-consent was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, under the previous order. **Page S5576**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the confirmation vote with respect to the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, occur at 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, September 15, 2020; further if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, the post-cloture time expire at 2:15 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; following disposition of the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nomination of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Cali-

fornia, and the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, in the order listed; if cloture is invoked on the nomination of John W. Holcomb, the post-cloture time expire at 5:15 p.m., on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Todd Wallace Robinson, the post-cloture time expire at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader in consultation with the Democratic Leader on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. **Page S5571**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

2 Army nominations in the rank of general. **Page S5576**

Messages from the House: **Page S5572**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5572–73**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5576**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—169) **Page S5571**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S5576.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

2020 GLOBAL NUCLEAR THREATS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on 2020 global nuclear threats from the National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Capabilities, the National Intelligence Officer for Russia, and the National Intelligence Officer for China, all of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 8235–8250; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 1108, were introduced. **Page H4381**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4382–83**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1668, to leverage Federal Government procurement power to encourage increased cybersecurity for Internet of Things devices, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–501, Part 1);

H. Res. 1107, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2574) to amend title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to restore the right to individual civil actions in cases involving disparate impact, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2639) to establish the Strength in Diversity Program, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2694) to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 908) condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–502); and

H.R. 1267, to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as "B-47 Ridge" (H. Rept. 116–503). **Pages H4380–81**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

STEP Improvement Act of 2020: H.R. 6133, to reauthorize the State Trade Expansion Program of the Small Business Administration; **Pages H4341–44**

Microloan Improvement Act of 2020: H.R. 6079, to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program; **Pages H4344–45**

Northern Mariana Islands Small Business Development Act: H.R. 6021, to amend the Small Business Act to ensure that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is eligible for certain Small Business Administration programs; **Pages H4345–46**

Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2020: H.R. 6078, amended, to amend the Small

Business Act to increase transparency and to enhance the use of microloans in rural areas; **Pages H4347–48**

Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act: H.R. 4894, amended, to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 183; **Pages H4349–50, H4369–70**

Charging Helps Agencies Realize General Efficiencies Act: S. 2193, to require the Administrator of General Services to issue guidance to clarify that Federal agencies may pay by charge card for the charging of Federal electric motor vehicles, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 403 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 184; **Pages H4350–51, H4370–71**

Internet of Things Cybersecurity Improvement Act: H.R. 1668, amended, to leverage Federal Government procurement power to encourage increased cybersecurity for Internet of Things devices; **Pages H4351–54**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To establish minimum security standards for Internet of Things devices owned or controlled by the Federal Government, and for other purposes."; **Page H4354**

AI in Government Act: H.R. 2575, amended, to authorize an AI Center of Excellence within the General Services Administration; **Pages H4354–56**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, as the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dbaliwal Post Office Building": H.R. 5317, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston, Texas, as the "Deputy Sandeep Singh Dbaliwal Post Office Building"; **Pages H4356–57**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, as the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building": H.R. 4672, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 21701 Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino, California, as the "Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) Matthew G. Axelson Post Office Building"; **Pages H4357–58**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the "Clara Luper Post Office Building": H.R. 5597, to designate the

facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Northwest 5th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the “Clara Luper Post Office Building”;

Pages H4358–59

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 117 West Poythress Street in Hopewell, Virginia, as the “Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building”: H.R. 3847, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 117 West Poythress Street in Hopewell, Virginia, as the “Reverend Curtis West Harris Post Office Building”;

Page H4359

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, as the “Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building”: H.R. 3870, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 West 165th Street in New York, New York, as the “Normandia Maldonado Post Office Building”;

Page H4360

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, as the “Officer Robert German Post Office Building”: H.R. 5062, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9930 Conroy Windermere Road in Windermere, Florida, as the “Officer Robert German Post Office Building”;

Pages H4360–61

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, as the “Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building”: H.R. 4975, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1201 Sycamore Square Drive in Midlothian, Virginia, as the “Dorothy Braden Bruce Post Office Building”;

Pages H4361–62

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the “Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building”: H.R. 2969, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1401 1st Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, as the “Althea Margaret Daily Mills Post Office Building”;

Page H4362

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, as the “John Henry Turpin Post Office Building”: H.R. 4034, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 602 Pacific Avenue in Bremerton, Washington, as the “John Henry Turpin Post Office Building”;

Pages H4362–63

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Cherokee Street

in Brookhaven, Mississippi, as the “Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building”: H.R. 2246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Cherokee Street in Brookhaven, Mississippi, as the “Deputy Donald William Durr, Corporal Zach Moak, and Patrolman James White Memorial Post Office Building”;

Pages H4363–64

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the “Ernest ‘Ernie’ T. Pyle Post Office”: H.R. 4734, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the “Ernest ‘Ernie’ T. Pyle Post Office”;

Pages H4364–65

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 Wetmore Avenue in Grand River, Ohio, as the “Lance Corporal Andy ‘Ace’ Nowacki Post Office”: H.R. 3275, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 Wetmore Avenue in Grand River, Ohio, as the “Lance Corporal Andy ‘Ace’ Nowacki Post Office”;

Pages H4365–66

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the “Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office”: H.R. 5384, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the “Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office”;

Page H4366

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1305 U.S. Highway 90 West in Castroville, Texas, as the “Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office”: H.R. 4785, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1305 U.S. Highway 90 West in Castroville, Texas, as the “Lance Corporal Rhonald Dain Rairdan Post Office”;

Pages H4366–67

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 South 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado, as the “Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office”: H.R. 4200, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 South 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado, as the “Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office”; and

Pages H4367–68

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”: S. 3105, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

456 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the “Richard G. Lugar Post Office”.

Pages H4368–69

Recess: The House recessed at 5:13 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H4369

Recess: The House recessed at 7:21 p.m. and reconvened at 7:29 p.m.

Page H4371

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H4371.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4369–71.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Committee Meetings

POSTAL UPDATE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Postal Update”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CONDEMNING ALL FORMS OF ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AS RELATED TO COVID–19; EQUITY AND INCLUSION ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2019; STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY ACT OF 2019; PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H. Res. 908, condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID–19; H.R. 2574, the “Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act of 2019”; H.R. 2639, the “Strength in Diversity Act of 2019” [Strength in Diversity Act of 2020]; and H.R. 2694, the “Pregnant Workers Fairness Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2574, the “Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act of 2019”, H.R. 2639, the “Strength in Diversity Act of 2020”, H.R. 2694, the “Pregnant Workers Fairness Act”, and H. Res. 908, condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID–19. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2574, the “Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee Report, shall be con-

sidered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2369, the “Strength in Diversity Act of 2020”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–62 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. Section 3 of the rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 4 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Section 4 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 4. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2694, the “Pregnant Workers Fairness Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill shall be considered as

adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 908, Condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution. The rule provides that the resolution shall be considered as read. The rule amends H. Res. 967, agreed to May 15, 2020—as amended by H. Res. 1053, agreed to July 20, 2020: in section 4, by striking “September 21, 2020” and inserting “November 20, 2020”; in section 11, by striking “calendar day of September 20, 2020” and inserting “legislative day of November 20, 2020”; and in section 12, by striking “September 21, 2020” and inserting “November 20, 2020”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Nadler, Chairman Scott of Virginia, and Representatives Jordan and Foxx of North Carolina.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine compensating college athletes, focusing on the potential impact on athletes and institutions, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine whether Google harmed competition in online advertising, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Addressing the Legacy of Department of Defense use of PFAS: Protecting Our Communities and Implementing Reform”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, and Trade, hearing entitled “The Health, Economic, and Political Challenges Facing Latin America and the Caribbean”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5309, the “CROWN Act of 2019”; H.R. 7718, the “Protecting the Health and Wellness of Babies and Pregnant Women in Custody Act”; H.R. 8161, the “One-Stop Shop Community Reentry Program Act of 2020”; H.R. 6813, the “Promoting Alzheimer’s Awareness to Prevent Elder Abuse Act”; H.R. 8169, the “Elder Abuse Protection Act of 2020”; H.R. 8225, the “Fight Notario Fraud Act of 2020”; H.R. 7636, the “Custodial Interrogation Recording Act”; H.R. 8235, the “Open Courts Act of 2020”; H.R. 7370, the “Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2020”; and H.R. 2648, the “Student Borrower Bankruptcy Relief Act of 2019”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure, hearing entitled “SBA Management Review: Office of Government Contracting and Business Development”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Webex.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 15 through September 18,
2020

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, with a vote on confirmation thereon at 10:30 a.m.

Following which, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be followed by votes on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

At 5:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of John W. Holcomb.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: September 16, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Health and Human Services’ Coronavirus response, focusing on a review of efforts to date and next steps, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Armed Services: September 17, to hold hearings to examine matters relating to the budget of the National Nuclear Security Administration, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on the Budget: September 16, to hold hearings to examine Federal housing assistance programs, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: September 16, business meeting to consider S. 804, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and fossilized ivory products, S. 1626, to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities, S. 3831, to authorize the position of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, to statutorily establish the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, S. 3969, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reform the Federal Aviation Administration's aircraft certification process, S. 4159, to amend the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act to accommodate emerging technologies, S. 4286, to authorize appropriations for offsetting the costs related to reductions in research productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, S. 4462, to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an original bill entitled, "Forensic Science Research and Standards Act", and the nominations of Eric J. Soskin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Transportation, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Theodore Rokita, of Indiana, Sarah E. Feinberg, of West Virginia, and Chris Koos, of Illinois, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, 9:45 a.m., SR–325.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 16, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Allison Clements, of Ohio, and Mark C. Christie, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD–366.

September 16, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 180, to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, S. 1295, to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop and maintain a cadastre of Federal real property, S. 1765, to sustain economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 1870 and H.R. 722, bills to designate a mountain in the State of Utah as "Miracle Mountain", S. 2533, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to Alaska Native elders for determining eligibility for certain programs, S. 2828, to require the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement allowing for adaptive management of certain Federal land in Malheur County, Oregon, S. 2890, to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for sensible development

in Douglas County, Nevada, S. 3241, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, New Mexico, S. 3366, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to make the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass available at no cost to members of Gold Star Families, S. 3427, to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, S. 3485, to expand the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to expand revenue sharing for offshore wind, to reauthorize the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act, S. 3670, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Gila River System in the State of New Mexico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 4431, to increase wildfire preparedness and response throughout the United States, S. 4475, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to La Paz County, Arizona, and H.R. 255, to provide for an exchange of lands with San Bernardino County, California, to enhance management of lands within the San Bernardino National Forest, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: September 16, to hold hearings to examine the Navigable Waters Protection Rule under the Clean Water Act, focusing on the stakeholder reaction, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Foreign Relations: September 17, to hold hearings to examine advancing U.S. engagement and countering China in the Indo-Pacific and beyond, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: September 15, to hold hearings to examine compensating college athletes, focusing on the potential impact on athletes and institutions, 10 a.m., SD–430.

September 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine fixing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 16, business meeting to consider a motion to authorize the Chairman to issue notices for taking depositions, subpoenas for records, and subpoenas for testimony, to individuals relating to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Crossfire Hurricane Investigation; the DOJ Inspector General's review of that investigation; and the "unmasking" of U.S. persons affiliated with the Trump campaign, transition team, and Trump administration, as described in Schedule A (Items 1–3), a motion to authorize the Chairman to issue subpoenas for testimony and notices for taking depositions to individuals relating to Burisma Holdings and actual or apparent conflicts of interest with U.S.-Ukraine policy, as described in Schedule A (Item 4), and the nominations of John Gibbs, of Michigan, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and John M. Barger, of California, Christopher

Bancroft Burnham, of Connecticut, and Frank Dunlevy, of California, each to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, 10:15 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Judiciary: September 15, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine whether Google harmed competition in online advertising, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

September 16, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine whether the reforms to Section 1201 are needed and warranted, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

September 17, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of J. Philip Calabrese, and James Ray Knepp II, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Aileen Mercedes Cannon, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Toby Crouse, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Michael Jay Newman, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, and Anna Maria Ruzinski, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and Gregory Scott Tabor, of Arkansas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas, both of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SR-325.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 15, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

September 16, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 1:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, September 17, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities, hearing entitled “Interim Review of the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence Effort and Recommendations”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 16, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled “Building a 100 Percent Clean Economy: Opportunities for an Equitable, Low-Carbon Recovery”, 10 a.m., Webex.

September 17, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Trump FCC: Four Years of Lost Opportunities”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, September 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Prioritizing Fannie’s and Freddie’s Capital over America’s Homeowners and Renters? A Review of the Federal Housing Finance Agency’s Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic”, 12 p.m., Webex.

September 17, Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets, hearing entitled “Insider Trading and Stock Option Grants: An Examination of Corporate Integrity in the COVID-19 Pandemic”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Why did the Trump Administration Fire the State Department Inspector General?”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Worldwide Threats to the Homeland”, 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, September 17, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Examining the Barriers and Solutions to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the Department of the Interior”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, September 16, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4774, the “Internet of Things Cybersecurity Training for Federal Employees Act”; H.R. 5901, the “Technology Modernization Centers of Excellence Program”; H.R. 7496, the “COVID PRE-PARE Act”; H.R. 4382, the “Integrity Committee Transparency Act”; H.R. 7107, the “Plum Act”; H.R. 7340, the “Chai Suthammanont Remembrance Act”; H.R. 7548, the “PPE Buy America Act”; H.R. 7936, the “Federal Employee Access to Information Act”; H.R. 8109, the “Nonpartisan Postmaster General Act”; legislation on the GAO Report Elimination Act; and postal naming measures, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 18, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, hearing entitled “Cybersecurity at NASA: Ongoing Challenges and Emerging Issues for Increased Telework During COVID-19”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Small Business, September 16, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 7903, to amend the Small Business Act to establish the Community Advantage Loan Program; legislation on the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2020; legislation on the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2020; and legislation on the Parity for HUBZone Appeals Act of 2020, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, September 16, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization; and Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, joint hearing entitled “Moving Beyond Patchwork Systems: The Future of Education Services IT”, 10 a.m., HVC-210 and Webex.

September 16, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Modernizing VA’s Medical Supply Chain: Lessons Learned from the Pandemic”, 2 p.m., HVC-210 and Webex.

September 17, Full Committee, markup on pending legislation, 9 a.m., HVC-210 and Webex.

Committee on Ways and Means, September 17, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Enforcing the Ban on Imports Produced by Forced Labor in Xinjiang”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: September 17, to hold hearings to examine Albania’s chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, 1 p.m., WEBCAST.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of nomination of Mark C. Scarsi, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, with a vote on confirmation thereon at 10:30 a.m.

Following which, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Stanley Blumenfeld, to be followed by votes on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Todd Wallace Robinson, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

At 5:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of John W. Holcomb.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Tuesday, September 15

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: H.R. 2639—Strength in Diversity Act of 2020 (*Subject to a Rule*).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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